Glossary

This glossary contains meanings and pronunciations for some of the words in this book. The Full Pronunciation Key shows how to pronounce each consonant and vowel in a special spelling. At the bottom of the glossary pages is a shortened form of the full key.

	Full	Pro	onunciation	Ke	ey
Consonant Sounds					
b	b i b , ca bb age	I	lid, need le , ta ll	th	ba th , th in
ch	ch ur ch , sti tch	m	a m, m an, du mb	th	ba th e, th is
d	d ee d , mail ed , pu dd le	n	n o, sudd en	V	ca v e, val v e, v ine
f	f ast, f ife, off, ph rase,	ng	thi ng , i n k	W	with, wolf
	rou gh	р	p o p , ha pp y	у	y es, y olk, on i on
g	g a g, g et, fin g er	r	r oa r, rh yme	Z	ro s e, si z e, x ylophone,
h	hat, who	S	mi ss, s au c e, sc ene,		z ebra
hw	which, where		see	zh	gara g e, plea s ure,
j	j u dg e, g em	sh	di sh, shi p, s ugar,		vision
k	c at, k ic k , s ch ool		ti ss ue		
kw	ch oir, qu ick	t	tight, stopp ed		
Vowel Sounds					
ă	p a t, lau gh	ŏ	h o rrible, p o t	ŭ	c u t, fl oo d, r ou gh,
ā	a pe, ai d, p ay	ō	g o , r ow , t oe , th ough		some
â	air , c a re, w ea r	ô	all, c augh t, f o r, p aw	û	circle, f u r, h ea rd,
ä	f a ther, ko a la, y a rd	oi	b oy , n oi se, oi l		t e rm, t u rn, u rge, w o rd ŏŏ c u re
ĕ	p e t, p lea sure, a ny	ou	c ow, ou t	Võõ	
ē	b e , b ee, ea sy, p i ano	ŏŏ	f u ll, b oo k, w o lf		
ĭ	if, pit, b u sy	00	b oo t, r u de, fr ui t, fl ew		abuse, use ago, silent, penc i l,
ī	ride, b y , p ie , h igh			ə	ago, silent, pencil, lemon, circus
î	d ea r, d ee r, f ie rce,				
	m e re				

Stress Marks

Primary Stress ': bi•ol•o•gy [bī **ŏl**' ə jē] Secondary Stress ': bi•o•log•i•cal [bī' ə **lŏj**' ĭ kəl]

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acknowledge • balk

aspect

Aspect comes from the Latin prefix ad-("at") and the Latin word root *specere*. which means "to look." A spectator, which comes from the same word root, is a watcher. A prospect, which is something that is looked forward to, comes from the prefix pro-, "in front of" or "before," and specere.

attract

Attract comes from the Latin prefix ad- ("toward") and the Latin word root trahere. "to pull or to draw." The English word tractor, a vehicle that pulls another vehicle or object, also comes from trahere. Contract, an agreement between two or more parties, comes from the Latin prefix com-("together") and trahere. Retract. which means "to take back," comes from the Latin prefix re- ("again") and trahere.



ac·knowl·edge (ăk **nŏl**´ ĭj) v. To recognize: *They were acknowledged* as experts in *science*.

ac•quaint•ed (ə kwānt´ĭd) adj. Familiar or informed: People acquainted through mutual friends develop meaningful relationships.

a•dapt•ed (ə dăp´tĭd) *adj*. Fitted or suitable, especially for a specific purpose: *A dog's claws are adapted for digging*.

ad•mit (ăd mĭt') *v*. To acknowledge or confess to be true or real: *He admitted that I was right*.

ad-van-tage (ăd **văn**' tĭj) *n*. A beneficial factor or feature: Museums and libraries are some of the **advantages** of city life.

an•noy•ance (ə noĭ əns) n.
1. Something causing trouble or irritation; a nuisance: *His tummy ache was a minor annoyance*.
2. Irritation or displeasure: *He swatted at the mosquito in annoyance*.

ap•pren•tice (ə prěn´ tĭs) *n*. A person who works for another without pay in return for instruction in a craft or trade: *The blacksmith's apprentice was trained to make horseshoes*. **as-pect** (**ăs**' pěkt) *n*. A way in which something can be viewed by the mind; an element or facet: *The doctor reviewed all aspects of the patient's history*.

as-suming (ə **soo mĭng**) conj. If; supposing: Assuming our guests arrive on time, we'll have dinner at 6:00.

as-ton-ish (ə **stŏn**´ish) v. To surprise greatly; amaze: *It astonished* me that we finished our project on time.

at-tract (**a trăkt**') *v*. To cause to draw near; direct to oneself or itself by some quality or action: *Crowds were attracted to the beautiful beach*.

au-thor-i-ty (**a thôr**'ĭ tē) *n*. A person or an organization having power to enforce laws, command obedience, determine, or judge: *City authorities closed the street for repairs*.

a·vail·a·ble (ə **vā**´ lə bəl) *adj*. Capable of being obtained: *Tickets are available at the box office*.

B

back-ground (**băk**' grŏŭnd') *n*. A person's experience, training, and education: *Math knowledge is a perfect background for jobs in science*.

balk (bôk) *v*. To stop short and refuse to go on: *My pony balked at the gate and would not jump*.

ă r**a**t / ā p**ay** / â c**a**re / ä f**a**ther / ĕ p**e**t / ē b**e** / ĭ pit / ī pie / î fierce / ŏ p**o**t / ō g**o** / ô p**aw**, for / oi oil / oo book **ban•ish** (**băn**´ish) v. To drive out or away; expel: **Banish** such thoughts from your mind.

bare (bâr) *v*. To open up to view; uncover: *The bear opened its mouth and bared its teeth at the wolf.*

bar•ri•er (**băr**' ē ər) *n*. Something that blocks movement or passage: *Cows crossing the road are a barrier to traffic.*

bea•**con** (**bē**['] kən) *n*. A light or fire used as a warning or guide: *The flashing beacon on the lighthouse warned the ship that it was nearing the coast.*

beam (bēm) *v*. To smile broadly: *The baseball player was beaming after he made the game-winning play.*

beck-on (**běk**' ən) *v*. To signal (a person), as by nodding or waving: *The principal beckoned us to her office*.

ben•e•fit (**běn**´ə fit) *n*. Something that is of help; an advantage: *The field trip was of great benefit* to the students.

bon•dage (**bon**[']dıı́j) *n*. The condition of being held as a slave or serf; slavery or servitude: *The slaves were held in bondage*.

bound (bound) *v*. To leap, jump, or spring: *The deer was bounding into the woods*.

brace (brās) *v*. To give support to; make firm; strengthen: *The camper is bracing a tent with poles*.

bran-dish (**brăn**'dĭsh) *v*. To wave triumphantly or threateningly: *She came home, brandishing the award she received at school.*

bru-tal (**broot**[']l) *adj*. Cruel; ruthless: *The enemy launched a brutal attack*.

bun•dle (bŭn´dl) v. To dress (a person) warmly: She made sure to bundle up before heading out in the snow.

bun-gle (**bŭng**'gəl) *v*. To manage, do, or handle badly: *He* **bungled** dinner when he didn't follow a recipe.

cal-cu-late (**kăl**'kyə lāt') *v*. To find by using addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division: *They calculate the number of supplies needed before starting the project*.

ca-reer (kə **rîr**') *n*. A profession or occupation: *She is considering a career in medicine*.

check (chěk) v. To stop or hold back: *The defenders were in charge of checking the opposing offense during the soccer match.*

clam•my (**klăm**´ē) *adj.* Unpleasantly damp, sticky, and usually cold: *My feet feel clammy in wet boots.*

col·lapse (kə **lăps**') *v*. To fall down or inward suddenly; cave in: *Part of the roof collapsed after the fire*.

oo boot / ou out / û cut / û fur / hw which / th thin / *th* this / zh vision / ə ago, silent, pencil, lemon, circus

beacon



collected • decline

col·lect·ed (kə **lěk** tĭd) *adj*. In full control of oneself; composed; calm: *He did his best to stay cool and collected when making his speech*.

com·mo·tion (kə **mō**' shən) *n*. A disturbance or tumult: *The argument created a commotion in the hall*.

competition



com·pe·ti·tion (kŏm pǐ **tǐsh**' ən) *n*. A test of skill or ability; a contest: *The soccer match was a competition* between two talented teams.

com-pli-ment (**kom** pla mant) *n*. An expression of praise, admiration, or congratulation: *She gave me a compliment*.

con-cen-trate (**kon'** sən trāt') *v*. To keep or direct one's thoughts, attention, or efforts: *It's hard to concentrate on my homework when the television is on.*

con-duct (**kon** dukt) *n*. The act of directing; management: *The coach was responsible for the team's conduct*.

con-serve (kən **sûrv**') *v*. To protect from loss or harm; preserve: *Conserving energy is important*.

con•ta•gious (kən **tā**´jəs) *adj*. Spreading by direct or indirect contact: *Her desire to win the team relay was contagious*. **con-tent-ment** (kən **těnt**' mənt) *n*. The condition of being content; satisfaction: *Cats purr with contentment when they are satisfied*.

con-trar-y (**kon**['] trĕr[']ē) *adj.* Stubbornly opposed to others; willful: *Little children often become contrary* when they need *a nap.*

con-tri-bu-tion (kŏn´ trĭ **byoō**´ shən) *n*. Something that is given: *We made contributions of food to the poor.*

cramped (krămpt) *adj.* Confined and limited in space: *A family of four lived in a cramped little apartment.*

crit-i-cal (**krĭt**´ĭ kəl) *adj*. Extremely important or decisive: *The surgeon performed a critical surgery*.

D

de•**bate** (dǐ **bāt**') *n*. A discussion or consideration of the arguments for and against something: *The class held a debate to discuss the fairness of the school dress code.*

de-cline (dĭ **klīn**') *n*. The process or result of going down in number or quality: *Some people think the neighborhood is in decline*.

decorate • discomfort

dec-or-ate (**dĕk**' ər āt') *v*. To furnish with something attractive, beautiful, or striking; adorn: *The students decorated the auditorium with flowers for graduation.*

del·i·ca·cy (**děl**´i kə sē) *n*. A choice food considered with regard to its rarity, costliness, or the like: When my family travels, we always taste the local **delicacy**.

de•mol•ish (dǐ **mŏl**′ ish) *v*. To tear down completely; level: *They demolished the old building*.

de-pend-ent (dĭ **pěn**´ dənt) *adj*. Relying on or needing the help of another for support: *Plants are dependent upon sunlight*.

de-scend (dǐ **sěnd**') *v*. To move from a higher to a lower place or position; go or come down: *The hikers* **descended** from the top of the mountain.

de-sert-ed (dě **zûrt** ĭd) *adj*. Left alone; abandoned: *The girl felt deserted* when her friends walked away from her.

de-spite (dĭ **spīt**') prep. In spite of: Lewis and Clark traveled to the Pacific **despite** the unknown land.

des-ti-na-tion (dĕs´ tə **nā**´ shən) *n*. The place to which a person or thing is going or is sent: *The destination* of that package is written on the label. **de-struc-tion** (dĭ **strŭk**' shən) *n*. The condition of having been destroyed: *The tornado caused* great **destruction**.

de-tect (dĭ **těkt**') *v*. To discover or determine the existence, presence, or fact of: *Detecting the smell of smoke could save your life*.

de-te-ri-o-rate (dǐ **tîr**´ē ə rāt) *v*. To make or become inferior in quality, character, or value; worsen: *The moisture is deteriorating the cover of the old book*.

de-vel-op (dĭ **věl**' əp) *v*. To bring into being: *The author developed the book's plot gradually*.

dex-ter-i-ty (děks **těr**´ i tē) *n*. Skill or grace in using the hands, body, or mind: *A silversmith with dexterity can make beautiful pots*.

di•min•ish (dĭ mĭn ĩsh) v. To make or become smaller or less: *The store's supply of clothing is diminishing because of the clearance sale.*

dis-ad-van-tage (dĭs´əd **văn´**tĭj) *n*. A circumstance or condition that makes it harder to do something or to be successful: *A disadvantage of river transportation is its slowness*.

dis-com-fort (dĭs **kŭm**´fərt) *n*. A lack of comfort or ease: *The discomfort* caused by her tight shoes made it difficult to run.

destruction

Destruction comes from the Latin prefix de- ("off" or "down") and the Latin word root struere, which means "to construct." Related words are structure, "something that is constructed," and instruct, "to teach," which come from the same Latin word root.

distract • episode

dis-tract (dĭs **trăkt**') v. To draw (the attention, for example) away from something: *The noise distracted* the students in the *library*.

dis-turb (dĭs **tûrb**') *v*. To intrude upon; bother: *The visitors were disturbing the musician's practice.*

dom-i-nate (**dom**' ə nāt') *v*. To have controlling power or occupy a commanding position over: *The mayor dominated the town hall meeting*.

dwarf (dwôrf) *v*. To cause to look or seem smaller: *The cruise ship dwarfed the fishing boat*.

ed·i·ble (ěd´ ə bəl) adj. Safe to eat: James was surprised to learn that some flowers are edible.

e-di-tion (ĭ dish'ən) *n*. The entire number of copies of a book or newspaper printed at one time and having the same content: *Today's edition of the paper is sold out*.

ef-fec-tive (ï **fěk**' tĭv) *adj*. Having an intended or expected effect: *The vaccine is effective against the flu*.

ef-fi-cient (i fish' ənt) *adj.* Acting or producing effectively with a minimum of waste, expense, or unnecessary effort: *High gas mileage makes this car an efficient vehicle.* **el·e·ment** (**ěl**' ə mənt) *n*. A part of a whole, especially a fundamental or essential part: *The novel is a detective story with one element of a science fiction story*.

e•lite (ĭ lēt´) or (ā lēt´) *adj.* Relating to a small and privileged group: *The athletes were the elite stars of the sports world.*

em•**bark** (ĕm **bärk**') *v*. To set out on an adventure; begin: *The sailors* **embark** on an ocean *voyage*.

em•**bar**•**rass** (ĕm **băr**' əs) *v*. To cause to feel self-conscious or ill at ease; disconcert: *Not knowing the answer to the question* **embarrassed** *me*.

en-dan-gered (ĕn **dān**´ jərd) *adj.* Nearly extinct: *The endangered animals were put in a preserve.*

en-thu-si-as-tic (in thoo zē **as** tik) adj. Full of or showing a strong interest, excitement, or admiration: She is **enthusiastic** about going to summer camp with her friends.

en•vy (**ěn**' vē) *n*. A feeling of discontent at the advantages or successes enjoyed by another, together with a strong desire to have them for oneself: *I was filled with envy when I saw their new car*.

ep-i-sode (**ěp**'ĭ sōd) *n*. An incident that forms a distinct part of a story: *The story was divided into six episodes for television*.

ă rat / ā pay / â care / ä father / ĕ pet / ē be / ĭ pit / ī pie / î fierce / ŏ pot / ō go / ô paw, for / oi oil / ōo book evoiodent (ev´i dont) adj. Easy to see or notice; obvious: From the dark clouds, it was evident that it would soon rain.

ex-cep-tion (ik **sĕp**´shən) *n*. The act of leaving out or the condition of being left out: All of our guests have arrived, with the **exception** of two.

ex•pe•di•tion (ĕk´ spĭ **dĭsh´** ən) *n*. A group making a journey for a specific purpose: *The expedition cheered when they reached the top of Mt. Everest.*

ex-tend (ĩk **stěnd**') *v*. To stretch out; reach: *We saw a clothesline extending from the tree to the house*.

fac•tor (făk' tər) n. Something that brings about a result: A willingness to work hard is an important factor in achieving successes.

fare (fâr) v. To get along; progress: *How are you faring with your project?*

fea•ture (fē´chər) v. To give special attention to; offer prominently: *The exhibit will feature Native American pottery.*

fe-ro-cious (fə **rō**' shəs) *adj.* Extremely savage; fierce: *The tiger's* **ferocious** *roar frightened the deer.* fit-ful (fit'fəl) *adj.* Starting and stopping: *During the storm, the wind blew in fitful gusts.*

flour•ish (flûr´ish) v. To do well; prosper: *Their business* flourished and they became rich.

foe (fō) *n*. An enemy, opponent, or adversary: *Foes* of the new city dump met to fight the plan.

for-mal (**fôr**' məl) *adj.* Structured according to forms or conventions: *The board of directors met in a formal meeting.*

for-mu-la (**fôr**' myə lə) *n*. A method of doing something; procedure: *The teacher gave us the* **formula** *for writing a good research paper*.

fran•tic (frăn´ tĭk) *adj.* Very excited with fear or anxiety; desperate; frenzied: *She was frantic with worry.*

ful-fill (fool fil') v. To carry out: Sharon fulfilled her responsibility when she finished cleaning her room.



gor•**geous** (**gôr**' jəs) *adj*. Dazzlingly beautiful or magnificent: *The snowcapped mountains were* **gorgeous** *in the sunset*.

ferocious



gradually • interior

household

Household is made up of house, meaning "a building made for people to live in," and hold, meaning "possession."

identical

Identical comes from a Latin word meaning "identity," the physical and personality characteristics that make up who a person is. Other English words relating to someone's identity come from the same Latin word root: *identity*, of course, *identify*, and *identification*.

inflate



grad•u•al•ly (**grăj**´oo əl lē) *adv*. Occurring in small stages or degrees, or by even, continuous change: *The water level in the lake changed gradually*.

grant (grănt) *v*. To give or allow (something asked for): *The teacher granted us permission to leave early*.

guar-di-an (**gär**' dē ən) *n*. A person or thing that guards, protects, or watches over: *Courts act as guardians of the law.*

gush (gŭsh) *v*. To flow forth suddenly in great volume: *Water gushed from the broken pipe*.

heave (hēv) v. To lift with effort or force: We had to heave the furniture onto the moving truck.

hes-i-tate (**hěz**´i tāt´) v. To be slow to act, speak, or decide: We *hesitated* about whether to go over the rickety bridge.

hon•**ored** (**ŏn**['] ərd) *adj*. Proud to be given special respect or a special opportunity: *I felt honored* to represent our class in the school talent show.

hos-tile (hŏs' təl) *adj*. Not friendly: *Don't give me such a hostile look*.

house-hold (**hous**' hold') *n*. The members of a family and others living together in a single unit: *Every household has its own rules*.

i•den•ti•cal (ī **děn**´ tǐ kəl) *adj*. Exactly equal and alike: *We're riding identical bicycles*.

im-merse (ĭ **mûrs**') *v*. To involve deeply; absorb: *She immersed herself in her character for the school play*.

im-press (im **press**') *v*. To have a strong, often favorable effect on the mind or feelings of: *The worker* **impressed** *his manager and was promoted*.

im-print (im **print**') *v*. To make a mark or pattern on a surface by pressing or stamping: *The company's logo was* **imprinted** *on its products*.

in-cred-i-bly (ĭn **krĕd**´ ə blē) *adv*. In a way that is hard to believe: *The winner of the race ran incredibly fast.*

in-flate (in **flāt**') v. To cause to expand with air or gas: *She inflated* the tires on her bicycle.

in-flu-en-tial (ĭn´ floo ĕn´ shəl) adj. Having or exercising influence: Our city has an influential newspaper.

in-sight (**ĭn**' s**ī**t) *n*. The perception of the true nature of something: *The movie critic*'s *review had brilliant* **insights** *about the meaning of the movie.*

in-te-ri-or (ĭn **tîr**'ē ər) *n*. An inner part; inside: *The carvings appear* on the **interior** walls of the cave.

ă rat / ā pay / â care / ä father / ĕ pet / ē be / ĭ pit / ī pie / î fierce / ŏ pot / ō go / ô paw, for / oi oil / ōo book **in-ter-rupt** (in tər **ũpt**') *v*. To do something that hinders or stops the action or conversation of; break in on: *I was about to finish my joke when my brother interrupted me.*

in-tim-i-date (ĭn **tǐm**´ ǐ dāt) *v*. To fill with fear; to frighten, or discourage: *The rough water intimidated us in our light canoe.*

is-sue (**ish oo**) *n*. A subject being discussed or disputed; a question under debate: The senator spoke about the **issue** of reforming campaign laws.

keen (kēn) *adj*. Acute; sensitive: The **keen** eyes of the owl help him to see at night.

lack (lăk) v. To be without: *The* neighborhood *lacked* streetlights.

launch (lônch) ŏr (länch) *n*. The act of starting or setting into action: *The company was ready for the launch of its new research program*.

lec-ture (**lěk**' chər) v. To give an explanation or a scolding: My father lectured me about going out after dark.

leg•en•dar•y (**lěj**´ ən děr´ ē) *adj.* Very well-known; famous: *Paul Revere's ride is legendary.* **lunge** (lŭnj) *v*. To make a sudden forward movement: *She was lunging for the ball.*

M

mag•nif•i•cent (măg nĭf´ ĭ sənt) adj. Outstanding of its kind; excellent: Jackie Robinson was a magnificent athlete.

mar•gin (mär´ jĭn) *n*. An edge or border: Weeds grew around the margins of the pond.

mar-vel (**mär**'vəl) *v*. To be filled with surprise, astonishment, or wonder: *He stared at the ocean*, *marveling at its vastness*.

mas·ter (**măs**' tər) *v*. To become the master of; bring under control: *He mastered a foreign language*.

ma•ture (mə työor') or (mə töor') or (mə chöor') v. To grow older: *Most puppies mature into full*grown dogs in a year or two. adj. Having reached full growth or development: A mature redwood can be hundreds of feet tall.

men-tal (**měn**[']tl) *adj.* Occurring in or done in the mind: *Good writing creates a mental image for the reader.*

midst (mĭdst) or (mĭtst) *n*. The middle position or part; the center: *They planted a tree in the midst of the garden*.

mimic • outfit

mim•ic (mĭm´ĭk) *adj.* Acting as an imitation: *A snowman is a mimic person. v.* To resemble closely; simulate: *Children often mimic the mannerisms of their parents.*

min·i·mum (**mĭn´** ə məm) *n*. The smallest amount or degree possible: We need a **minimum** of an hour to make dinner.

mi-rage (mǐ **räzh**') *n*. An optical illusion in which something that is not really there appears to be seen in the distance: In the desert we saw mirages that looked like lakes.

mis-hap (**mis**' hăp') *n*. An unfortunate accident: *The trip ended without a mishap*.

mock (mŏk) *v*. To treat with scorn or contempt; deride: *I felt bad for Tom while his brother was mocking him.*

N

nerve (nûrv) *n*. Courage or daring: It took all my **nerve** to talk to the new student in our class.

numb (nŭm) *adj*. Deprived of the power to feel or move normally: *The boy's toes were numb* with cold.

0

ob-ject (əb´**jĕkt**´) *v*. To be opposed; express disapproval: *We objected to the loud noises downstairs*.

ob-vi-ous (**ŏb**' vē əs) *adj*. Easily perceived or understood; evident: *Large football players have an obvious advantage*.

of-fi-cial-ly (**a fish** ´**a**| lē) *adv.* By or in a way relating to an office or post of authority: *The winner was officially declared.*

op-po-nent (ə **pō**' nənt) *n*. A person or group that opposes another in a battle, contest, controversy, or debate: *The two runners were opponents in the race*.

or•di•nance (ôr´ dn əns) n. A statute or regulation, especially one enacted by a city government: The ordinance requires that every dog be on a leash.

or•gan•ize (**o**r´gən īz´) v. To put together or arrange in an orderly, systematic way: *She was told to organize her messy room*.

o•rig•i•nal (ə rĭj´ĭ nəl) *adj*. Existing before all others; first: Virginia is one of the original thirteen colonies.

out-fit (**out**'fit') *v*. To equip: *The* campsite was **outfitted** with a tent and a grill.

numb

Numb comes from the Old English word *niman*, which literally means "to take." When you are numb, you cannot feel or move normally; feeling has been taken from you.

P

pace (pās) *n*. Speed of motion or progress: *I love the fast pace of city life*.

par-tic-u-lar (pər **tik**' yə lər) *adj*. Separate and different from others of the same group or category: *The painter wanted the walls a particular shade of blue*.

peal (pēl) *n*. A loud burst of noise: A *peal* of thunder frightened the baby.

perch (pûrch) *n*. A branch or rod on which an animal can sit: *The cat climbed to the highest* **perch** *to avoid the dog*.

per-son-al-ly (**pûr**' sən əl lē) *adv*. In person or by oneself; without the help of another: *I thanked her personally*.

per-suade (pər **swād**') *v*. To cause (someone) to do or believe something by arguing, pleading, or reasoning; convince: *He tried to persuade them to come with us.*

pic-ture (**pik**' chər) *v*. To form a mental image of; visualize; imagine: *He pictured himself winning the bike race.*

pierc•ing (**pîr**´sĭng) *adj*. Loud and shrill: *The piercing sound of the alarm woke me up*. **plunge** (plŭnj) *v*. To thrust, throw, or place forcefully or suddenly into something: *The farmer* **plunged** *the pitchfork into the hay*.

pre-lim-i-nar-y (prĭ **lǐm**´ə nĕr´ē) *adj.* Prior to or preparing for the main matter, action, or business; introductory: *The architect showed preliminary sketches for a building.*

pres-ence (**prěz**'əns) *n*. The fact or condition of being present or near: *The crying child was comforted by his mother's* **presence**.

press-ing (**prěs**´ ĭng) *adj*. Demanding immediate attention; urgent: *Hunger is one of the world's most pressing problems*.

pre-vi-ous-ly (**prē**' vē əs lē) *adv*. Before something else in time or order: *Previously*, *the girls lived in New Orleans*.

prim·i·tive (**prǐm**[~]i tǐv) *adj.* Simple or crude: *A log cabin is a primitive type of house.*

pro-ce-dure (prə **sē**'jər) *n*. A way of doing something or getting something done, often by a series of steps: *To conduct a science experiment, he had to follow a procedure*.

prod (prŏd) v. To stir to action; urge: *She continually* **prodded** *him to do his homework*.

pro-duce (prə **doos**') *v*. To create by mental or physical effort: *It takes time to produce a painting.* primitive



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prohibit • repeal

pro-hib-it (prō **hǐb**´ ĭt) *v*. To forbid by law or authority: *The pool rules* **prohibit** *diving in the shallow end*.

pros-per (**pros**' pər) *v*. To be fortunate or successful; thrive: *The man prospered after graduating from college*.

pro-vi-sions (prə **vĭzh**´ənz) *n*. Stocks of foods and other necessary supplies: *Soldiers at war are given provisions*.

pub-li-ca-tion (pŭb lǐ **kā**' shən) *n*. An issue of printed or electronic matter, such as a magazine, offered for sale or distribution: *The school's monthly publication is very informative*.

Q

quake (kwāk) v. To shiver or tremble, as from fear or cold: *I was so frightened that my legs were quaking.*

qual-i-fy (**kwŏl**' ə fī') *v*. To make eligible or qualified, as for a position or task: *She received high grades, qualifying her for the Honor Society.*

quiv-er (**kwiv**'ər) v. To shake with a slight vibrating motion; tremble: *Her voice quivered with excitement when she talked about her birthday party.*

R

range (rānj) *n*. An extended group or series, especially a row or chain of mountains: *The Rocky Mountain range is in the western United States*.

re•al•i•za•tion (rē əl ĭ zā´ shən) *n*. The act of realizing or the condition of being realized: *The realization that he lost his wallet panicked him*.

rea·son (**re**[´] zən) v. To use the ability to think clearly and sensibly: *I reasoned* that *I* should stay inside because it was raining outside.

re·bel·lious (rǐ **běl**' yəs) *adj.* Prone to or participating in a rebellion: *The rebellious farmer fought in the Revolutionary War.*

re-cite (rǐ **sīt**') *v*. To repeat or say aloud (something prepared or memorized), especially before an audience: *The players recite the Pledge of Allegiance before each game*.

rec-ord (**rěk**' ərd) *n*. The highest or lowest measurement known, as in sports events or weather readings: *Death Valley holds the record for least rainfall in a year in the United States.*

reg•u•late (**rěg**' yə lāt) v. To control or direct according to a rule or a law: *Rangers regulate park activities*.

re•**peal** (rĭ **pēl**') *v*. To withdraw or cancel officially; revoke: *The Senate voted to repeal the law.*

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provisions

rep•re•sen•ta•tive (rĕp´ rĭ zĕn´ tə tĭv) *n*. A person who acts for. one or more others: *Rob and Peter were elected as class representatives*.

re-quire (rǐ **kwīr'**) *v*. To be in need of; need: *Practice is required* for a person to become better at a sport.

re-sem-ble (rǐ **zěm** bəl) *v*. To have similarity or likeness to; be like: *Some house cats resemble cougars*.

res•i•dent (rĕz´ĭ dənt) n.

A person who lives in a particular place: **Residents** of the building had to leave because the power was out.

re-spon-si-bil-i-ty (rǐ spŏn´ sə **bǐl**´ ĭ tē) *n*. Something that one is responsible for; a duty or obligation: *The two cats are my responsibility*.

re-store (rĭ **stôr**') *v*. To bring back to an original condition: *The carpenter wanted to restore the old building.*

re-sume (rǐ **zoom**') v. To continue: Classes resumed after school vacation.

re-treat (rǐ **trēt**') *v*. The act or process of withdrawing, especially from something dangerous or unpleasant: *Patriots forced the Hessians to retreat from battle.* **rev-o-lu-tion** (rĕv´ə **loo**´ shən) *n*. The overthrow of one government and its replacement with another: *The goal of the American Patriots during their revolution was to overthrow British rule.*

rhyth-mic (**rith** mik) *adj*. Of or having a movement, action, or condition that repeats in regular sequence: *The rhythmic sound of the drums had a calming effect.*

romp (rŏmp) *n*. Lively or spirited play: *The girls took their dogs for a romp in the park*.

rou-tine (roo ten') *n*. A series of activities performed or meant to be performed regularly; a standard or usual procedure: *They were delayed by the guards'* **routine** of checking their passports.

ru-mor (**roo**' mər) *n*. A story or report, usually spread by word of mouth, that has not been established as true: *I heard a rumor that Peter is moving to China*.

rur•al (**roor**' əl) *adj*. Of, relating to, or characteristic of the country: *Farms are found in rural areas*.

rus-tle (**rŭs**'əl) *v*. To make a soft fluttering sound: A **rustling** in the woods scared me away.

rural



S

sal-va-tion (săl **vā** shən) *n*. Someone or something that saves or rescues: *The spring was the salvation of the thirsty traveler.*

sav•age (săv[~]ij) *adj*. Ferocious; fierce: *The savage tigers hunted their prey*.

scan (skăn) v. To examine (something) closely: *She scanned the report card*.

se-cre-tive (**sē** krə tĭv) *adj*. Inclined to secrecy; tending to keep secrets: *We had to be secretive while we planned the surprise party*.

se-cure (sǐ **kyŏor**') *v*. To cause to remain firmly in position or place; fasten: *We secured the ship's hatches*.

seep (sep) *v*. To pass slowly through small openings; ooze: *Cold air could seep in through the cracks*.

shake (shāk) v. To make uneasy; disturb; agitate: She was shaken by the bad news.

shat-ter (**shăt**' ər) *v*. To break into pieces by force; smash: *The shattered* glass was unfixable.

shift (shĭft) *v*. To move or transfer from one place or position to another: *She shifted the heavy basket in her arms*. **shim-mer** (**shǐm**'ər) *v*. To shine with a subdued, flickering light: *The shimmering candle could be seen in the darkness.*

shoul-der (**shōl**' dər) *v*. To place on the shoulder or shoulders for carrying: *The dad shouldered the boy so he could see over the crowd*.

shuf-fle (**shŭf** əl) v. To walk slowly, while dragging the feet: *I* **shuffled** my feet because *I* was so tired.

snug (snŭg) adj. Fitting closely: A bicycle helmet should be snug, so it doesn't fall off.

spare (spâr) *v*. To show mercy or consideration to: *I spared* your feelings by not telling you about the problems.

spe•cial•ty (**spěsh**´əl tē) *n*. A special pursuit, occupation, talent, or skill: *His specialty is portrait painting*.

sprawl-ing (**sprôl**' ĭng) *adj*. Spreading out in different directions: *I looked over the sprawling meadow*.

squal-ling (skwôl ĭng) n. Loud crying: The mother stopped her baby's squalling by singing him to sleep. adj. Crying loudly: They found the squalling kitten under a bush.

squash (skwôsh) v. To beat or flatten into a pulp; crush: *He was* squashing the peach on the pavement.

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shattered



stag-ger (**stăg**' ər) *v*. To move or stand unsteadily, as if carrying a great weight; totter: *Carrying the large boxes, she staggered clumsily*.

stall (stôl) *v*. To slow down or stop the process of; bring to a standstill: *The traffic stalled because of the accident ahead*.

strain (strān) *v*. To work as hard as possible; strive hard: *The boy strained to lift the heavy bag*.

strat-e-gy (**străt**' \ni jē) *n*. The planning and directing of a series of actions that will be useful in gaining a goal: General George Washington came up with a **strategy** for the battle.

stride (strīd) *n*. A single, long step: *The giraffe took long strides*.

strug•gle (**strŭg**´əl) *v*. To make strenuous efforts; strive: *She struggled to stay awake*.

stunt•ed (**stŭn**´tĭd) *adj*. Slowed or stopped abnormally in growth or development: *The stunted tree did not grow because there was no water*.

sum·mon (sŭm´ən) v. To call forth; muster: The smell of turkey summons memories of past Thanksgiving dinners.

sup•posed•ly (sə pō´ zĭd lē) adv.
Seemingly: Until she lied, she
was supposedly my friend.

surge (sûrj) *v*. To move with gathering force, as rolling waves do: *The crowd surged forward*.

sur-vey (sər **vā**') or (**sûr**' vā') *v*. To look over the parts or features of; view broadly: *We surveyed the neighborhood from a hilltop*.

sus-pense (sə **spěns**') *n*. The state or quality of being undecided or uncertain: The movie left us in suspense.

sweep-ing (**swēp**´ĭng) *adj.* Moving in, or as if in, a long curve: *The castaways waved to the rescue plane with* **sweeping** *gestures.*

tech-nique (těk **nēk'**) *n*. A procedure or method for carrying out a specific task: Jason learned techniques for carving wooden toys.

te-di-ous (**tē**' dē əs) *adj*. Tiresome because of slowness, dullness, or length; boring: *He didn't like math, so he thought the lecture was tedious*.

tem•po•rar•y (**těm**´ pə rěr´ ē) *adj*. Lasting, used, serving, or enjoyed for a limited time; not permanent: *The man was given a temporary license until he could get a permanent one.*

ten-ta-tive (**těn** tə tĭv) *adj.* Not fully worked out, concluded, or agreed on: *The publisher created a tentative production schedule.*

suspense

The word *suspense* comes from the Latin prefix sub-, meaning "from below," and the Latin word root pendere, "to hang." A suspension bridge is a bridge on which the roadway hangs from cables. The related word depend, which means "to rely on" or "be determined by," comes from the Latin prefix de-, "down from," and pendere.

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thumb • vegetation

thumb (thum) *v*. To scan written matter by turning the pages with the thumb: *She thumbed through the magazine*.

tor-ment (**tôr**' měnt') *n*. Great physical or mental pain: *I was* in a state of **torment** listening to the teacher explain the homework assignment.

trans-fer (trăns **fûr** *or* **trăns** fər) *v*. To cause to move from one place to another: *She* **transferred** *money into her savings account.*

trek (trěk) *n*. A long, hard journey, especially on foot: *Settlers made the trek to the West.*

trib-u-tar-y (**trib**' yə těr' ē) *n*. A river or stream that flows into a larger river or stream: *People enjoy boating on tributaries of the Mississippi River*.

typ·i·cal·ly (**tĭp´**ĭ kəl lē) *adv*. In a way that is usual for a kind, group, or category: *Typically*, *school begins early in the morning*.

un-doubt-ed-ly (ŭn **dŏŭ**´ tĭd lē) *adv.* Beyond question; undisputedly: *He was* **undoubtedly** glad he made it to the meeting on time.

un•e•vent•ful (ŭn´i **věnt**´fəl) *adj*. Having no significant events: *The trip was uneventful*. **u**•ni•form (yoo 'nə fôrm') *adj.* Being the same as another or others: *He built the porch out of planks of uniform length.*

u•nique (yoo nēk') *adj.* Being the only one of its kind: *The puppy had a unique mark on his back.*

un•i•son (**yoo**' nĭ sən) or (**yoo**' nĭ zən) *n*. At the same time; at once: *The rowers must work in unison to win*.

un•ob•served (ŭn´əb **zûrvd**´) *adj.* Not seen or noticed: *We crept up the walkway unobserved.*

up-right (**ũp**' rīt') *adv.* Straight up: *I taught my dog to sit upright and beg for a biscuit.*

urge (ûrj) *v*. To entreat earnestly and repeatedly; exhort: *The coach continues to* **urge** *us to stay in shape over summer vacation.*

V

vain (vān) adj. Having no success: Firefighters made avain attempt to save the burning building.

var·y (**vâr**' ē) *v*. To be different or diverse: *His diet will vary from day to day*.

veg-e-ta-tion (věj´ i **tā**´ shən) *n*. The plants in an area or region; plant life: *There is little vegetation at the North Pole*.

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uni-

The basic meaning of the prefix uni- is "one." It comes from the Latin prefix uni-, which in turn comes from the Latin word root unus, "one." The word unicorn, a mythological one-horned horse, comes from uniand the Latin word root cornu, "horn." Uniform, unique, unison, and unicycle all have "one" in their definitions.

vegetation



viewpoint • wobble

view-point (**vyoo**' poĭnt') *n*. A position from which something is observed or considered; a point of view: *From the viewpoint of the British, their navy was the best.*

vil·lain (vil' ən) n. A wicked or very bad person; a scoundrel: The evil brothers were the villains of the movie.

vi·o·la·tion ($v\bar{i} \Rightarrow l\bar{a}' sh \Rightarrow n$) *n*. The act or an instance of breaking or ignoring or the condition of (a law or rule) being broken or ignored: *She was fined for traffic violations*.



wheel (hwēl) *v*. To turn or whirl around in place: *She wheeled to see what had made the loud sound behind her.*

wob·ble (**wŏb**´əl) *v*. To move unsteadily from side to side: *The old table wobbled*.

villain

The meaning of villain has changed over the centuries. The word comes from the Latin word root villa, which means "country house." It originally meant a peasant or serf who lived in the country. It gradually changed to mean a person with coarse feelings or a foolish person, and then a wicked person.