

## VOCABULARY 1

**antagonize (v)** to make hostile or unfriendly

**condole (v)** to express sympathy with a person who is suffering sorrow, misfortune, or grief (usually fol. by with)

**enhance (v)** to improve; complement; make more attractive

**garbled (adj)** mixed up

**opaque (adj)** dull; cloudy; nontransparent

**sagacious (adj)** wise; cunning

**talisman (n)** any amulet or charm

**tantalize (v)** to tempt; to torment

**torrent (n)** a rushing, violent, or abundant and unceasing stream of anything

**wane (v)** grow gradually smaller

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## VOCABULARY 2

**coalesce (v)** to combine into a single body or group

**enigma (n)** mystery; secret; perplexity

**garner (v)** to accumulate

**ornate (adj)** elaborate; lavish; decorated

**paranoia (n)** extreme, irrational distrust of others

**profound (adj)** deep; knowledgeable; thorough

**ritual (n)** an established or prescribed procedure for a religious or other rite

**silhouette (n)** the outline or general shape of something

**taut (adj)** 1. stretched tightly; 2. tense

**titanic (adj)** of enormous size, strength, power, etc.

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## VOCABULARY 3

**appease (v)** to make quiet; to calm

**atrocities (n)** appalling act, situation, or object

**cognizant (adj)** being informed or aware

**impulse (n)** a sudden, involuntary inclination prompting to action

**oscillate (v)** 1. to swing to and fro; 2. to be indecisive; to fluctuate

**pungent (adj)** sharp; stinging

**saturate (v)** soak thoroughly; drench

**subtle (adj)** fine or delicate in meaning or intent; difficult to perceive or understand

**temerity (n)** foolish boldness

**wheedle (v)** try to persuade; coax

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## VOCABULARY 4

**arduous** (*adj*) difficult; laborious

**blithe** (*adj*) happy; cheery; merry

**frantic** (*adj*) highly excited with strong emotion or frustration; frenzied

**genre** (*n*) a kind, sort, or type

**incessant** (*adj*) constant; continual

**lucrative** (*adj*) profitable; gainful

**premeditated** (*adj*) deliberate purpose, previous consideration, and some degree of planning

**quirk** (*n*) peculiar behavior; startling twist

**saunter** (*v*) walk at a leisurely pace; stroll

**tenacious** (*adj*) persistently holding to something

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## VOCABULARY 5

**astute** (*adj*) cunning; sly; crafty

**dreadful** (*adj*) extremely bad, unpleasant, or ugly

**erratic** (*adj*) unpredictable; strange

**hearken** (*v*) to give heed or attention to what is said; listen

**incoherent** (*adj*) illogical; rambling

**luminous** (*adj*) giving off light; bright

**palpable** (*adj*) tangible; apparent

**stifle** (*v*) to suppress, curb, or withhold

**terse** (*adj*) concise; abrupt

**whimsical** (*adj*) fanciful; amusing

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## VOCABULARY 6

**atrophy** (*v*) to waste away through lack of nutrition

**erudite** (*adj*) having extensive knowledge; learned

**incontinent** (*adj*) unable to contain or retain (usually fol. by of)

**incursion** (*n*) 1. a running in; 2. invasion; raid

**lackadaisical** (*adj*) lazy; indolent

**malicious** (*adj*) spiteful; vindictive

**prominent** (*adj*) standing out so as to be seen easily; conspicuous; particularly noticeable

**rancid** (*adj*) having a bad odor

**seethe** (*v*) to be in a state of emotional turmoil; to become angry

**transpire** (*v*) to take place; come about

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## **VOCABULARY 7**

**apprise (v)** to give notice to; inform; advise (often fol. by of)

**aptitude (n)** capability; ability; innate or acquired capacity for something; talent

**destitute (adj)** poor; poverty-stricken

**malleable (adj)** that which can be pounded without breaking; adaptable

**paraphernalia (n)** equipment; accessories

**perilous (adj)** involving or full of grave risk or peril; hazardous; dangerous

**rant (v)** to speak in a loud, pompous manner; rave

**shoddy (adj)** of inferior quality; cheap

**trepidation (n)** apprehension; uneasiness

**zephyr (n)** a gentle wind; breeze

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## VOCABULARY 8

**abase (v)** to degrade; humiliate; disgrace

**augment (v)** to increase or add to; to make larger

**gibber (v)** speak foolishly

**manifest (adj)** obvious; clear

**manor (n)** a large estate, often including a village and farmlands, ruled by a lord in medieval Europe

**pensive (adj)** reflective; contemplative

**rationalize (v)** to offer reason for; account for

**self-sufficient (adj)** able to supply one's own needs

**serf (n)** a person who lived on and farmed a lord's land in feudal times; s/he did not own land and depended on the lord for protection

**tumid (adj)** swollen; inflated

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## VOCABULARY 9

**cobbler (n)** one who mends or makes boots and shoes

**conciliatory (adj)** tending to make peace between persons at variance

**cooper (n)** a person who makes or repairs casks, barrels, etc.

**disavow (v)** to deny; to refuse

**glutton (n)** overeater

**haberdasher (n)** a merchant who sells men's clothing: shirts, ties, gloves, socks, and hats

**hierarchy (n)** any system of persons or things ranked one above another

**mercenary (n)** working or done for payment only

**recession (n)** withdrawal; depression

**spendthrift (n)** one who spends money carelessly or wastefully

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## VOCABULARY 10

**bailey or ward (n)** courtyard within the walls of the castle

**battlement (n)** a narrow wall built along the outer edge of the wall walk to protect soldiers against attack

**diverge (v)** separate; split

**expedient (adj)** helpful; practical; worthwhile

**gate house (n)** the complex of towers, bridges, and barriers built to protect each entrance through a castle or town wall

**gullible (adj)** easily fooled

**innate (adj)** natural; inborn

**keep (v)** the inner stronghold of the castle

**loophole (n)** slit in wall for light, air, or shooting through

**philanthropy (n)** charity; unselfishness

