productive - (adj) achieving or producing a significant amount or result

humility - (n) a modest or low view of one's own importance; humbleness

perseverance - (n) steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty in achieving success

renounce - (v) formally declare one's abandonment of (a claim, right, or possession)

simile - (n) a figure of speech comparing two unlike things, often introduced by like or as

futile - (adj) incapable of producing any useful result; pointless

verify - (v) make sure or demonstrate that (something) is true, accurate, or justified

perfectionist - (n) a person who refuses to accept any standard short of perfection

curtail - (v) reduce in extent or quantity; impose a restriction on

antagonistic - (adj) showing active opposition or hostility toward someone or something

envious - (adj) feeling of discontent or covetousness with regard to another

prophetic - (adj) accurately describing or predicting what will happen in the future

conspicuous - (adj) standing out so as to be clearly visible

aloof - (adj) not friendly or forthcoming; cool and distant

gregarious - (adj) fond of company; sociable

succinct - (adj) briefly and clearly expressed

irresolute - (adj) showing or feeling hesitancy; uncertain

scrupulous - (adj) diligent, thorough, and extremely attentive to details

nefarious - (adj) wicked or criminal

daunting - (adj) seeming difficult to deal with; intimidating
top 400 vocabulary words
week 17

placated - (v) make (someone) less angry or hostile
repudiate - (v) deny the truth or validity of
emphatic - (adj) showing or giving emphasis; expressing something forcibly and clearly
ephemeral - (adj) lasting for a very short time
exhilarating - (adj) making one feel very happy, animated, or elated; thrilling
extol - (v) praise enthusiastically
charlatan - (n) a person falsely claiming to have a special knowledge or skill; a fraud
luxurious - (adj) extremely elegant, especially in a way that involves great expense
lucid - (adj) expressed clearly; easy to understand
convivial - (adj) friendly, lively, and enjoyable

evasiveness - (adj) get around or avoid by means of trickery or cleverness
ludicrous - (adj) so foolish, unreasonable, or out of place as to be amusing; ridiculous
platitude - (n) statement that expresses an idea that is not new
pallid - (adj) pale, typically because of poor health; feeble or insipid
zealot - (n) a person who is fanatical in pursuit of their religious, political, or other ideals
sanguine - (adj) optimistic or positive, especially in an apparently bad or difficult situation
disperse - (v) distribute or spread over a wide area
homogenous - (adj) of the same kind; alike
jubilant - (adj) feeling or expressing great happiness and triumph
felicitous - (adj) well chosen or suited to the circumstances; pleasing and fortunate
harbinger - (n) anything that foreshadows a future event; omen; sign
penchant - (n) a strong or habitual liking for something or tendency to do something
concession - (n) a thing that is granted, especially in response to demands; a thing conceded
anomalous - (adj) deviating from what is standard, normal, or expected
edifying - (adj) providing moral or intellectual instruction
mercurial - (adj) subject to sudden or unpredictable changes of mood or mind
affable - (adj) friendly, good-natured, or easy to talk to
noncommittal - (adj) not expressing commitment to a definite opinion or course of action
deceitful - (adj) deceiving or misleading others
bolster - (v) support or strengthen; prop up
dogmatic - (adj) inclined to lay down principles as incontrovertibly true
facetious - (adj) treating serious issues with deliberately inappropriate humor; flippant
foreboding - (n) fearful apprehension; a feeling that something bad will happen
ostentatious - (adj) characterized by vulgar or pretentious display; designed to impress
polemical - (adj) strongly critical or controversial writing or speech
precocious - (adj) having developed certain abilities at an earlier age than usual
rancorous - (adj) characterized by bitterness or resentment
voracious - (adj) having a very eager approach to an activity; consuming large quantities
egalitarian - (adj) believing in the principle that all people are equal and deserve equal right
evidence - (n) available body of facts or information indicating whether a belief is true
classification - (n) a category into which something is put
affluence - (n) the state of having a great deal of money; wealth
ingenious - (adj) innocent and unsuspecting; candid; sincere
mock - (v) tease or laugh at in a scornful or contemptuous manner
strident - (adj) loud and harsh; grating
taciturn - (adj) reserved or uncommunicative in speech; saying little
tractable - (adj) easy to control or influence
personal - (adj) of or concerning one's private life
cohesive - (adj) well-integrated; unified
salutary - (adj) producing good effects; beneficial
inhibit - (v) hinder, restrain, or prevent
misanthrope - (n) a person who dislikes humankind and avoids human society
sycophant - (n) a person who praises powerful people in order to get their approval
paragon - (n) a person or thing regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality
bureaucratic - (adj) overly concerned with procedure at the expense of efficiency
disguise - (v) give a different appearance in order to conceal one's identity
precipitous - (adj) done suddenly and without careful consideration; dangerously steep
unaffected - (adj) feeling or showing no effects or changes; without artificiality or insincerity
delineate - (v) describe or portray (something) precisely
enthralled - (v) capture the fascinated attention of
distinct - (adj) recognizably different in nature from something else of a similar type
charitable - (adj) of or relating to the assistance of those in need
conservative - (adj) averse to change and holds to traditional values and attitudes
vex - (v) make (someone) feel annoyed, frustrated, or worried, especially with trivial matters
lucrative - (adj) producing a great deal of profit
assumption - (n) a thing that is accepted as true or as certain to happen, without proof
prodigious - (adj) remarkably or impressively great in extent, size, or degree
durability - (n) the ability to withstand wear, pressure, or damage
imperturbable - (adj) unable to be upset or excited; calm
pernicious - (adj) having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way
malignant - (adj) very virulent or infectious
deleterious - (adj) causing harm or damage
problematic - (adj) not definite or settled; uncertain; open to question or debate
docile - (adj) ready to accept control or instruction; submissive
elusive - (adj) difficult to find, catch, or achieve
methodical - (adj) done according to a systematic or established form of procedure
dismay - (v) cause (someone) to feel consternation and distress
enlightened - (adj) having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
demonstrative - (adj) tending to show feelings, especially of affection, openly; giving proof
tentative - (adj) not certain or fixed; provisional
top 500 vocabulary words

week 21

delude - (v) impose a misleading belief upon (someone); deceive; fool

lethargic - (adj) sluggish and apathetic

notorious - (adj) famous or well known, typically for some bad quality or deed

scornful - (adj) feeling or expressing contempt or derision

placid - (adj) not easily upset or excited

subjective - (adj) based on or influenced by personal feelings, tastes, or opinions

wary - (adj) feeling or showing caution about possible dangers or problems

ineffectual - (adj) not producing any or the desired effect

sullen - (adj) bad-tempered and sulky; gloomy

dearth - (n) a scarcity or lack of something

recalcitrant - (adj) having an obstinately uncooperative attitude toward authority or discipline

caustic - (adj) sarcastic in a scathing and bitter way

confound - (v) cause surprise, especially by acting against expectation

impugn - (v) dispute the truth or honesty of (a statement or motive); call into question

ineffable - (adj) too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words

ostracized - (v) exclude (someone) from a society or group

piety - (n) the quality of being religious or reverent

rebuff - (v) reject (someone or something) in an abrupt or ungracious manner

recondite - (adj) little known; abstruse

vindictive - (adj) having or showing a strong or unreasoning desire for revenge
top 500 vocabulary words
week 22

cathartic - (adj) providing relief through the open expression of strong emotions
nuance - (n) a subtle difference in or shade of meaning, expression, or sound
obdurate - (adj) stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion or course of action
verbose - (adj) using or expressed in more words than are needed
incisive - (adj) accurate and sharply focused
reprehensible - (adj) deserving censure or condemnation
fortitude - (n) courage in pain or adversity
diatribe - (n) a forceful and bitter verbal attack against someone or something
assiduous - (adj) showing great care and perseverance
narrow-minded - (adj) not willing to listen to or tolerate other people's views; prejudiced
mendacity - (n) untruthfulness
reclusive - (adj) avoiding the company of other people; solitary
pugnacious - (adj) eager or quick to argue, quarrel, or fight
candor - (n) the quality of being open and honest in expression; frankness
vacillate - (v) alternate or waver between different opinions or actions; be indecisive
amicable - (adj) having a spirit of friendliness
blithe - (adj) happy or joyous; showing a indifference considered to be callous
polarize - (v) to cause (people, opinions, etc.) to separate into opposing groups
shrewd - (adj) having or showing sharp powers of judgment; astute
epitomize - (v) be a perfect example of
icon - (n) a person or thing regarded as a representative symbol of something

malevolent - (adj) having or showing a wish to do evil to others

sanctimonious - (adj) making a show of being morally superior to other people

castigate - (v) reprimand (someone) severely

garrulous - (adj) excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters

deprecate - (v) express disapproval of

lackadaisical - (adj) lacking enthusiasm and determination; carelessly lazy

haughty - (adj) arrogantly superior and disdainful

languid - (adj) weak or faint from illness or fatigue

appease - (v) to make (someone) pleased or less angry by giving or saying something desired

fulsome - (adj) complimentary or flattering to an excessive degree; generous or abundant

supercilious - (adj) behaving or looking as though one thinks one is superior to others

supplant - (v) supersede and replace

absurd - (adj) wildly unreasonable, illogical, or inappropriate

account - (n) a report or description of an event or experience

elaborate - (adj) involving carefully arranged parts; detailed and complicated in design

laconic - (adj) using very few words

facile - (adj) appearing comprehensive by ignoring the complexities of an issue; superficial

sardonic - (adj) grimly mocking or cynical

urbane - (adj) suave, courteous, and refined in manner
top 500 vocabulary words
week 24

acquiesce - (v) accept something reluctantly but without protest
inconstancy - (n) not constant; changeable; fickle; variable
recant - (v) say that one no longer holds an opinion or belief
tenuous - (adj) very weak or slight
theoretical - (adj) concerned with theory rather than practical application
censure - (v) express severe disapproval of
gratuitous - (adj) uncalled for; lacking good reason; unwarranted
opaque - (adj) not able to be seen through; not transparent
impenetrable - (adj) impossible to pass through or enter
cultivated - (adj) refined and well educated
tangential - (adj) diverging from a previous course or line; erratic
abstemious - (adj) not self-indulgent, especially when eating and drinking
antipathy - (n) a deep-seated feeling of dislike; aversion
arduous - (adj) involving or requiring strenuous effort; difficult and tiring
divisive - (adj) tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people
preeminent - (adj) surpassing all others; very distinguished in some way
abate - (v) lessen, reduce, or remove
subdued - (adj) quiet and rather reflective or depressed
pertinent - (adj) relevant or applicable to a particular matter; apposite
spurious - (adj) not being what it purports to be; false or fake
top 500 vocabulary words
week 25

extrapolate - (v) extend an unknown situation by assuming that existing trends will continue
monotonous - (adj) dull, tedious, and repetitious; lacking in variety and interest
terse - (adj) sparing in the use of words; abrupt
diligent - (adj) having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties
relinquish - (v) voluntarily cease to keep or claim; give up
enmity - (n) the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something
disgruntled - (adj) angry or dissatisfied
manipulate - (v) control or influence (a person or situation) cleverly or possibly unfairly
renown - (n) the condition of being known or talked about by many people; fame
flamboyant - (adj) attracting attention because of exuberance, confidence, and stylishness
hyperbole - (n) exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally
nebulous - (adj) unclear, vague, or ill-defined
defunct - (adj) no longer existing or functioning
parody - (v) produce a humorously exaggerated imitation of (a writer, artist, or genre)
predilection - (n) a preference or special liking for something; a bias in favor of something
downplay - (v) make (something) appear less important than it really is
permeate - (v) spread throughout (something); pervade
anonymity - (n) lack of outstanding, individual, or unusual features; impersonality
pioneering - (adj) involving new ideas or methods
stoic - (adj) enduring pain and hardship without showing one's feelings or complaining