

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

