

VOCABULARY

Word	Synonyms
abate	subside, die down, lessen
abnegate	decline, reject
abstruse	obscure, difficult, puzzling
acerbic	sharp, sarcastic
acrimonious	bitter, angry
adroit	skillful, clever
affable	friendly, nice
alacrity	eagerness, readiness
ameliorate	improve, make better
amenable	cooperative, controllable, persuadable
amnesty	pardon, reprieve
anachronism	out of date
anomaly	oddity, abnormality
apathy	lack of interest, lack of enthusiasm, lack of concern
aphorism	saying, proverb
apotheosis	deification (god-like), saint
appease	placate (give in to), soothe
arbitrary	random
arcane	mysterious, secret
arduous	difficult, hard
artifice	trickery, deception
assuage	relieve, reduce
austere	severe, strict
autonomous	self-governing, independent
axiom	accepted truth
banal	clichéd, overused, dull
belabor	overelaborate, place too much emphasis on
bemused	bewildered, confused, puzzled
blithe	casual, indifferent
bucolic	rural, countryside
cadence	intonation, inflection
capitulate	surrender, give up
capricious	changeable, unpredictable, temperamental
castigate	reprimand
catharsis	emotional release, venting
caustic	corrosive, acid, able to burn

chastise	scold, reprimand
choleric	bad-tempered, irritable
circumspect	cautious, wary
cogent	convincing, logical, coherent, clear
colloquial	slang
complicity	collusion, collaboration on a crime
conciliatory	pacifying
conducive	favorable to
conjecture	guesswork, inference
contrite	repentant, sorry
copious	abundant, many
cursory	hasty, rushed
dearth	lack, scarcity
debauchery	wickedness, sinfulness, immorality
deleterious	harmful, damaging
delineate	describe, specify
depravity	corruption, immorality
derogatory	disrespectful, critical
despondent	discouraged
desultory	casual, half-hearted
digress	get off the subject
disseminate	spread, disperse
dogmatic	opinionated, adamant