

Advanced vocabulary development

Word list 14

Group 1		Notes
Abrasion	1. damage to skin caused by scraping; 2. process of scraping or rubbing [<i>abrade</i> (v)]	.....
Adumbrate	outline; indicate	.....
Cognitive	concerned with thinking or perceiving [<i>cognition</i> (n)]	.....
Deign	condescend	.....
Fervid	passionate	.....
Gall	1. bitterness (bad feeling); 2. confidence; 3. abnormal growth on a plant	.....
Levee	1. raised bank of a river; 2. morning reception held by a monarch	.....
Preternatural	unnatural; abnormal	.....
Quell	suppress	.....
Score (n)	written form of music	.....

Group 2		Notes
Abut	to adjoin	.....
Consternation	worry and concern	.....
Gavel	judge's hammer	.....
Lien	right to sell property held as a security; legal hold on job etc.	.....
Parenthesis	remarks deviating from the main point [<i>parentheses</i> are round brackets in punctuation]	.....
Sinewy	vigorous; having well-developed muscles [a <i>sinew</i> is a tendon]	.....
Steep (v)	to soak in water	.....
Tamp	to plug; press loose matter down tightly (e.g. pack explosives into a hole)	.....
Venturing	1. hazarding; risking; putting forward; 2. going somewhere [<i>venturesome</i> means courageous or willing to take risks]	.....
Wry	1. twisted or bent to one side; 2. dryly humorous	.....

Group 3		Notes
Arduous	hard	.....
Decimated	kill or destroy a large part of (originally one tenth)	.....
Fledge	1. grow feathers; 2. leave nest [<i>fledgling (n)</i> = an inexperienced person or a baby bird]	.....
Gouge	cut or dig out	.....
Picayune	insignificant; of little value	.....
Riveting	fascinating [<i>to rivet</i> literally means to fix metal plates using metal pins]	.....
Soliloquy	solo speech	.....
Supplicant	person who requests or begs for something [<i>supplicate (v)</i>]	.....
Transcendental	supernatural; going beyond normal experience [<i>transcendent (a)</i>]	.....
Veritable	true; genuine [<i>verity (n)</i>]	.....

Group 4		Notes
Condescension	talking down to someone [<i>condescending (a)</i>]	.....
Divest	remove; take off	.....
Eddy	circular current	.....
Epaulet	shoulder decoration	.....
Fallacy	wrong idea [<i>fallacious (a)</i>]	.....
Fringe	1. decorative border with tassels (<i>n</i>); 2. to form an edge (<i>v</i>)	.....
Leaven	to make light; modify; cause bread to rise using yeast etc.	.....
Patronize	1. to talk down to; condescend; 2. to be a customer of	.....
Prominent	1. eminent; 2. protruding; 3. obvious	.....
Statute	law [<i>statutory (a)</i>]	.....

Group 5		Notes
Antipathy	hatred	.....
Aver	affirm	.....
Expatriate	speak or write at great length	.....
Flag (v)	1. to lose energy; 2. to signal	.....
Flail	1. tool used to thresh grain; 2. to thresh (separate grain from chaff); 3. to wave arms about wildly	.....
Indicted	accused (of crime)	.....
Loll	laze around; hang out (when used of the tongue)	.....
Malign	slander	.....
Secure (v)	1. to fix firmly; 2. to obtain	.....
Talon	long pointed nail or claw	.....

Group 6		Notes
Abeyance	state of inactivity; disuse	.....
Disarm	1. take away weapons; 2. win over to one's side [<i>disarming (a)</i>]	.....
Elaborate	1. complex and detailed (<i>a</i>); 2. to expand on (<i>v</i>)	.....
Foment	1. stir up; 2. bathe with hot liquids (medical)	.....
Jockeying	maneuvering; struggling to get ahead of others [<i>jockey (v)</i>]	.....
Minutiae	small details	.....
Rue	regret [<i>rueful (a)</i>]	.....
Somatic	concerned with the body	.....
Stinting	holding back; limiting the supply (of supplies/money etc.) [<i>stint (v)</i>]	.....
Temperate	moderate	.....

Group 7		<u>Notes</u>
Allure	1. attraction (<i>n</i>); 2. to attract (<i>v</i>)	.....
Caulk	treat with substance such as tar to make water-tight	.....
Conscript	1. person enlisted compulsorily into the armed forces; 2. (<i>v</i>) to enlist compulsorily	.....
Desultory	aimless; inconsistent in effort	.....
Elegy	poem concerned with death; praise of a dead person	.....
Fallow	uncultivated	.....
Forbearing	tolerant [<i>forbear</i> (<i>v</i>); <i>forbearance</i> (<i>n</i>)]	.....
Hegemony	political domination; complete authority	.....
Improbability	lack of honesty or integrity	.....
Qualm	hesitation or fear	.....

Group 8		<u>Notes</u>
Assay	1. try; 2. assess purity	.....
Chauvinist	someone excessively patriotic [<i>chauvinism</i> (<i>n</i>)]	.....
Discrete	separate; discontinuous (not to be confused with <i>discreet</i> - prudent; diplomatic)	.....
Enlist	1. sign up for the army; 2. obtain	.....
Fabricated	made up; false; manufactured [<i>fabricate</i> (<i>v</i>); <i>fabrication</i> (<i>n</i>)]	.....
Fulminate	1. attack loudly in words; denounce thunderously; 2. explode noisily	.....
Hawser	thick rope or cable	.....
Jibe	agree with; complement; match up with (in British usage <i>jibe</i> means mock)	.....
Peer	1. an equal; 2. to stare at; 3. nobleman	.....
Stickler	one who is strict about rules or details	.....

Group 9		<u>Notes</u>
Cloture	closure; terminating a debate by voting	.....
Congruent	matching [<i>congruency (n)</i>]	.....
Dally	waste time; flirt	.....
Dissemble	avoid the truth	.....
Dote	be excessively fond of [<i>doting (a)</i>]	.....
Errant	1. wandering; 2. wrong; 3. straying from accepted standards	.....
Fervent	passionate	.....
Stomach (v)	to tolerate	.....
Synapse	junction between two nerve cells	.....
Undercutting	offering a lower price; undermining	.....

Group 10		<u>Notes</u>
Arson	deliberate, criminal starting of fires	.....
Carrion	dead flesh; carcasses	.....
Intelligible	can be understood	.....
Ironclad	cannot be altered; firm	.....
Lint	fluff; soft material used to cover wounds	.....
Pretension	assumed attitude of superiority; arrogance	.....
Pundit	expert	.....
Pyre	ceremonial fire	.....
Sate	satisfy	.....
Syncope	type of musical rhythm with missed beats	.....