

English 10A  
American Literature  
Vocabulary 12

Define the following words:

1. fortuitous - accidental, occurring by chance
2. founder - to fail, to collapse, to sink
3. frenetic - frantic, frenzied
4. furtive - secretive, sly
5. garrulous - talkative, chatty
6. genre - a type or category, especially of art or writing
7. genteel - refined, polite, aristocratic, affecting refinement
8. gesticulate - to make gestures, especially when speaking or in place of speaking
9. grandiloquent - pompous, using a lot of big, fancy words in an attempt to sound impressive
10. grandiose - absurdly exaggerated
11. gratuitous - given freely / (said of something bad), unjustified, unprovoked, uncalled for
12. guile - cunning, duplicity, artfulness
13. hackneyed overused, trite, stale
14. hapless unlucky
15. harbinger a forerunner, a signal of
16. hedonism the pursuit of pleasure as a way of life
17. hegemony leadership, especially of one nation over another
18. heresy any belief that is strongly opposed to establish beliefs
19. hermetic impervious to external influence, airtight
20. hiatus a break or interruption, often from work