SHSAT Grade 8 Vocabulary List: 500 Words

Word · meaning · synonyms. For 8th graders taking the SHSAT for 9th-grade admission. Free from Dr. Stuart Donnelly, doctorshsat.com, where you can also get the matching Anki and Quizlet flashcards.

Core 200 (start here)

abandon *v.*	to leave something behind for good, or to give up on a plan completely	desert, give up
absurd *adj.*	so silly or unreasonable that it makes no sense	ridiculous, senseless
abundant *adj.*	existing in large amounts; more than enough	plentiful, ample
accumulate *v.*	to gather or pile up little by little over time	collect, build up
acknowledge *v.*	to admit that something is true, or to show that you have noticed someone	admit, recognize
adapt *v.*	to change to fit a new situation, or to change something so it can be used in a new way	adjust, modify
address *v.*	to speak to a group, or to deal with a problem	tackle, speak to
advocate *v.*	to publicly support or speak in favor of an idea or cause	champion, promote
ambition *n.*	a strong desire to achieve something, often something difficult	goal, aspiration
anticipate *v.*	to expect something before it happens and often get ready for it	expect, predict
anxious *adj.*	worried or nervous about something that might happen	nervous, uneasy
apparent *adj.*	easy to see or understand; also, seeming to be true but possibly not	obvious, seeming
appeal *v.*	to make a serious request; also, to attract or interest someone	attract, request
appreciate *v.*	to be thankful for something; also, to fully understand how great or important something is	value, recognize
assert *v.*	to state something firmly and confidently	declare, insist
assume *v.*	to suppose something is true without proof; also, to take on a role or duty	suppose, take on
authentic *adj.*	real and genuine; not a copy or fake	genuine, real
awkward *adj.*	clumsy or uncomfortable; also, hard to handle because of its shape	clumsy, uncomfortable
bear *v.*	to carry or support the weight of something; also, to put up with something unpleasant	support, tolerate
benefit *n.*	an advantage or helpful result	advantage, gain
bias *n.*	an unfair preference for or against someone or something	prejudice, favoritism
bold *adj.*	brave and willing to take risks; also, strong and vivid so that it stands out	daring, striking
brief *adj.*	short in time or length	short, quick
capable *adj.*	having the skill or power to do something	able, skilled
cautious *adj.*	careful to avoid danger or mistakes	careful, wary
challenge *v.*	to invite someone to try something difficult; also, to question whether something is true	question, dare
check *v.*	to look at something to make sure it is right; also, to stop or slow something down	inspect, halt

cherish *v.*	to love and value something or someone very deeply	treasure, adore
clarify *v.*	to make something clearer or easier to understand	explain, clear up
collapse *v.*	to fall down suddenly; also, to fail or break down completely	cave in, fail
command *v.*	to give an order with authority; also, to have a view over something from above	order, direct
commit *v.*	to promise to give your time or effort to something; also, to store something firmly in memory	pledge, dedicate
compel *v.*	to force someone to do something	force, oblige
complex *adj.*	made of many connected parts; complicated	complicated, intricate
compose *v.*	to write music or a piece of writing; also, to calm yourself	create, calm
compromise *n.*	an agreement in which each side gives up part of what it wants	deal, middle ground
conceal *v.*	to hide something or keep it secret	hide, disguise
conclude *v.*	to decide something after thinking about the facts; also, to end	decide, end
conduct *v.*	to carry out or lead an activity; also, to let heat or electricity pass through	carry out, transmit
confront *v.*	to face a problem, fear, or person directly	face, tackle
consequence *n.*	a result or effect of an action or event, often an unpleasant one	result, effect
considerable *adj.*	large in size, amount, or importance	significant, substantial
consistent *adj.*	staying the same over time; also, agreeing with something else	steady, matching
consume *v.*	to eat, drink, or use up something; also, to fill someone's mind completely	use up, absorb
content *adj.*	satisfied and happy with what you have	satisfied, pleased
contradict *v.*	to say or show the opposite of something	oppose, deny
contribute *v.*	to give something, such as money, time, or ideas, to help a shared goal	donate, give
convey *v.*	to communicate an idea or feeling; also, to carry something from one place to another	express, transport
cooperate *v.*	to work together toward a shared goal	collaborate, work together
crucial *adj.*	extremely important; necessary for success	essential, vital
cultivate *v.*	to grow plants or crops; also, to develop a skill, habit, or friendship over time	grow, develop
curious *adj.*	eager to know or learn something; also, strange or unusual	inquisitive, odd
decline *v.*	to become smaller, weaker, or fewer; also, to politely refuse	decrease, refuse
dedicate *v.*	to give your time and energy fully to something; also, to name someone as honored by a book, song, or building	devote, commit
defiant *adj.*	boldly refusing to obey or give in	rebellious, disobedient
deliberate *adj.*	done on purpose; also, slow and careful	intentional, unhurried
demonstrate *v.*	to show clearly or prove; also, to show how something works	show, prove
dense *adj.*	thick and tightly packed; also, packed with ideas so that it is hard to understand	thick, compact
depict *v.*	to show something in a picture or describe it in words	portray, illustrate
desperate *adj.*	having lost hope and willing to try anything; in extreme need	frantic, hopeless

determine *v.*	to find out exactly; also, to decide or settle something	figure out, decide
dilemma *n.*	a situation in which you must make a hard choice between two options	predicament, quandary
diminish *v.*	to become or make smaller or less	lessen, shrink
distinct *adj.*	clearly different or separate; also, easy to notice	separate, unmistakable
distinguish *v.*	to see or understand the difference between things; also, to make yourself stand out	tell apart, differentiate
distract *v.*	to pull someone's attention away from what they are doing	divert, sidetrack
diverse *adj.*	made up of many different kinds of people or things	varied, assorted
dominate *v.*	to control or have the most power over; also, to be the largest or most noticeable part of something	control, tower over
drastic *adj.*	extreme, sudden, and having a strong effect	extreme, severe
dread *n.*	great fear or worry about something that is going to happen	fear, apprehension
eager *adj.*	wanting very much to do or have something	keen, enthusiastic
elaborate *adj.*	having many carefully planned parts or details	detailed, intricate
eliminate *v.*	to remove or get rid of completely	remove, eradicate
emerge *v.*	to come out into view; also, to become known	appear, surface
emphasize *v.*	to give special importance or attention to something	stress, highlight
encounter *v.*	to meet or come across, often unexpectedly	come across, run into
endure *v.*	to put up with something hard or painful; also, to last for a long time	withstand, last
enhance *v.*	to improve something or make it better or stronger	improve, boost
enormous *adj.*	extremely large	huge, gigantic
ensure *v.*	to make certain that something happens	guarantee, make sure
establish *v.*	to set up something meant to last; also, to prove that something is true	found, set up
evaluate *v.*	to judge how good, useful, or valuable something is	assess, judge
evidence *n.*	facts or signs that show whether something is true	proof, support
exaggerate *v.*	to make something seem bigger, better, or worse than it really is	overstate, inflate
exclude *v.*	to leave out or keep out	omit, bar
expand *v.*	to become larger or make something larger	grow, enlarge
extend *v.*	to make something longer or larger; also, to offer something to someone	lengthen, offer
fascinate *v.*	to hold someone's attention by being very interesting	captivate, enthrall
feature *n.*	an important or noticeable part of something; also, a special story in a newspaper or magazine	characteristic, highlight
firm *adj.*	solid and not soft; also, strong and not willing to change	solid, unshakable
flexible *adj.*	able to bend easily; also, able to change to fit new situations	bendable, adaptable
fragile *adj.*	easily broken or damaged	delicate, breakable
frustrate *v.*	to make someone annoyed because they cannot do something; also, to keep a plan from succeeding	thwart, annoy
generate *v.*	to produce or create something	produce, create

gesture *n.*	a movement of the hands or body that shows meaning; also, an action that shows a feeling	signal, sign
glimpse *n.*	a quick look at something, often only part of it	peek, glance
gradually *adv.*	slowly, a little at a time	steadily, little by little
grasp *v.*	to hold something tightly; also, to understand an idea	grip, understand
grateful *adj.*	thankful for something someone did	thankful, appreciative
grave *adj.*	very serious and worrying	serious, solemn
harbor *v.*	to give shelter or a home to; also, to keep a thought or feeling (often secret) in your mind for a long time	shelter, hold
hesitate *v.*	to pause before doing or saying something because you are unsure or nervous	pause, waver
hostile *adj.*	unfriendly and ready to argue or fight; also, harsh and very hard to survive in	unfriendly, harsh
identify *v.*	to recognize and name who or what someone or something is	recognize, pinpoint
illustrate *v.*	to make an idea clear by giving an example or demonstration; also, to add pictures to a book	demonstrate, show
impact *n.*	a strong effect on someone or something; also, the force of one object hitting another	effect, collision
impulse *n.*	a sudden strong wish to do something without thinking; also, a brief signal, such as one sent along a nerve	urge, signal
indicate *v.*	to show, point out, or be a sign of something	show, signal
inevitable *adj.*	certain to happen; impossible to avoid	unavoidable, certain
influence *v.*	to have an effect on how someone thinks or acts, or on how something develops	affect, sway
initial *adj.*	happening at the beginning; first	first, early
insist *v.*	to say firmly that something is true or must happen, and refuse to back down	demand, maintain
inspire *v.*	to fill someone with the desire or energy to do something	motivate, encourage
intense *adj.*	very strong or extreme; also, (of a person) very serious and emotional about things	extreme, fierce
interpret *v.*	to decide or explain what something means	understand, explain
investigate *v.*	to examine something carefully to find out the truth	examine, look into
isolate *v.*	to set something or someone apart from others; to separate one thing out from a mixture	separate, set apart
issue *n.*	an important topic or problem that people discuss; also, a single edition of a magazine or newspaper	topic, edition
keen *adj.*	eager and interested; also, sharp or highly sensitive (as in keen eyesight)	eager, sharp
linger *v.*	to stay somewhere longer than expected, or to be slow to leave or disappear	remain, stay
maintain *v.*	to keep something in good condition; also, to firmly state that something is true	keep up, claim
merely *adv.*	only; nothing more than	only, simply
method *n.*	a planned, organized way of doing something	technique, approach

modest *adj.*	not bragging about yourself; also, fairly small or limited in size or amount	humble, moderate
motive *n.*	a reason for doing something	reason, purpose
neglect *v.*	to fail to take care of or pay attention to something	ignore, abandon
notion *n.*	an idea or belief, often one that is not fully proven	idea, belief
novel *adj.*	new, original, and unlike anything before	new, original
objective *n.*	a goal that you are trying to reach	goal, aim
obstacle *n.*	something that blocks the way or makes progress difficult	barrier, hurdle
obtain *v.*	to get something, usually through effort	get, acquire
oppose *v.*	to be against something and try to stop it	resist, object to
origin *n.*	the point where something begins or comes from; the source	source, beginning
persist *v.*	to keep doing something despite difficulty; also, to continue to exist	continue, persevere
perspective *n.*	a point of view; a way of seeing or thinking about something	viewpoint, outlook
persuade *v.*	to convince someone to do or believe something by giving reasons	convince, talk into
plain *adj.*	simple and without decoration; also, easy to see or understand; obvious	simple, obvious
precise *adj.*	exact and accurate, with careful attention to detail	exact, accurate
predict *v.*	to say what will happen in the future, often based on evidence	forecast, foresee
preserve *v.*	to keep something safe from harm or decay, or in its original state	protect, save
primary *adj.*	main or most important; also, first in order or time	main, chief
principle *n.*	a basic rule or truth; also, a belief about right and wrong that guides behavior	rule, value
proceed *v.*	to go forward or continue, often after a pause	continue, advance
profound *adj.*	very deep or great, especially in feeling, meaning, or effect	deep, powerful
prohibit *v.*	to forbid something by rule or law	forbid, ban
prominent *adj.*	important and well known; also, sticking out so that it is easy to see	noticeable, famous
prompt *v.*	to cause or encourage someone to do something	spur, trigger
propose *v.*	to suggest a plan or idea for others to consider	suggest, put forward
prospect *n.*	the possibility that something will happen in the future	possibility, outlook
provoke *v.*	to cause a strong reaction, especially anger, often on purpose	anger, stir up
pursue *v.*	to chase or follow; also, to work steadily toward a goal	chase, strive for
rational *adj.*	based on clear thinking and good reasons; sensible and logical	logical, sensible
reassure *v.*	to say or do something to make someone feel less worried	comfort, calm
recall *v.*	to remember; also, (of a company) to ask people to return a product because it is unsafe	remember, call back
recover *v.*	to get well again; also, to get back something that was lost or taken	heal, retrieve
reflect *v.*	to throw back light or an image, like a mirror; also, to think carefully about something	mirror, consider
reinforce *v.*	to make something stronger; also, to support or strengthen an idea	strengthen, support
reject *v.*	to refuse to accept, use, or believe something	refuse, turn down
relevant *adj.*	closely connected to the subject being discussed	related, pertinent

reluctant *adj.*	unwilling or hesitant to do something	unwilling, hesitant
remedy *n.*	a cure for an illness; also, a solution to a problem	cure, solution
remote *adj.*	far away from other places; also, very slight or small (as in a remote chance)	distant, slight
resemble *v.*	to look like or be similar to	look like, mirror
resent *v.*	to feel angry or bitter about something you think is unfair	begrudge, be bitter about
resist *v.*	to fight against or refuse to give in to something; also, to hold up against damage	withstand, oppose
resolve *v.*	to settle or solve a problem; also, to decide firmly to do something	settle, decide
resource *n.*	a supply of something useful, such as water, money, or information	supply, asset
restore *v.*	to bring something back to its original condition	repair, renew
restrict *v.*	to keep something within limits	limit, confine
retreat *v.*	to move back or away, often from danger	withdraw, pull back
reveal *v.*	to show or make known something that was hidden or secret	uncover, disclose
rigid *adj.*	stiff and unable to bend; also, strict and unwilling to change	stiff, strict
scarce *adj.*	hard to find because there is not enough	rare, in short supply
seek *v.*	to look for or try to get something	search for, pursue
significant *adj.*	important or large enough to be noticed or to matter	important, considerable
skeptical *adj.*	doubtful; not easily convinced that something is true	doubtful, unconvinced
solitary *adj.*	alone; living, being, or done without others	lone, alone
sound *adj.*	healthy and in good condition; also, based on good reasoning and reliable	solid, sensible
spontaneous *adj.*	happening naturally, without being planned	unplanned, impulsive
stable *adj.*	steady and firm; not likely to fall, shake, or change	steady, secure
strategy *n.*	a careful plan for reaching a goal	plan, approach
strike *v.*	to hit with force; also, to suddenly come into someone's mind or catch their attention	hit, impress
subtle *adj.*	not obvious; small and hard to notice	slight, faint
sufficient *adj.*	enough for a particular purpose	enough, adequate
suppress *v.*	to hold back or stop something, such as a feeling or a fire	hold back, put down
sustain *v.*	to keep something going or support it; also, to suffer an injury or loss	maintain, suffer
tension *n.*	a nervous, strained feeling; also, how tightly something is stretched	strain, stress
thrive *v.*	to grow strongly and healthily; to do very well	flourish, prosper
trait *n.*	a quality that is part of someone's character or of a living thing	quality, characteristic
transform *v.*	to change something completely in form or character	convert, change completely
triumph *n.*	a great victory or success	victory, success
typical *adj.*	normal or usual for a particular person, group, or thing	usual, normal
ultimately *adv.*	in the end; finally, after everything else	finally, eventually
undergo *v.*	to experience or go through something, such as a change or a test	go through, experience

unique *adj.*	one of a kind; unlike anything else	one of a kind, distinctive
urge *v.*	to strongly encourage or advise someone to do something	encourage, press
vague *adj.*	unclear or not specific	unclear, fuzzy
venture *v.*	to go somewhere risky or unknown; also, to dare to say something	dare, risk
vivid *adj.*	very bright and strong; also, (of a memory or description) very clear and detailed	bright, clear
yield *v.*	to produce something, such as a crop or result; also, to give way to others	produce, give way

Extension 300

abrupt *adj.*	sudden and unexpected; also short and unfriendly in the way someone speaks	sudden, curt
abstract *adj.*	existing as an idea rather than a physical object; in art, not showing real people or things	conceptual, nonrepresentational
accommodate *v.*	to make room for; to adjust in order to meet someone's needs	hold, adapt to
account *n.*	a description or report of an event; also a record of money	report, description
adversity *n.*	great difficulty or hardship	hardship, misfortune
affluent *adj.*	having a lot of money; wealthy	wealthy, prosperous
agitate *v.*	to make someone nervous or upset; to stir or shake a liquid	disturb, stir
alleviate *v.*	to make pain or a problem less severe	ease, relieve
allude *v.*	to mention something indirectly, without saying it plainly	hint at, refer to
anonymous *adj.*	having no known name; not identified	unnamed, unidentified
arbitrary *adj.*	based on chance or personal whim rather than on a reason	random, unreasoned
articulate *v.*	to express an idea or feeling clearly in words	express, voice
aspire *v.*	to hope strongly to achieve something	strive, aim
austere *adj.*	plain and without comfort or decoration; strict and serious	bare, stern
avert *v.*	to prevent something bad from happening; to turn away (one's eyes)	prevent, turn away
banish *v.*	to force someone to leave a place; to get rid of something	exile, expel
benevolent *adj.*	kind and wanting to help others	kind, charitable
betray *v.*	to be disloyal to; to reveal something without meaning to	double-cross, reveal
bewilder *v.*	to confuse someone completely	baffle, puzzle
blunt *adj.*	saying something directly without trying to be polite; not sharp	frank, dull
candid *adj.*	open and honest, even about uncomfortable things	frank, honest
capacity *n.*	the most that something can hold; ability; a role or position	volume, role
catastrophe *n.*	a sudden event that causes great damage or suffering; a disaster	disaster, calamity
cease *v.*	to stop	stop, halt
champion *v.*	to support or fight for a cause or person	support, advocate
chronic *adj.*	lasting a long time or happening again and again	persistent, long-lasting
clamor *n.*	a loud, confused noise; a strong public demand	uproar, outcry
coax *v.*	to gently persuade someone to do something	persuade, sweet-talk

coherent *adj.*	clear and logical, so that the parts fit together	logical, clear
coincide *v.*	to happen at the same time; to match or agree	coincide, overlap
commence *v.*	to begin or start	begin, start
compassion *n.*	sympathy and concern for people who are suffering	sympathy, kindness
compatible *adj.*	able to work or exist together without problems	matching, well-suited
compensate *v.*	to pay someone for a loss or for work; to make up for something	repay, make up for
complacent *adj.*	too pleased with oneself to notice danger or try harder	self-satisfied, smug
comply *v.*	to obey a rule, order, or request	obey, follow
comprehensive *adj.*	including everything or nearly everything; thorough	thorough, complete
conceive *v.*	to form an idea in the mind; to imagine	imagine, think up
condemn *v.*	to express strong disapproval of; to declare a building unfit for use	denounce, criticize
confide *v.*	to tell someone a secret because you trust them	entrust, share privately
conform *v.*	to follow accepted rules or behave the same way as others; to match a standard	comply, fit in
consensus *n.*	general agreement among a group	agreement, accord
consolidate *v.*	to combine several things into one; to make stronger or more secure	combine, merge
contend *v.*	to argue that something is true; to compete; to deal with a problem	compete, claim
contrary *adj.*	opposite in direction or meaning; stubbornly doing the opposite of what is wanted	opposite, stubborn
conventional *adj.*	following usual or traditional ways; ordinary	traditional, customary
conviction *n.*	a firmly held belief; a court's finding that someone is guilty	belief, certainty
cordial *adj.*	warm, friendly, and polite	friendly, gracious
credible *adj.*	believable; able to be trusted	believable, trustworthy
credit *v.*	to say that someone deserves recognition for something; to believe	recognize, attribute
cumbersome *adj.*	large, heavy, or awkward and hard to carry; slow and complicated	awkward, unwieldy
deceive *v.*	to make someone believe something that is not true	trick, mislead
decisive *adj.*	settling a question or contest; able to make choices quickly and firmly	conclusive, resolute
defer *v.*	to put off until later; to give way to someone else's judgment	postpone, yield
deficient *adj.*	lacking something that is needed; not good enough	lacking, inadequate
degrade *v.*	to break down or become worse in quality; to treat someone without respect	deteriorate, humiliate
deplete *v.*	to use up a supply of something	exhaust, drain
deprive *v.*	to take something away from someone or keep them from having it	deny, strip
deride *v.*	to make fun of in a scornful way	mock, ridicule
derive *v.*	to get something from a source	obtain, draw
designate *v.*	to officially choose someone or something for a purpose or name	appoint, assign
despise *v.*	to dislike very strongly; to hate	hate, loathe
deter *v.*	to discourage or prevent someone from doing something	discourage, prevent
devastate *v.*	to destroy completely; to make someone extremely sad	wreck, crush

devise *v.*	to plan or invent something, especially something clever	invent, design
dignity *n.*	the quality of deserving respect; a calm, serious manner	self-respect, honor
diligent *adj.*	working hard and carefully	hardworking, careful
discard *v.*	to throw away something no longer wanted	throw away, dump
discern *v.*	to notice or recognize something that is hard to see or understand	detect, make out
discord *n.*	disagreement between people; harsh, clashing sounds	conflict, dissonance
dismal *adj.*	gloomy and depressing; very poor in quality	gloomy, dreadful
dismay *n.*	a feeling of shock and disappointment	distress, alarm
dispatch *v.*	to send someone or something off quickly for a purpose	send, deploy
disperse *v.*	to scatter or spread out in different directions	scatter, disband
dispute *n.*	a disagreement or argument	disagreement, quarrel
disrupt *v.*	to interrupt or disturb the normal course of something	interrupt, disturb
dissolve *v.*	to mix into a liquid and disappear; to officially end a group or agreement	melt, break up
distort *v.*	to twist out of shape; to change facts so they are misleading	warp, misrepresent
divert *v.*	to change the direction of something; to draw attention away	redirect, distract
docile *adj.*	calm, gentle, and easy to control	gentle, obedient
dormant *adj.*	inactive for a time but able to become active again	inactive, sleeping
dubious *adj.*	doubtful; probably not true or trustworthy	doubtful, questionable
durable *adj.*	able to last a long time without breaking or wearing out	sturdy, long-lasting
eccentric *adj.*	strange or unusual in behavior, often in a harmless way	odd, quirky
eloquent *adj.*	speaking or writing in a clear, powerful, and moving way	expressive, articulate
elusive *adj.*	hard to find, catch, or understand	hard to catch, slippery
embark *v.*	to board a ship or plane; to begin something new or important	begin, set out
empathy *n.*	the ability to understand and share another person's feelings	understanding, fellow feeling
enact *v.*	to make into law; to act out a story or role	pass, perform
endeavor *n.*	a serious attempt to do something difficult	effort, undertaking
engage *v.*	to take part in; to hold someone's attention; to hire	involve, occupy
enigma *n.*	a person or thing that is mysterious and hard to understand	mystery, puzzle
entice *v.*	to attract someone by offering something pleasant	tempt, attract
envision *v.*	to picture something in your mind, especially something in the future	imagine, picture
erode *v.*	to wear away slowly; to weaken gradually	wear away, weaken
erratic *adj.*	not regular or predictable; changing suddenly	unpredictable, irregular
esteem *n.*	respect and admiration	respect, regard
evade *v.*	to avoid or escape someone or something, often by being clever	avoid, dodge
evoke *v.*	to bring a feeling, memory, or image to mind	summon, call up
exasperate *v.*	to annoy or frustrate someone very much	infuriate, frustrate
exceed *v.*	to go beyond a limit or amount; to be greater than	surpass, top
exempt *adj.*	free from a rule, duty, or payment that applies to others	excused, spared

exert *v.*	to put forth effort, force, or influence	apply, use
exploit *v.*	to make full use of something; also, to take unfair advantage of someone or something	utilize, take advantage of
extract *v.*	to pull or take something out, often with effort	remove, draw out
fabricate *v.*	to make up something false; also, to build or manufacture	invent, construct
facilitate *v.*	to make an action or process easier	ease, assist
falter *v.*	to lose strength or confidence; to hesitate or stumble	waver, stumble
fashion *v.*	to make or shape something, often by hand	shape, craft
feasible *adj.*	possible to do; practical	workable, practical
feeble *adj.*	weak; lacking strength or force	weak, frail
fervent *adj.*	showing strong, passionate feeling	passionate, intense
fickle *adj.*	changing one's mind or loyalty often; unpredictable	changeable, unpredictable
flaw *n.*	a mistake, weakness, or imperfection	defect, fault
fluctuate *v.*	to rise and fall or change back and forth irregularly	vary, swing
formidable *adj.*	causing fear or respect because of being large, powerful, or difficult	intimidating, imposing
foster *v.*	to encourage the growth or development of something; also, to care for a child or animal temporarily	encourage, nurture
frantic *adj.*	wildly anxious, hurried, or out of control because of fear or worry	panicked, frenzied
frugal *adj.*	careful not to waste money or resources	thrifty, economical
futile *adj.*	having no useful result; pointless	useless, hopeless
gauge *v.*	to measure something; also, to judge or estimate	judge, measure
grueling *adj.*	extremely tiring and demanding	exhausting, punishing
gullible *adj.*	easily tricked because of believing things too quickly	naive, trusting
haphazard *adj.*	lacking any plan or order; random	random, disorganized
hardy *adj.*	strong and able to survive difficult conditions	tough, rugged
hinder *v.*	to get in the way of; to make something harder to do	obstruct, hamper
hypothesis *n.*	an educated guess that can be tested	theory, proposal
idle *adj.*	not working or being used; also, having no real purpose or basis	inactive, unused
illuminate *v.*	to light up; also, to make something clearer or easier to understand	clarify, light up
immerse *v.*	to put completely under a liquid; also, to involve oneself deeply in an activity	absorb, submerge
impair *v.*	to weaken or damage something, making it work less well	damage, weaken
impartial *adj.*	fair; not favoring one side over another	fair, unbiased
implement *v.*	to put a plan or decision into action	carry out, execute
implore *v.*	to beg someone urgently and emotionally	beg, plead with
imply *v.*	to suggest something without saying it directly	suggest, hint
improvise *v.*	to make up or create something on the spot without planning	ad-lib, make do
incentive *n.*	something that encourages a person to do something	motivation, reward
incessant *adj.*	continuing without stopping	constant, nonstop
inclined *adj.*	likely or wanting to do something; also, sloping or tilted	likely, tilted

incorporate *v.*	to include something as part of a whole	include, integrate
indifferent *adj.*	not caring or not interested	uninterested, unconcerned
indignant *adj.*	angry because something seems unfair	offended, resentful
induce *v.*	to cause something to happen; also, to persuade someone to do something	cause, persuade
infer *v.*	to figure something out from clues or evidence	conclude, deduce
inhabit *v.*	to live in a place	occupy, dwell in
inhibit *v.*	to hold back or slow down a process or action	restrain, suppress
initiate *v.*	to start or begin something	begin, launch
innate *adj.*	existing from birth; natural rather than learned	inborn, natural
innovation *n.*	a new idea, method, or invention	invention, breakthrough
insight *n.*	a clear, deep understanding of something	understanding, perception
integrity *n.*	the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; also, the state of being whole and sound	honesty, soundness
intervene *v.*	to step in to change or stop what is happening	step in, interfere
intimidate *v.*	to frighten someone, especially to make them do or not do something	frighten, scare
intrigue *v.*	to make someone very curious or interested	fascinate, interest
intuition *n.*	the ability to know or understand something without proof or reasoning; a gut feeling	instinct, hunch
invaluable *adj.*	extremely useful; so valuable that it cannot be measured	priceless, essential
irritable *adj.*	easily annoyed or made angry	grumpy, cranky
jeopardy *n.*	danger of loss, harm, or failure	danger, risk
jubilant *adj.*	extremely happy and excited, especially after a success	overjoyed, elated
justify *v.*	to show or prove that something is right or reasonable	defend, explain
lament *v.*	to express sadness or regret about something	mourn, regret
lavish *adj.*	rich, expensive, or generous in amount; more than enough	extravagant, generous
legitimate *adj.*	allowed by law or rules; also, reasonable and justified	valid, lawful
lenient *adj.*	not strict; gentle in punishing or judging	easygoing, forgiving
liberate *v.*	to set free	free, release
lucrative *adj.*	producing a lot of money or profit	profitable, moneymaking
malicious *adj.*	intending to hurt or cause harm	spiteful, cruel
mandatory *adj.*	required by a rule or law	required, compulsory
mediate *v.*	to help two sides settle a disagreement	referee, negotiate
misconception *n.*	a mistaken idea or belief	misunderstanding, myth
mobilize *v.*	to organize and prepare people or resources for action	rally, assemble
morale *n.*	the confidence, enthusiasm, and spirit of a person or group	spirit, confidence
mundane *adj.*	ordinary and dull; part of everyday life	ordinary, routine
muster *v.*	to gather or call up something, such as courage or strength; also, to assemble a group	summon, gather

mutual *adj.*	shared or felt by two or more people toward each other	shared, joint
myriad *adj.*	countless; extremely many	countless, numerous
naive *adj.*	lacking experience, so too trusting or simple in judgment	inexperienced, innocent
negligible *adj.*	so small or unimportant that it is not worth considering	tiny, insignificant
nimble *adj.*	quick and light in movement; also, quick in thinking	agile, quick
nostalgia *n.*	a warm, slightly sad longing for the past	longing, wistfulness
notorious *adj.*	well known for something bad	infamous, disreputable
oblivious *adj.*	not aware of what is happening around you	unaware, unmindful
obscure *adj.*	not well known; also, unclear or hard to understand	little-known, unclear
obsolete *adj.*	no longer used because something newer has replaced it	outdated, out of date
ominous *adj.*	suggesting that something bad is about to happen	threatening, menacing
opaque *adj.*	not letting light through; also, hard to understand	cloudy, unclear
optimism *n.*	hopefulness and confidence that things will turn out well	hopefulness, positivity
ornate *adj.*	decorated with lots of complicated detail	elaborate, fancy
overwhelm *v.*	to be too much for someone to handle; also, to defeat completely by greater force	overpower, swamp
pacify *v.*	to calm someone who is angry or upset	calm, soothe
painstaking *adj.*	done with great care and attention to every detail	meticulous, thorough
paradox *n.*	a statement or situation that seems impossible or contradictory but may be true	contradiction, puzzle
passive *adj.*	accepting what happens without reacting or taking action	inactive, submissive
peculiar *adj.*	strange or unusual; also, belonging only to one person, place, or thing	odd, distinctive
penetrate *v.*	to go into or through something; also, to understand something difficult	pierce, break through
perceive *v.*	to notice or become aware of something; also, to think of or regard something in a certain way	notice, regard
peril *n.*	serious and immediate danger	danger, hazard
perish *v.*	to die or be destroyed, especially in a sudden or violent way	die, be destroyed
pessimistic *adj.*	expecting that bad things will happen	gloomy, negative
phenomenon *n.*	an event or fact that can be observed, especially an unusual one	occurrence, event
plausible *adj.*	seeming reasonable or likely to be true; believable	believable, reasonable
plead *v.*	to beg someone in an emotional way; also, to give something as an excuse or to answer a charge in court	beg, appeal
plight *n.*	a difficult, sad, or dangerous situation	predicament, hardship
poignant *adj.*	causing a strong feeling of sadness or tenderness; deeply moving	moving, touching
ponder *v.*	to think about something carefully for a long time	consider, contemplate
potent *adj.*	having great power or a strong effect	powerful, strong
practical *adj.*	sensible and useful in real life rather than fancy or just for show	sensible, useful
precaution *n.*	something you do ahead of time to prevent harm or trouble	safeguard, safety measure
precede *v.*	to come before something in time or order	come before, lead up to

prejudice *n.*	an unfair opinion about a person or group formed without knowing the facts	bias, unfairness
prestige *n.*	the respect and admiration something earns because of its success or importance	status, reputation
presume *v.*	to suppose something is true without proof	assume, suppose
prevail *v.*	to win or prove stronger; also, to be common or widespread	triumph, win
prior *adj.*	coming before in time; earlier	previous, earlier
procrastinate *v.*	to keep putting off something you should do	delay, stall
proficient *adj.*	skilled and good at something because of practice	skilled, capable
prolong *v.*	to make something last longer	extend, lengthen
proportion *n.*	a part compared with the whole; also, the correct size of parts compared with each other	share, balance
provision *n.*	the act of supplying something; supplies (provisions); also, a condition written into an agreement	supply, condition
prudent *adj.*	wise and careful, especially about the future	wise, sensible
radiant *adj.*	shining brightly; also, glowing with happiness	glowing, beaming
rash *adj.*	done too quickly without thinking about what might happen	hasty, impulsive
recede *v.*	to move back or away; also, to grow fainter or less	retreat, fade
reckless *adj.*	not caring about danger or what might happen	careless, daring
reconcile *v.*	to become friends again after a disagreement; also, to make two things agree or fit together	make up, harmonize
recur *v.*	to happen again, often more than once	repeat, return
refine *v.*	to improve something by making small changes; also, to make something pure	polish, purify
refrain *v.*	to stop yourself from doing something	hold back, abstain
refute *v.*	to prove that a statement or idea is wrong	disprove, rebut
register *v.*	to sign up officially; also, to be noticed or understood, or to show a feeling	enroll, sink in
relentless *adj.*	never stopping or easing up	constant, unceasing
relinquish *v.*	to give up or let go of something	surrender, give up
remorse *n.*	deep regret for something wrong you have done	regret, guilt
renowned *adj.*	famous and admired by many people	famous, celebrated
replenish *v.*	to fill something up again	refill, restock
reprimand *v.*	to scold someone officially for doing something wrong	scold, rebuke
reserve *n.*	a supply kept for later; also, a quiet, self-controlled way of behaving	stockpile, restraint
resilient *adj.*	able to recover quickly from hard times or damage	tough, adaptable
resolute *adj.*	firmly determined; not giving up	determined, steadfast
retain *v.*	to keep or hold on to something	keep, hold
retaliate *v.*	to strike back after being attacked or treated badly	strike back, get even
revere *v.*	to deeply respect and admire	honor, worship
revise *v.*	to change something to correct or improve it	edit, update
rigorous *adj.*	very thorough, careful, and strict	thorough, strict

robust *adj.*	strong and healthy; also, rich and full in flavor	sturdy, hearty
rouse *v.*	to wake someone up; also, to stir up strong feeling or excitement	awaken, stir up
rudimentary *adj.*	very basic or simple; at an early stage	basic, elementary
ruthless *adj.*	having no pity or mercy for others	merciless, harsh
sabotage *v.*	to damage or block something on purpose	undermine, wreck
salvage *v.*	to save something from being lost or destroyed	rescue, recover
sanctuary *n.*	a safe, peaceful place where someone can find protection or rest; also, a protected area for wildlife	refuge, haven
savor *v.*	to enjoy something slowly and fully; also, to taste and enjoy food	relish, enjoy
serene *adj.*	calm, peaceful, and untroubled	calm, tranquil
shrewd *adj.*	clever and good at judging situations to get an advantage	sharp, astute
solemn *adj.*	serious, quiet, and respectful	serious, grave
spare *adj.*	extra and kept in case it is needed; also, plain, simple, or using very little	extra, plain
speculate *v.*	to guess or form ideas about something without having all the facts	guess, theorize
squander *v.*	to waste something, such as money, time, or a chance	waste, throw away
stagnant *adj.*	not flowing or moving; also, not growing or changing	still, inactive
stamina *n.*	the strength to keep doing something hard for a long time	endurance, staying power
steep *adj.*	rising or falling sharply; also, much too high in price	sharp, excessive
stem *v.*	to stop or hold back the flow of something; also (stem from) to come from	stop, check
stern *adj.*	serious and strict, often in a way that seems unfriendly	strict, severe
stifle *v.*	to hold back or stop something, like a laugh, a yawn, or an idea	suppress, smother
stimulate *v.*	to encourage something to become more active or to grow	encourage, spur
stir *v.*	to mix by moving a spoon around; also, to awaken a feeling or memory	mix, awaken
stringent *adj.*	very strict and demanding about following rules	strict, rigid
stubborn *adj.*	refusing to change your mind or do what others want; also, hard to remove or fix	obstinate, persistent
subside *v.*	to become less strong or intense; to calm down	lessen, ease
succumb *v.*	to give in to something you have been fighting against	give in, yield
summon *v.*	to call someone to come; also, to gather up a quality such as courage	call, gather
superficial *adj.*	only on the surface; not deep or thorough	shallow, surface-level
supplement *v.*	to add something extra to make something more complete	add to, boost
susceptible *adj.*	easily affected or harmed by something	vulnerable, prone
tactful *adj.*	careful to say things in a way that does not hurt or offend people	diplomatic, considerate
tedious *adj.*	long, slow, and boring	dull, tiresome
temper *v.*	to make something softer or less extreme	soften, moderate
temperament *n.*	a person's or animal's usual nature or personality	personality, disposition
tenacious *adj.*	holding on firmly; refusing to give up	persistent, determined

tentative *adj.*	not certain or final; also, done in a hesitant, unsure way	uncertain, hesitant
terminate *v.*	to bring something to an end	end, stop
tolerate *v.*	to put up with or survive something difficult; to allow	endure, put up with
transition *n.*	a change from one state, place, or stage to another	shift, changeover
transparent *adj.*	clear enough to see through; also, so obvious that it fools no one	clear, obvious
treacherous *adj.*	full of hidden dangers; also, not loyal	dangerous, disloyal
trivial *adj.*	small and unimportant	minor, petty
turmoil *n.*	a state of great confusion, disorder, or upset	chaos, uproar
unanimous *adj.*	agreed to by everyone	united, undivided
uncanny *adj.*	strange in a way that is hard to explain; remarkably close or exact	eerie, remarkable
unravel *v.*	to undo threads that are knitted or woven; also, to solve or explain something complicated	untangle, solve
uphold *v.*	to support or keep something; also, to confirm that an earlier decision was correct	support, confirm
utilize *v.*	to use something, especially in a practical or effective way	use, employ
valiant *adj.*	showing great courage	brave, heroic
versatile *adj.*	able to do many different things or be used in many ways	adaptable, all-around
vigilant *adj.*	carefully watching for danger or problems	watchful, alert
vigorous *adj.*	strong, energetic, and full of force	energetic, forceful
vulnerable *adj.*	easily hurt or attacked; not protected	defenseless, exposed
withdraw *v.*	to take something out or back; also, to pull away from other people	remove, retreat
wither *v.*	to dry up and shrink; also, to lose confidence or strength	shrivel, wilt
zeal *n.*	great energy and eagerness for something	enthusiasm, passion

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