

Word

Abate	v. to become less active, less intense, or less in amount As I began my speech, my feelings of nervousness quickly <i>abated</i> .
Abstract	adj. existing purely in the mind Julie had trouble understanding the appeal of the <i>abstract</i> painting.
Abysmal	adj. extremely bad I got an <i>abysmal</i> grade on my research paper!
Accordingly	adv. in accordance with All students must behave <i>accordingly</i> .
Acquisition	n. the act of gaining a skill or possession of something Language <i>acquisition</i> is easier for kids than it is for adults
Adapt	v. to make suit a new purpose The US has <i>adapted</i> many foreign foods to better suit the tastes of Americans. v. to accommodate oneself to a new condition, setting, or situation Dogs are known for their ability to quickly <i>adapt</i> to their environments.
Adept	adj. having knowledge or skill (usu. in a particular area) Beth loves playing the piano, but she's especially <i>adept</i> at the violin.
Adequate	adj. having sufficient qualifications to meet a specific task or purpose Though his resume was <i>adequate</i> , the company doubted whether he'd be a good fit.
Advent	n. the arrival or creation of something (usu. historic) The world has never been the same since the <i>advent</i> of the light bulb.
Adversarial	adj. relating to hostile opposition An <i>adversarial</i> attitude will make you many enemies in life.

Dominion **n.** power and authority (usu. over a territory)
The country claimed to have *dominion* over parts of Russia.

n. a legal territory
Puerto Rico is a *dominion* of the US.

Dreary **adj.** sad, gloomy, dull
The gray clouds in the sky made the day feel *dreary*.

Dubious **adj.** doubtful, questionable
The man's claims to the throne were *dubious* since nobody knew where he'd come from.

Eccentric **adj.** peculiar or odd; deviating from the norm
She's a little *eccentric* but still fun to be around.

Egregious **adj.** extremely bad
After cheating on the exam, Emily began to feel as though she'd made an *egregious* mistake.

Eloquent **adj.** having refined or expressive communication skills (in speaking or writing)
His speech was not only *eloquent* but also extremely compelling.

Eminent **adj.** superior or distinguished; high in position or status
Our town made news when the *eminent* magician came to perform at our local theater.

Emit **v.** to discharge, give forth, or release
Plants consume carbon dioxide and *emit* oxygen.

Emphatic **adj.** very expressive; using emphasis
Her *emphatic* smile told me she was excited to ride the roller coaster.

Empirical **adj.** derived from experience, observation, or an experiment
You need *empirical* evidence to support your claim.

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Potent **adj.** having great influence

The bald eagle is a potent symbol of the US.

adj. having a strong, chemical effect

The potion was definitely potent-it healed my wounds immediately!

Pragmatic **adj.** practical, useful

It's not necessarily more pragmatic to study engineering than it is to study philosophy.

Precedent **n.** an example or subject from earlier in time

This change in law is without historical precedent.

Predecessor **n.** someone who comes before you (usu. in position or office)

My predecessor gave me many tips for running the office.

Prescribe **v.** to command orders

The directions for our essay prescribe a length of at least ten pages.

v. to issue authorization for medications

A doctor must prescribe you this medication before you can begin taking it.

Principle **n.** basic truth, assumption, or rule

Remember the universal principle: treat others as you want them to treat you.

Prohibit **v.** to command against, to outlaw

Alcohol was prohibited in the US in the 1920s.

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Raw **adj.** unrefined

He's got raw talent as a singer, but he needs to work on his performance skills.

adj. not processed; uncooked (as in food)

In some countries, such as Japan, it is normal to eat raw fish.

Readily **adv.** right away and without difficulty

Water was readily available at different points in the race.

Reconsideration **n.** thinking again about a previously made choice

The judges' reconsideration of her performance resulted in her victory.

Reform **n.** a change for the better; improvement

The reform made it so that only those 18 and older can legally drive.

v. to improve via change

The government reformed its drug policies on marijuana use.

Refute **v.** to prove to be untrue, unfounded, or incorrect

The student refuted the professor's claim in class.

Reinforce **v.** to strengthen or add support to

We can use these pipes to reinforce the structure.

Reluctantly **adv.** somewhat unwillingly

Max reluctantly agreed to see the horror movie with his friends.

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