

## THE HIT PARADE

You should start your vocabulary work by studying the Hit Parade, which is a list we've compiled of some of the most frequently tested words on the GRE. We put together this list by analyzing released GREs and keeping tabs on the test to make sure that these words are still popular with ETS. At the very least, answer choices that contain Hit Parade words make very good guesses on questions for which you don't know the answer. Each word on the Hit Parade is followed by the part of speech and a brief definition for the word. Some of the words on this list may have other definitions as well, but the definitions we have given are the ones most likely to appear on the GRE.

We've broken the Hit Parade down into four groups of about 75 words each. Don't try to learn all four groups of words at once—work with one list at a time. Write the words and their definitions down in a notebook or on flash cards. It is very important to write them down yourself, because this will help you remember them. Just glancing through the lists printed in this book won't be nearly as effective: Before doing the exercises for each group, spend some time studying and learning the words first. Then use the exercises as a way to test yourself. Answers for the matching exercises appear in Part V of this book.

### Hit Parade Group 1

Abscond (verb)	to depart clandestinely; to steal off and hide
Aberrant (adj.)	deviating from the norm (noun form: <i>aberration</i> )
Alacrity (noun)	eager and enthusiastic willingness
Anomaly (noun)	deviation from the normal order, form, or rule; abnormality (adj. form: <i>anomalous</i> )
Approbation (noun)	an expression of approval or praise
Arduous (adj.)	strenuous, taxing; requiring significant effort
Assuage (verb)	to ease or lessen; to appease or pacify
Audacious (adj.)	daring and fearless; recklessly bold (noun form: <i>audacity</i> )
Austere (adj.)	without adornment; bare; severely simple; ascetic (noun form: <i>austerity</i> )
Axiomatic (adj.)	taken as a given; possessing self-evident truth (noun form: <i>axiom</i> )
Canonical (adj.)	following or in agreement with accepted, traditional standards (noun form: <i>canon</i> )
Capricious (adj.)	inclined to change one's mind impulsively; erratic, unpredictable

Censure (verb)	to criticize severely; to officially rebuke
Chicanery (noun)	trickery or subterfuge
Connoisseur (noun)	an informed and astute judge in matters of taste; expert
Convolutéd (adj.)	complex or complicated
Disabuse (verb)	to undeceive; to set right
Discordant (adj.)	conflicting; dissonant or harsh in sound
Disparate (adj.)	fundamentally distinct or dissimilar
Effrontery (noun)	extreme boldness; presumptuousness
Eloquent (adj.)	well-spoken, expressive, articulate (noun form: <i>eloquence</i> )
Enervate (verb)	to weaken; to reduce in vitality
Ennui (noun)	dissatisfaction and restlessness resulting from boredom or apathy
Equivocate (verb)	to use ambiguous language with a deceptive intent (adj. form: <i>equivocal</i> )
Erudite (adj.)	very learned; scholarly (noun form: <i>erudition</i> )
Exculpate (verb)	exonerate; to clear of blame
Exigent (adj.)	urgent, pressing; requiring immediate action or attention
Extemporaneous (adj.)	improvised; done without preparation
Filibuster (noun)	intentional obstruction, esp. using prolonged speechmaking to delay legislative action
Fulminate (verb)	to loudly attack or denounce
Ingenuous (adj.)	artless; frank and candid; lacking in sophistication
Inured (adj.)	accustomed to accepting something undesirable
Irascible (adj.)	easily angered; prone to temperamental outbursts
Laud (verb)	to praise highly (adj. form: <i>laudatory</i> )
Lucid (adj.)	clear; easily understood
Magnanimity (noun)	the quality of being generously noble in mind and heart, esp. in forgiving (adj. form: <i>magnanimous</i> )
Martial (adj.)	associated with war and the armed forces of the world; typical of or concerned with the ordinary
Mundane (adj.)	of the world; typical of or concerned with the ordinary

Nascent (adj.)	coming into being; in early developmental stages
Nebulous (adj.)	vague; cloudy; lacking clearly defined form
Neologism (noun)	a new word, expression, or usage; the creation or use of new words or senses
Noxious (adj.)	harmful, injurious
Obtuse (adj.)	lacking sharpness of intellect; not clear or precise in thought or expression
Obviate (verb)	to anticipate and make unnecessary
Onerous (adj.)	troubling; burdensome
Paeon (noun)	a song or hymn of praise and thanksgiving
Parody (noun)	a humorous imitation intended for ridicule or comic effect, esp. in literature and art
Perennial (adj.)	recurrent through the year or many years; happening repeatedly
Perfidy (noun)	intentional breach of faith; treachery (adj. form: <i>perfidious</i> )
Perfunctory (adj.)	cursory; done without care or interest
Perspicacious (adj.)	acutely perceptive; having keen discernment (noun form: <i>perspicacity</i> )
Prattle (verb)	to babble meaninglessly; to talk in an empty and idle manner
Precipitate (adj.)	acting with excessive haste or impulse
Precipitate (verb)	to cause or happen before anticipated or required
Predilection (noun)	a disposition in favor of something; preference
Prescience (noun)	foreknowledge of events; knowing of events prior to their occurring (adj. form: <i>prescient</i> )
Prevaricate (verb)	to deliberately avoid the truth; to mislead
Qualms (noun)	misgivings; reservations; causes for hesitancy
Recant (verb)	to retract, esp. a previously held belief
Refute (verb)	to disprove; to successfully argue against
Relegate (verb)	to forcibly assign, esp. to a lower place or position
Reticent (adj.)	quiet; reserved; reluctant to express thoughts and feelings
Solicitous (adj.)	concerned and attentive; eager
Sordid (adj.)	characterized by filth, grime, or squalor; foul

Sporadic (adj.)	occurring only occasionally, or in scattered instances
Squander (verb)	to waste by spending or using irresponsibly
Static (adj.)	not moving, active, or in motion; at rest
Stupefy (verb)	to stun, baffle, or amaze
Stymie (verb)	to block; to thwart
Synthesis (noun)	the combination of parts to make a whole (verb form: <i>synthesize</i> )
Torque (noun)	a force that causes rotation
Tortuous (adj.)	winding, twisting; excessively complicated
Truculent (adj.)	fierce and cruel; eager to fight
Veracity (noun)	truthfulness, honesty
Virulent (adj.)	extremely harmful or poisonous; bitterly hostile or antagonistic
Voracious (adj.)	having an insatiable appetite for an activity or pursuit; ravenous
Waver (verb)	to move to and fro; to sway; to be unsettled in opinion

## Group 1 Exercises

Match the following words to their definitions. Answers can be found in Part V.

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Improvised; without preparation        | A. Veracity       |
| 2. A newly coined word or expression      | B. Recant         |
| 3. A song of joy and praise               | C. Extemporaneous |
| 4. To praise highly                       | D. Stymie         |
| 5. Truthfulness; honesty                  | E. Paeon          |
| 6. Frank and candid                       | F. Lucid          |
| 7. Associated with war and the military   | G. Laud           |
| 8. To retract a belief or statement       | H. Onerous        |
| 9. Cursory; done without care or interest | I. Tortuous       |
| 10. Troubling; burdensome                 | J. Neologism      |
| 11. To criticize; to officially rebuke    | K. Martial        |
| 12. Winding; twisting; complicated        | L. Ingenuous      |
| 13. To block; to thwart                   | M. Censure        |
| 14. Clear; easily understood              | N. Perfunctory    |

## Hit Parade Group 2

Abate (verb)	to lessen in intensity or degree
Accolade (noun)	an expression of praise
Adulation (noun)	excessive praise; intense adoration
Aesthetic (adj.)	dealing with, appreciative of, or responsive to art or the beautiful
Ameliorate (verb)	to make better or more tolerable
Ascetic (noun)	one who practices rigid self-denial, esp. as an act of religious devotion
Avarice (noun)	greed, esp. for wealth (adj. form: <i>avaricious</i> )
Axiom (noun)	a universally recognized principle (adj. form: <i>axiomatic</i> )
Burgeon (verb)	to grow rapidly or flourish
Bucolic (adj.)	rustic and pastoral; characteristic of rural areas and their inhabitants
Cacophony (noun)	harsh, jarring, discordant sound; dissonance (adj. form: <i>cacophonous</i> )
Canon (noun)	an established set of principles or code of laws, often religious in nature (adj. form: <i>canonical</i> )
Castigation (noun)	severe criticism or punishment (verb form: <i>castigate</i> )
Catalyst (noun)	a substance that accelerates the rate of a chemical reaction without itself changing; a person or thing that causes change
Caustic (adj.)	burning or stinging; causing corrosion
Chary (adj.)	wary; cautious; sparing
Cogent (adj.)	appealing forcibly to the mind or reason; convincing
Complaisance (noun)	the willingness to comply with the wishes of others (adj. form: <i>complaisant</i> )
Contentious (adj.)	argumentative; quarrelsome; causing controversy or disagreement
Contrite (adj.)	regretful; penitent; seeking forgiveness (noun form: <i>contrition</i> )
Culpable (adj.)	deserving blame (noun form: <i>culpability</i> )
Dearth (noun)	smallness of quantity or number; scarcity; a lack
Demur (verb)	to question or oppose
Didactic (adj.)	intended to teach or instruct
Discretion (noun)	cautious reserve in speech; ability to make responsible decisions (adj. form: <i>discrete</i> )
Disinterested (adj.)	free of bias or self-interest; impartial

Dogmatic (adj.)	expressing a rigid opinion based on unproved or improvable principles (noun form: <i>dogma</i> )
Ebullience (noun)	the quality of lively or enthusiastic expression of thoughts and feelings (adj. form: <i>ebullient</i> )
Eclectic (adj.)	composed of elements drawn from various sources
Elegy (noun)	a mournful poem, esp. one lamenting the dead (adj. form: <i>elegiac</i> )
Emollient (adj.)/ (noun)	soothing, esp. to the skin; making less harsh; mollifying; an agent that softens or smoothes the skin
Empirical (adj.)	based on observation or experiment
Enigmatic (adj.)	mysterious; obscure; difficult to understand (noun form: <i>enigma</i> )
Ephemeral (adj.)	brief; fleeting
Esoteric (adj.)	intended for or understood by a small, specific group
Eulogy (noun)	a speech honoring the dead (verb form: <i>eulogize</i> )
Exonerate (verb)	to remove blame
Facetious (adj.)	playful; humorous
Fallacy (noun)	an invalid or incorrect notion; a mistaken belief (adj. form: <i>fallacious</i> )
Furtive (adj.)	marked by stealth; covert; surreptitious
Gregarious (adj.)	sociable; outgoing; enjoying the company of other people
Harangue (verb)/ (noun)	to deliver a pompous speech or tirade; a long, pompous speech
Heretical (adj.)	violating accepted dogma or convention (noun form: <i>heresy</i> )
Hyperbole (noun)	an exaggerated statement, often used as a figure of speech (adj. form: <i>hyperbolic</i> )
Impecunious (adj.)	lacking funds; without money
Incipient (adj.)	beginning to come into being or to become apparent
Inert (adj.)	unmoving; lethargic; sluggish
Innocuous (adj.)	harmless; causing no damage
Intransigent (adj.)	refusing to compromise (noun form: <i>intransigence</i> )
Inveigle (verb)	to obtain by deception or flattery
Morose (adj.)	sad; sullen; melancholy
Odious (adj.)	evoking intense aversion or dislike
Opaque (adj.)	impenetrable by light; not reflecting light
Oscillation (noun)	the act or state of swinging back and forth with a steady, uninterrupted rhythm (verb form: <i>oscillate</i> )
Penurious (adj.)	penny-pinching; excessively thrifty; ungenerous

Pernicious (adj.)	extremely harmful; potentially causing death
Peruse (verb)	to examine with great care (noun form: <i>perusal</i> )
Pious (adj.)	extremely reverent or devout; showing strong religious devotion (noun form: <i>piety</i> )
Precursor (noun)	one that precedes and indicates or announces another
Preen (verb)	to dress up; to primp; to groom oneself with elaborate care
Prodigious (adj.)	abundant in size, force, or extent; extraordinary
Prolific (adj.)	producing large volumes or amounts; productive
Putrefy (verb)	to rot; to decay and give off a foul odor (adj. form: <i>putrid</i> )
Quaff (verb)	to drink deeply
Quiescence (noun)	stillness; motionlessness; quality of being at rest (adj. form: <i>quiescent</i> )
Redoubtable (adj.)	awe-inspiring; worthy of honor
Sanction (noun)/(verb)	authoritative permission or approval; a penalty intended to enforce compliance; to give permission or authority to
Satire (noun)	a literary work that ridicules or criticizes a human vice through humor or derision (adj. form: <i>satirical</i> )
Squalid (adj.)	sordid; wretched and dirty as from neglect (noun form: <i>squalor</i> )
Stoic (adj.)	indifferent to or unaffected by pleasure or pain; steadfast (noun form: <i>stoicism</i> )
Supplant (verb)	to take the place of; to supersede
Torpid (adj.)	lethargic; sluggish; dormant (noun form: <i>torpor</i> )
Ubiquitous (adj.)	existing everywhere at the same time; constantly encountered; widespread
Urbane (adj.)	sophisticated; refined; elegant (noun form: <i>urbanity</i> )
Vilify (verb)	to defame; to characterize harshly
Viscous (adj.)	thick; sticky (noun form: <i>viscosity</i> )

## Group 2 Exercises

Match the following words to their definitions. Answers can be found in Part V.

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Brief; fleeting  | A. Pernicious    |
| 2. A long, pompous speech                                 | B. Ephemeral     |
| 3. Arousing strong dislike or aversion                    | C. Avarice       |
| 4. To free from blame or responsibility                   | D. Quaff         |
| 5. Arousing fear or awe; worthy of honor; formidable      | E. Caustic       |
| 6. Very harmful; deadly                                   | F. Odious        |
| 7. To drink deeply  | G. Dearth        |
| 8. Stinging; corrosive; sarcastic; biting                 | H. Inert         |
| 9. Impressively great in size, force, or extent; enormous | I. Disinterested |
| 10. Greed; hunger for money                               | J. Exonerate     |
| 11. Unmoving; lethargic                                   | K. Inveigle      |
| 12. Impartial; unbiased                                   | L. Prodigious    |
| 13. Lack; scarcity  | M. Harangue      |
| 14. To win over by deception, coaxing or flattery         | N. Redoubtable   |

## Hit Parade Group 3

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Acumen (noun)     | keen, accurate judgment or insight   |
| Adulterate (verb) | to reduce purity by combining with inferior ingredients                      |
| Amalgamate (verb) | to combine several elements into a whole (noun form: <i>amalgamation</i> )   |
| Archaic (adj.)    | outdated; associated with an earlier, perhaps more primitive, time           |
| Aver (verb)       | to state as a fact; to declare or assert                                     |
| Bolster (verb)    | to provide support or reinforcement  |
| Bombastic (adj.)  | pompous; grandiloquent (noun form: <i>bombast</i> )                          |
| Diatribes (noun)  | a harsh denunciation   |
| Dissemble (verb)  | to disguise or conceal; to mislead   |
| Eccentric (adj.)  | departing from norms or conventions  |
| Endemic (adj.)    | characteristic of or often found in a particular locality, region, or people |
| Evanescent (adj.) | tending to disappear like vapor; vanishing                                   |
| Exacerbate (verb) | to make worse or more severe   |
| Fervent (adj.)    | greatly emotional or zealous (noun form: <i>fervor</i> )                     |
| Fortuitous (adj.) | happening by accident or chance  |



Germane (adj.)	relevant to the subject at hand; appropriate in subject matter
Grandiloquence (noun)	pompous speech or expression (adj. form: <i>grandiloquent</i> )
Hackneyed (adj.)	rendered trite or commonplace by frequent usage
Halcyon (adj.)	calm and peaceful
Hedonism (noun)	devotion to pleasurable pursuits, esp. to the pleasures of the senses (a <i>hedonist</i> is someone who pursues pleasure)
Hegemony (noun)	the consistent dominance of one state or ideology over others
Iconoclast (noun)	one who attacks or undermines traditional conventions or institutions
Idolatrous (adj.)	given to intense or excessive devotion to something (noun form: <i>idolatry</i> )
Impassive (adj.)	revealing no emotion
Imperturbable (adj.)	marked by extreme calm, impassivity, and steadiness
Implacable (adj.)	not capable of being appeased or significantly changed
Impunity (noun)	immunity from punishment or penalty
Inchoate (adj.)	in an initial stage; not fully formed
Infelicitous (adj.)	unfortunate; inappropriate
Inspid (adj.)	without taste or flavor; lacking in spirit; bland
Loquacious (adj.)	extremely talkative (noun form: <i>loquacity</i> )
Luminous (adj.)	characterized by brightness and the emission of light
Malevolent (adj.)	having or showing often vicious ill will, spite, or hatred (noun form: <i>malevolence</i> )
Malleable (adj.)	capable of being shaped or formed; tractable; pliable
Mendacity (noun)	the condition of being untruthful; dishonesty (adj. form: <i>mendacious</i> )
Meticulous (adj.)	characterized by extreme care and precision; attentive to detail
Misanthrope (noun)	one who hates all other humans (adj. form: <i>misanthropic</i> )
Mitigate (verb)	to make or become less severe or intense; to moderate
Obdurate (adj.)	unyielding; hardhearted; intractable
Obsequious (adj.)	exhibiting a fawning attentiveness
Occlude (verb)	to obstruct or block
Opprobrium (noun)	disgrace; contempt; scorn
Pedagogy (noun)	the profession or principles of teaching, or instructing

Pedantic (adj.)	overly concerned with the trivial details of learning or education; show-offish about one's knowledge
Penury (noun)	poverty; destitution
Pervasive (adj.)	having the tendency to permeate or spread throughout
Pine (verb)	to yearn intensely; to languish; to lose vigor
Pirate (verb)	to illegally use or reproduce
Pith (noun)	the essential or central part
Pithy (adj.)	precise and brief
Placate (verb)	to appease; to calm by making concessions
Platitude (noun)	a superficial remark, esp. one offered as meaningful
Plummet (verb)	to plunge or drop straight down
Polemical (adj.)	controversial; argumentative
Prodigal (adj.)	recklessly wasteful; extravagant; profuse; lavish
Profuse (adj.)	given or coming forth abundantly; extravagant
Proliferate (verb)	to grow or increase swiftly and abundantly
Queries (noun)	questions; inquiries; doubts in the mind; reservations
Querulous (adj.)	prone to complaining or grumbling; peevish
Rancorous (adj.)	characterized by bitter, long-lasting resentment (noun form: <i>rancor</i> )
Recalcitrant (adj.)	obstinately defiant of authority; difficult to manage
Repudiate (verb)	to refuse to have anything to do with; to disown
Rescind (verb)	to invalidate; to repeal; to retract
Reverent (adj.)	marked by, feeling, or expressing a feeling of profound awe and respect (noun form: <i>reverence</i> )
Rhetoric (noun)	the art or study of effective use of language for communication and persuasion
Salubrious (adj.)	promoting health or well-being
Solvent (adj.)	able to meet financial obligations; able to dissolve another substance
Specious (adj.)	seeming true, but actually being fallacious; misleadingly attractive; plausible but false
Spurious (adj.)	lacking authenticity or validity; false; counterfeit
Subpoena (noun)	a court order requiring appearance and/or testimony
Succinct (adj.)	brief; concise
Superfluous (adj.)	exceeding what is sufficient or necessary
Surfeit (verb)	an overabundant supply; excess; to feed or supply to excess
Tenacity (noun)	the quality of adherence or persistence to something valued; persistent determination (adj. form: <i>tenacious</i> )

<b>Tenuous</b> (adj.)	having little substance or strength; flimsy; weak
<b>Tirade</b> (noun)	a long and extremely critical speech; a harsh denunciation
<b>Transient</b> (adj.)	fleeting; passing quickly; brief
<b>Zealous</b> (adj.)	fervent; ardent; impassioned, devoted to a cause (a <i>zealot</i> is a zealous person)

### Group 3 Exercises

Match the following words to their definitions. Answers can be found in Part V.

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Brief; concise; tersely cogent                      | A. Hegemony   |
| 2. Prone to complaining; whining                       | B. Aver       |
| 3. Fawning; ingratiating                               | C. Insipid    |
| 4. Marked by bitter, deep-seated resentment            | D. Pithy      |
| 5. Controversial; argumentative                        | E. Placate    |
| 6. Dominance of one state or ideology over others      | F. Prodigal   |
| 7. Uninteresting; tasteless; flat; dull                | G. Querulous  |
| 8. Thin; flimsy; of little substance                   | H. Surfeit    |
| 9. Excess; overindulgence                              | I. Rancorous  |
| 10. Wasteful; recklessly extravagant                   | J. Bombastic  |
| 11. To appease; to pacify with concessions             | K. Obsequious |
| 12. To assert; to declare; to allege; to state as fact | L. Evanescent |
| 13. Pompous; grandiloquent                             | M. Polemical  |
| 14. Tending to vanish like vapor                       | N. Tenuous    |

### Hit Parade Group 4

<b>Acerbic</b> (adj.)	having a sour or bitter taste or character; sharp; biting
<b>Aggrandize</b> (verb)	to increase in intensity, power, influence, or prestige
<b>Alchemy</b> (noun)	a medieval science aimed at the transmutation of metals, esp. base metals into gold (an <i>alchemist</i> is one who practices alchemy)
<b>Amenable</b> (adj.)	agreeable; responsive to suggestion
<b>Anachronism</b> (noun)	something or someone out of place in terms of historical or chronological context
<b>Astringent</b> (adj.)	having a tightening effect on living tissue; harsh; severe; something with a tightening effect on tissue
<b>Contiguous</b> (adj.)	sharing a border; touching; adjacent
<b>Convention</b> (noun)	a generally agreed-upon practice or attitude
<b>Credulous</b> (adj.)	tending to believe too readily; gullible (noun form: <i>credulity</i> )

Cynicism (noun)	an attitude or quality of belief that all people are motivated by selfishness (adj. form: <i>cynical</i> )
Decorum (noun)	polite or appropriate conduct or behavior (adj. form: <i>decorous</i> )
Derision (noun)	scorn, ridicule, contemptuous treatment (adj. form: <i>derisive</i> ; verb form: <i>deride</i> )
Desiccate (verb)	to dry out or dehydrate; to make dry or dull
Dilettante (noun)	one with an amateurish or superficial interest in the arts or a branch of knowledge
Disparage (verb)	to slight or belittle
Divulge (verb)	to disclose something secret
Fawn (verb)	to flatter or praise excessively
Flout (verb)	to show contempt for, as in a rule or convention
Garrulous (adj.)	pointlessly talkative; talking too much
Glib (adj.)	marked by ease or informality; nonchalant; lacking in depth; superficial
Hubris (noun)	overbearing presumption or pride; arrogance
Imminent (adj.)	about to happen; impending
Immutable (adj.)	not capable of change
Impetuous (adj.)	hastily or rashly energetic; impulsive and vehement
Indifferent (adj.)	having no interest or concern; showing no bias or prejudice
Inimical (adj.)	damaging; harmful; injurious
Intractable (adj.)	not easily managed or directed; stubborn; obstinate
Intrepid (adj.)	steadfast and courageous
Laconic (adj.)	using few words; terse
Maverick (noun)	an independent individual who does not go along with a group or party
Mercurial (adj.)	characterized by rapid and unpredictable change in mood
Mollify (verb)	to calm or soothe; to reduce in emotional intensity
Neophyte (noun)	a recent convert; a beginner; novice
Obfuscate (verb)	to deliberately obscure; to make confusing
Obstinate (adj.)	stubborn; hard-headed; uncompromising
Ostentatious (adj.)	characterized by or given to pretentious display; showy
Pervade (verb)	to permeate throughout (adj. form: <i>pervasive</i> )
Phlegmatic (adj.)	calm; sluggish; unemotional
Plethora (noun)	an overabundance; a surplus
Pragmatic (adj.)	practical rather than idealistic

Presumptuous (adj.)	overstepping due bounds (as of propriety or courtesy); taking liberties
Pristine (adj.)	pure; uncorrupted; clean
Probity (noun)	adherence to highest principles; complete and confirmed integrity; uprightness
Proclivity (noun)	a natural predisposition or inclination
Profligate (adj.)	excessively wasteful; recklessly extravagant (noun form: <i>profligacy</i> )
Propensity (noun)	a natural inclination or tendency; penchant
Prosaic (adj.)	dull; lacking in spirit or imagination
Pungent (adj.)	characterized by a strong, sharp smell or taste
Quixotic (adj.)	foolishly impractical; marked by lofty romantic ideals
Quotidian (adj.)	occurring or recurring daily; commonplace
Rarefy (verb)	to make or become thin, less dense; to refine
Recondite (adj.)	hidden; concealed; difficult to understand; obscure
Refulgent (adj.)	radiant; shiny; brilliant
Reneg (verb)	to fail to honor a commitment; to go back on a promise
Sedulous (adj.)	diligent; persistent; hard-working
Shard (noun)	a piece of broken pottery or glass
Soporific (adj.)	causing drowsiness; tending to induce sleep
Sparse (adj.)	thin; not dense; arranged at widely spaced intervals
Spendthrift (noun)	one who spends money wastefully
Subtle (adj.)	not obvious; elusive; difficult to discern
Tacit (adj.)	implied; not explicitly stated
Terse (adj.)	brief and concise in wording
Tout (verb)	to publicly praise or promote
Trenchant (adj.)	sharply perceptive; keen; penetrating
Unfeigned (adj.)	genuine; not false or hypocritical
Untenable (adj.)	indefensible; not viable; uninhabitable
Vacillate (verb)	to waver indecisively between one course of action or opinion and another
Variegated (adj.)	multicolored; characterized by a variety of patches of different color
Vexation (noun)	annoyance; irritation (noun form: <i>vex</i> )
Vigilant (adj.)	alertly watchful (noun form: <i>vigilance</i> )
Vituperate (verb)	to use harsh condemnatory language; to abuse or censure severely or abusively; to berate
Volatile (adj.)	readily changing to a vapor; changeable; fickle; explosive (noun form: <i>volatility</i> )

