

Advanced vocabulary development

Word list 15

Group 1		Notes
Abraded	worn away; eroded [<i>abrade (v); abrasion (n)</i>]	.....
Apposite	fitting; suitable	.....
Diatribe	tirade; violent denunciation; stream of criticism	.....
Gerontocracy	government by the aged	.....
Maculated	spotted	.....
Quisling	traitor	.....
Sedulity	thoroughness; perseverance [<i>sedulous (a)</i>]	.....
Seine	type of fishing net	.....
Tender	to offer	.....
Waffle	talk nonsense	.....

Group 2		Notes
Burlesque	1. comic play; 2. lampoon	.....
Exemplar	model type [<i>exemplary (a)</i>]	.....
Homiletics	art of preaching and giving sermons	.....
Impugn	challenge; question someone's honor etc.	.....
Incubus	encumbrance; nightmarish thing	.....
Lope	run with long strides	.....
Macerate	chop into tiny pieces	.....
Nostrum	remedy	.....
Saw	1. tool for cutting; 2. wise saying	.....
Sibyl	prophetess	.....

Group 3		Notes
Brook	1. small stream; 2. tolerate	.....
Emboss	decorate with a raised design	.....
Eschew	shun; avoid	.....
Limpid	transparently clear	.....
Liturgy	form of worship	.....
Nexus	connection	.....
Odometer	instrument to measure distance covered	.....
Purchase	1. grip; 2. buy	.....
Quotidian	daily; routine	.....
Seminal	essential; formative	.....

Group 4		Notes
Agog	amazed; wide-eyed with enthusiasm	.....
Amortize	pay off a debt in installments	.....
Curmudgeon	grumpy person	.....
Dormancy	state of inactivity	.....
Efficacy	effectiveness	.....
Epithet	phrase used as a label or to express the essential nature of	.....
Figurehead	symbol of power; nominal leader	.....
Fracas	fight; disturbance	.....
Jamb	door post	.....
Milk	to squeeze; obtain by application of pressure	.....

Group 5		Notes
Chorales	simple hymns	.....
Dissonance	discord; disagreement	.....
Frieze	decorative border	.....
Gist	essence; main point	.....
Latent	hidden; real but undeveloped	.....
Partiality	bias	.....
Plodding	walking slowly and heavily; uninspired	.....
Rekindle	relight; revive	.....
Symphony	type of musical composition	.....
Tarnished	made dull; spoil (reputation)	.....

Group 6		Notes
Compromised	1. damaged or put in doubt (esp. of reputation); 2. reached an agreement by giving up part of a claim	.....
Drabness	dullness	.....
Endow	give gift; provide with money etc.	.....
Esoterica	obscure details	.....
Falters	hesitates	.....
Prattle	mindless talk	.....
Prohibitive	1. prohibiting; 2. exorbitantly expensive	.....
Purist	conservative; one who insists on correct forms of language etc.	.....
Quack	charlatan; fake	.....
Taunt	mock; tease	.....

Group 7		<u>Notes</u>
Arresting (a)	attracting attention; striking	.....
Barrage	extended gunfire to cover an attack; dam across river; deluge or information etc.	.....
Chantey	type of song sung by sailors	.....
Ferrous	concerned with iron or its compounds	.....
Manipulative	scheming	.....
Orate	speak in a pompous manner	.....
Psychosis	severe mental disturbance	.....
Savor	enjoy	.....
Table (v)	put down for future discussion	.....
Underwrite	give guarantee, insure	.....

Group 8		<u>Notes</u>
Dissident	person who disagrees [<i>dissidence (n)</i>]	.....
Enigmatic	puzzling [<i>enigma (n)</i>]	.....
Foolhardy	reckless [<i>foolhardiness (n)</i>]	.....
Homogeneity	evenness; uniformity	.....
Personification	1. represent something as a person; 2. a concrete example of	.....
Plaque	1. surface deposit on teeth or in artery etc.; 2. decorative plate or sign	.....
Plausibility	believability [<i>plausible (a)</i>]	.....
Resilience	resistance; ability to spring back [<i>resilience (a)</i>]	.....
Trilogy	set of three (literary works etc.); <i>tetralogy</i> = set of four	.....
Vagary	something unaccountable; freak	.....

Group 9		Notes
Aisle	corridor; passageway (esp. between rows of seats)	.....
Discountenance	disallow	.....
Imperative	must be obeyed	.....
Indigent	poor; needy [<i>indigence (n)</i>]	.....
Nadir	lowest point	.....
Paranoia	mental state characterized by delusions or excessive fear	.....
Prudence	caution; wisdom	.....
Resuscitation	revival from unconsciousness [<i>resuscitate (v)</i>]	.....
Shirk	avoid (esp. work)	.....
Teetotalism	total abstinence from alcohol	.....

Group 10		Notes
Balm	soothing ointment or anything soothing [<i>balmy (a)</i>]	.....
Calibrate	mark an accurate scale on a device	.....
Cataclysmic	violently disruptive [<i>cataclysm (n)</i>]	.....
Impropriety	inappropriate behavior	.....
Pith	center; soft part of stem; essence	.....
Primordial	present from the beginning of time	.....
Reconnaissance	examination or survey conducted in advance [<i>reconnoiter (v)</i>]	.....
Sinistral	left-handed (or counterclockwise) [<i>dextral</i> - right handed]	.....
Tempers	moderates	.....
Undermine	subvert; attempt to overthrow	.....