

FINAL

AARDVARK	n. A burrowing mammal of South Africa Origin: Dutch 'ardvark Sentence: The aardvark uses his long snout to eat Ants.
ABACUS	n. frame with balls sliding on wires or in grooves, used for calculating 'abəkəs Origin: Greek abax abakos, 'slab, drawing board' Sentence: The Chinese shopkeeper still uses his abacus to count
ABALONE	n. kind of marine Origin: American Spanish abulon Sentence: The abalone has an oval shell lined with mother-of-pearl.
ABATTOIR	n. slaughterhouse 'abətwa: Origin: French abatre, 'to demolish' Sentence: At the abattoir, the butchers slaughter cows for meat.
ABBREVIATION	n. shortened or contracted form of a word əbrēvi'āshən Origin: Latin abbreviare, 'to shorten', from brevis, 'short' Sentence: E-mail is an abbreviation for the term 'electronic-mail'.
ABEYANCE	n. state of suspension or temporary disuse ə'bāəns Origin: French abeer, 'to gape or aspire after' Sentence: The project is in abeyance until all parties agree on how next to proceed.
ABJURE	v. to swear to give up (an opinion, claim, cause, etc) əb'jʊr Origin: Latin jurare, 'to swear' Sentence: We hereby abjure all anti-religious thinking and practices.
ABORIGINE	n. the original inhabitant of the country of a country; indigenous plants and animals Origin: Latin Sentence: When we visited Australia, we met an aborigine on the reservation.
ABROGATE	v. adj. abolish; annul; repeal; (a law or custom) ; repealed 'abrəgāt / 'abrəgət Origin: Latin rogare, 'to propose a law'

Sentence: The committee will not abrogate its right to discipline members.

ABSCCESS

n. a swollen area accumulating pus caused by inflammation. 'abses / 'absis
Origin: Latin abscessus, 'a going away' (hence the elimination of bad matter through pus)
Sentence: A gum infection caused him a rather painful abscess.

ABSTEMIOUS

adj. sparing in drink or food əb'stēmiəs
Origin: Latin abs, 'away' temetum, 'strong drink'
Sentence: Our abstemious guests had very little to eat and drink.

ABYSMAL

adj. unfathomable; bottomless; profound ə'bizməl
Origin: Greek abussos, 'bottomless'
Sentence: I'm surprised at the abysmal thoughtlessness shown by the leader.

ABYSSAL

adj. (related to abyss) at or of the ocean depths or floor; plutonic ə'bis(ə)l
Origin: Greek abyssos, 'bottomless'
Sentence: Divers still seek to recover abyssal treasures from sunken ships.

ACCIACCATURA

n. (music) a grace note performed quickly before an essential note of a melody ə'chakə'tʊrə
Origin: Italian acciaccatura, 'a crushing sound'
Sentence: Acciaccatura added beauty to the melody.

ACCLIVITY

n. an upward slope ə'kliviti
Origin: Latin clivus, 'slope'
Sentence: The acclivity of the ground is steep at this point.

ACCOUTREMENT or
ACCOUTERMENT

n. equipment; trappings; soldier's outfit
Origin: French accoustrer, 'to equip' ə'kootəmənt / ə'kootrəmənt
Sentence: The gardener came, bringing his accoutrement in a van.

ACCUMULATIVE

adj. becoming greater over a period of time; building up; cumulative ə'kūmūlətiv
Origin: Latin accumulare, 'to heap'
Sentence: The accumulative interest on the money over several years amounted to a large sum.

ACETYLENE

n. a colourless highly inflammable gas used mostly in welding ə'setilēn

Origin: Chemical compound
Sentence: Acetylene burns with a brilliant white light.

ACOLYTES n. church officers attending a priest; attendants; assistants; beginners 'akəlīts
Origin: Greek akolouthos, 'follower'
Sentence: Two adolescents have joined the team of acolytes in the church.

ACQUIESCE v. to agree to; comply with akwi'es
Origin: Latin acquiescere.
Sentence: She will acquiesce in my plan to build an aviary, as she's fond of birds.

ACROMEGALY n. abnormal growth of hands, feet, etc akrō'megəli
Origin: Greek akron, 'extremely' +megas megal-, 'great'
Sentence: Acromegaly is caused by the overproduction of certain growth hormones.

ACRONYCHAL or ACHRONICAL adj. occurring at sunset
Origin: Greek akronychos, 'at sunset' ə'kronik(ə)l
Sentence: Some stars have an acronychal rising.

ACROPOLIS n. citadel or upper fortified part of ancient Greek city ə'kropəlis
Origin: Greek akron, 'summit' + polis, 'city'
Sentence: The acropolis used to be built on high ground as protection from enemy attack.

ACUITY n. sharpness; acuteness (of mind, vision, etc) visual
Origin: Latin acuere, 'to sharpen'
Sentence: His acuity is at the level of a genius.

AFFIDAVIT n. a written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation that is used as evidence
Origin: Lat
Sentence: Prior to the trial, the defendant had to give his affidavit to the police

AGGRIEVED adj., v. having a grievance or cause for complaint ə'grēvd
Origin: French agrever, 'to make heavier'
Sentence: The aggrieved person took his complaint to court.

AGORAPHOBIA	n. abnormal fear of open spaces or public places ag(ə)rə'fōbiə Origin: Greek agora, 'place of assembly'; suffix phobia, 'extreme fear of' Sentence: Daniel's agoraphobia makes him stay away from places like shopping malls.
ALLEGORY	n. a kind of story, poem, painting etc in which the message is presented symbolically 'alig(ə)ri Origin: Greek allos + -agoria, 'other speaking' Sentence: The novel Animal Farm, in which the animals represent people, is an allegory.
AMANUENSIS	n. A person who writes from dictation Origin: Latin ə,manū'ensis Sentence: The literary assistant was proud to be an amanuensis
AMERGRIS	n. an odoriferous pale grey wax-like substance, which originates as a secretion in the intestines of the sperm whale Origin: French Sentence: Sometimes one can see ambergris floating in tropical seas
AMBIDEXTROUS or AMBIDEXTEROUS	adj. able to use right and left hands equally well Origin: Latin ambi 'on both sides' + dexter 'right- ambi'dekstrəs handed' Sentence: My sister is ambidextrous but uses her left hand more than her right.
AMBIGUOUS	adj. indistinct; not clearly defined; having a double meaning or reference Origin: Lat Sentence: "stop sitting on the fence" is an example of an ambiguous statement
ANACHRONISM	n. the relating of an event, custom, or circumstance to a wrong period of time Origin: Gk Sentence: Anachronism has been detected in a few chapters in the bible
AN(A)ESTHETIST	n. a doctor specialising in administering anesthesia or loss of sensation and pain Origin: Gk Sentence: An anesthetist is an important member of the surgical team
ANALOGOUS	adj. similar in certain attributes, circumstances, relations or uses Origin: L>Gk

Sentence: Playing polo is analogous to playing hockey with horses

ANATHEMATZIE

v. denounce; curse

Origin: F>L>Gk

The religious groups are going to anathematize the pro-abortion law

ANNIHILATE

v. adj. to destroy; reduce to nothing. ə'nīlāt / ə'nīlət

Origin: Latin annihilare.

Sentence: The army was determined to annihilate the entire force of the enemy.

ANONYMOUS

adj. Undeclared authorship; unknown name

Origin: Greek a'noniməs

Sentence: The writer of the article remains anonymous

ANOPHELES

n. a mosquito which includes species that carry parasites of malaria and other diseases

Origin: L>Gk

Sentence: The anopheles is the vector for malaria and must be eradicated at all costs

ANTIPODES

n. a place diametrically opposite to another

Origin: Gk

Sentence: New Zealand is almost the antipodes of Great Britain

APOCRYPHAL

n. of doubtful authenticity; spurious; false; mythical

Origin: L>Gk

Sentence: We collected all the tales, both authentic and apocryphal, that we could gather together

APOPLEXY

n. loss of movement by sudden stroke 'apəpleksi

Origin: Greek apoplexia, 'being struck down'

Sentence: The apoplexy was mild so she is likely to recover.

APOSTROPHE

n. a punctuation mark (') showing possession or the omission of a word or number ə'postrəfi

Origin: Greek apostrophos, 'accent of elision'

Sentence: The apostrophe in the word it's tells us that the word combines it + is.

APPARATUS

n. the things collectively necessary for the performance of some activity or function; a machine; a device

Origin: Lat

Sentence: In our chemistry class, the measuring cylinder is an important apparatus for carrying out experiments

APPENDICITIS

n. inflammation of the appendix əpendi'sītis

Origin: Latin appendix, 'an appendage'

Sentence: The boy with appendicitis had surgery immediately.

APPLIQUE

n. v. Ornamental sewing in which cuttings of decorative material are sewn together ə'plēkā

Origin: French

Sentence: Those tablecloths decorated with appliqué are extremely elegant

AQUEDUCT

n. channel or canal built like a bridge to convey water 'akwidûkt

Origin: Latin aqua, 'water' + ducere, 'to lead'

Sentence: An aqueduct had to be built to convey water to the farmlands.

ARCHIPELAGO

n. Group of islands; sea studded with islands

Origin: Greek arki'pelagō

Sentence: The chain of Islands in the Eastern Caribbean could be called an archipelago

ARRAIGN

v. to accuse; put on trial ə'rān

Origin: French aresnier

Sentence: Steps must be taken to arraign the prisoner.

ARREARAGE

n. Being behind in fulfilment of obligations

Origin: Latin ə're:rij

Sentence: She was bankrupt and in a state of arrearage to the bank

ASAFOETIDA or ASAFETIDA or
ASSAFOETIDA or ASSAFETIDA

n. medicinal gum with a kind of ammoniac smell

Origin: Latin asafoetidus, 'evil smelling, fetid'

Sentence: Asafoetida is used mainly as herbal medicine.

ASCETICISM

n. rigorous self-discipline, austerity

Origin: Lat

Sentence: His asceticism reminds us of the lifestyle of the monks who live hidden away in a monastery

ASININITY	n. Stupidity; having the qualities of an ass Origin: Latin asi'niniti Sentence: The asininity of their talk was almost unbearable
ASPHYXIATE	v. to suffocate, choke əs'fiksiāt Origin: Related to asphyxia – Greek sphyxis, 'pulse' Sentence: Often in forest fires, animals asphyxiate from the smoke.
ASSEGAI or ASSAGAI	n. slender iron-tipped spear of hard wood, used as a missile by southern African peoples/ v. to kill with a spear Origin: Arab Sentence: When we visited the tribe in South Africa, we were able to see and hold assegai
AURIFEROUS	adj. bearing or yielding gold aw'rif(ə)rəs Origin: Latin aurum 'gold' Sentence: As the search for gold continues, auriferous soils have been identified nearby.
AUXILIARY	adj. helpful; giving support Origin: Lat Sentence: A physician's assistant may be described as an auxiliary in the medical field
AVOIRDUPOIS	adj.; n. system of weights avwa:dū'pwa: Origin: French avoir de poids 'goods of weight' avədə'pɔɪz Sentence: The avoirdupois system deals with ounces, pounds, hundredweights, etc.
BACCALAUREATE	n. bachelor's degree; examination which qualifies candidates for higher education bakə'lawriət Origin: Latin baccalaureus, 'bachelor' Sentence: The student is graduating with a Baccalaureate in Arts.
BACCHANALIAN	adj. revelling drunkenly bakə'nāliən Origin: Greek Bakchos, 'god of wine' Sentence: They consumed a lot of alcohol at that bacchanalian party.
BACILLUS	n. rod shaped bacterium especially one causing disease Origin: Latin Sentence: Tuberculosis is caused by the tubercle bacillus.

BAGASSE	n. dried trash from sugar cane; board made with such trash bə'gas Origin: Spanish bagazo Sentence: Bagasse is widely used in building cupboards, shelves and similar furniture.
BAGATELLE	n. game played on a board with balls and a cue; a trifle bagə'tel Origin: Italian bagatella Sentence: These people play bagatelle in their spare time.
BAGUETTE	n. long narrow French loaf; a gem cut rectangular; semi-circular moulding ba'get Origin: Latin baculum, 'staff' Sentence: Baguette with soup was a special treat.
BALUSTRADE	n. railing supported by pillars balə'strād Origin: French balustre Sentence: He watched the performance while leaning on the balustrade of the balcony.
BATIK	n. method of dying textile by applying wax; cloth made by batik 'batik / bə'tēk Origin: Javanese batik, 'painted' Sentence: Batik is an intricate method of dying fabric.
BAZAAR	n. shop or market selling variety of goods bə'zar Origin: Persian bazar, 'market' Sentence: Many persons bought items at the bazaar.
BEAU GESTE	n. a noble or gracious gesture, especially a meaningless one bō žest Origin: French beau geste, 'splendid gesture' Sentence: Such beau geste makes him very popular.
BEDEGUAR	n. a moss-like growth on rose-bushes produced by a gall wasp 'bedigar Origin: French bedegar, 'wind brought' Sentence: This gardener can completely remove bedeguar from a rose plant.
BEDOUIN or BEDUIN	n. nomad of Africa or Asia Origin: Arabic badwiyyin, 'dwellers in the desert' 'beduin

Sentence: As a Bedouin, he has a tent for a house.

BEESTINGS or BEASTINGS

n. the first milk (especially of a cow) after calving

Origin: Old English 'bēstiŋz

Sentence: Only the calf tastes its mother's beestings.

BEGUM

n. Indian Muslim lady of high rank 'bāgəm

Origin: Urdu**begam**, 'princess'

Sentence: A begum is respected, especially by persons of lower rank.

BEIGE

adj., n. of very light brown; light brown colour 'bāj / 'bāž

Origin: French

Sentence: She carried a small beige handbag to match her shoes.

BELEAGUERED

adj., v. besieged; vexed; harassed bi'lēgəd

Origin: Dutch**belegeren**, 'to camp round'

Sentence: The beleaguered castle was finally captured by the attackers.

BENEFICENCE

n. goodness; kindness bi'nefisəns

Origin: Latin**beneficium**, 'favour, service, benefit'

Sentence: The beneficence of the church extends into the communities.

BERSERK

adj. n. Wild; frenzied; in a violent rage

Origin: Iceland bə'serk / bə'zerk

Sentence: Thunder and fire-crackers can make dogs go berserk

BERYLLIUM

n. hard white metallic element used in manufacture of corrosive-resistant alloys bə'riliəm

Origin: Greek**berullos**

Sentence: Beryllium is one of the lightest and strongest of all metals.

BESIEGE

v. place armed forces before or around in order to cause a surrender

Origin: Ofr

Sentence: The army was given the order to besiege the town

BETE NOIRE	<p>n. person or thing one particularly dislikes or fears bāt'nwa: Origin: Frenchbete noir, 'black beast' Sentence: Violence is everybody's bete noire.</p>
BEZIQUE	<p>n. type of card game played with two packs bi'zēk Origin: Frenchbesigue Sentence: They spent many hours playing bezique and other card games.</p>
BIMILLENARY	<p>adj. (festival) of the two thousandth anniversary bīmi'lenəri / bīmi'lēnəri Origin: Middle English bī'milənəri Sentence: Even before the end of the year 2000, some people had started bimillenary celebrations.</p>
BIVOUC	<p>n. a temporary encampment, usu. For the night, without tents; the place of such an encampment/ v. remain in the open air (esp. during the night) without tents Origin: German Sentence: The platoon set up a bivouac prior to the pre-dawn invasion</p>
BLASPHEME	<p>v. to use religious names irreverently; show disrespect for God. blas'fēm Origin: Greekblapsis ('evil') +pheme ('speech') Sentence: Ungodly persons may blaspheme in their conversations.</p>
BLUDGEON	<p>n. a heavy-headed stick or club/ v. strike repeatedly or coerce Origin: Unknown Sentence: He is going to bludgeon his way to the front of the gathering of demonstrators.</p>
BONSAI	<p>n. art of growing ornamental dwarfed tree or shrub; tree or shrub grown this way 'bonsī Origin: Japanese bon ('tray') + sai ('cultivation') Sentence: Bonsai can be done with many species of plants.</p>
BOUGAINVILLEA or BOUGAINVILLAEA	<p>n. tropical plant with brightly coloured bracts. Origin: Named after French navigator Bougainville Sentence: Bougainvillaea thrives in the climate of boogən'viliə Kingston.</p>

BOUQUET	n. bunch of flowers arranged in an artistic way bu'kā / bō'kā Origin: French diminutive of bois, 'a wood or forest'. Sentence: She presented the speaker with a bouquet after his presentation.
BOUTIQUE	n. small shop esp. one selling fashionable clothes etc boo'tēk Origin: French Sentence: For the wedding, she chose a dress from a boutique in town.
BRAGGADOCIO	n. empty boasting; idle boaster; braggart bragə'dōchiō Origin: Related to braggart – French bragard, 'vain or bragging' Sentence: His braggadocio impressed no one.
BRAILLE	n. system of printing for the blind consisting of dots to be read by touch 'brāl Origin: Named after Louis Braille, its inventor Sentence: My blind daughter is receiving instructions in Braille.
BRASSIERE	n. woman's garment which supports the breasts 'brase:r / 'braze:r Origin: French brassiere, literally 'child's vest' Sentence: The brassiere she bought her daughter does not fit well.
BREWERY	n. a factory where beer is made (brewed) 'brūri Origin: Old English breowan Sentence: This is the brewery that brews our best beer.
BROCCOLI	n. type of vegetable in cabbage family 'brokəli Origin: Italian broccolo, 'little shoot' Sentence: We ate broccoli and fish for dinner.
BROCHURE	n. booklet or pamphlet esp. with descriptive information 'brōshə / bro'shūr Origin: French brocher, 'stitch' Sentence: There was sufficient information in the brochure, about the items I needed.
BRONCHITIS	n. inflammation in the bronchial tubes bron'kītis Origin: Greek bronkhos, 'windpipe'

Sentence: The pain in my chest may be due to bronchitis.

BROOCH

n. ornamental pin 'brōch

Origin: Frenchbroche

Sentence: She wore a silver brooch on her new dress.

BUDGERIGAR

n. popular cage bird, green in the wild state

Origin: Abori

Sentence: One of my favourite pets is the budgerigar

BUOYANT

adj. cheerful or optimistic; able to keep afloat 'boyənt

Origin: Spanishboyante, 'floating'

Sentence: Her buoyant spirit kept her going.

BUREAUCRACY

n. government by a central administration, usually with a lot of officials and paper work bŭ'rokṛəsi / bŭr'rokṛəsi

Origin: Frenchbureaux, 'desk' – hence 'bureau'

Sentence: Sometimes too much bureaucracy makes the job go slowly.

BURLESQUE

n., adj., v. mocking imitation; to mock so as to cause laughter ber'lesk

Origin: Italian burlesco

Sentence: The play was a burlesque, which kept the audience laughing.

CACHET

n. distinguishing mark or seal; prestige; small capsule containing medicine 'kashā

Origin: French cacher, 'to hide'

Sentence: The document bears the appropriate cachet.

CADRE

n. Basic unit of servicemen; inner group of activists

Origin: Latin 'kadri / 'ka:drə

Sentence: A cadre of guards have been dispatched 'ka:də for duty

CAFFEINE

n. drug found in coffee, tea and some other substances 'kafēn

Origin: French cafeine, from café, 'coffee'

Sentence: The caffeine in coffee and other drinks is a kind of stimulant.

CALLIGRAPHY	n. handwriting as an art; beautiful decorative handwriting kə'ligrəfi Origin: Greek kallos, 'beauty' + graphia, 'writing' Sentence: This pen makes her calligraphy even more beautiful.
CALUMNY	n. slander; malicious statement; false charge 'kaləmni Origin: Latin calumnia, 'false accusation' Sentence: The news being spread about her is nothing short of calumny.
CAMOUFLAGE	n., v. a device that disguises something to deceive an opponent; to use such a device 'kaməfla:ʒ/ 'kamufɫa:ʒ Origin: Italian camuffare, 'to disguise, deceive' Sentence: The soldiers covered themselves with bushes as camouflage
CARAMBOLA	n. golden juicy five-winged tropical fruit; the tree bearing this fruit kərəm'bōlə Origin: Portuguese (probably from Indian) 'carambola' Sentence: Carambola is a juicy refreshing fruit.
CARBOHYDRATE	n. group of organic compounds including sugar and starch & providing the body with energy kərbə'hīdrət Origin: From its combination of carbon, oxygen, hydrogen. Chemical compound Sentence: Carbohydrate is one of the food groups that our body needs.
CARNIVORE	n. flesh eating animal; flesh eating plant 'kərnivōr Origin: Latin caro, 'flesh' + vorare, 'to consume' Sentence: The cat is a carnivore but the cow is a herbivore.
CARTOGRAPHY	n. the science or practice of map-drawing kər'togrəfi Origin: French carte, 'map, card' Sentence: He likes geography and hopes to specialize in cartography.
CASUISTRY	n. the resolution of cases of conscience by the application of general rules to particular instances Origin: F>Sp Sentence: We were once a brutally honest people, but we've become too much given to casuistry
CATAclysm	n. a violent geological or meteorological event Origin: F>L>Gk Sentence: The flood in Noah's time was a great cataclysm

CATAPULT	<p>n., v. Y-shaped stick with elastic used as sling shot; a 'katəpûlt special weapon or machine that hurls or launches things that way; to send or be sent by catapult Origin: Greek katapeltes, 'hurl down' Sentence: The little boy made his own catapult from a stick and a rubber band.</p>
CATARACT	<p>n. large waterfall; condition causing blurring of the eye 'katərakt Origin: Greek katarrhaktes, 'down-rushing' Sentence: At this point the river became an astounding cataract down the cliff.</p>
CATARRH	<p>n. inflammation in nose or throat and air passages with discharge of mucus kə'tar Origin: Greek katarrhein, 'to flow down' Sentence: Her cold developed into a catarrh, causing great discomfort.</p>
CATASTROPHE	<p>n. sudden unexpected terrible event; disaster kə'tastrəfi Origin: Greek katastrophe, 'turn, overturn' Sentence: The outbreak of violence was a major catastrophe in the area.</p>
CATHOLICISM	<p>n. faith of the Roman Catholic Church kə'θolisizm Origin: Greek katholikos, 'universal' Sentence: Roman Catholicism is a widespread belief.</p>
CAUCUS	<p>n. meeting of group especially in a political party to make decisions 'kawkəs Origin: US probably from caucuasu, 'adviser' Sentence: That matter will be decided in the next party caucus.</p>
CENSORIOUS	<p>adj. severely critical; fault-finding sen'sōriəs Origin: Latin censere, 'to assess' Sentence: Mother is censorious about how I dress, but Dad is flexible.</p>
CENSURE	<p>n. judgement, opinion, critical assessment/ v. assess critically; judge; criticize; reprove Origin: F>L Sentence: We will have to censure some of these lewd songs that are being played on our airways</p>
CHAMELEON or CHAMAELEON	<p>n. type of lizard able to change its colour Origin: Greek chamaileon kə'mēliən</p>

Sentence: The chameleon is a reptile like other lizards.

CHAMPAGNE

n. sparkling white wine

Origin: Fr

Sentence: We toasted the newlyweds with glasses of champagne

CHAUVINISM

n. excessive belief in the superiority of one's nation, sex etc 'shōvinizm

Origin: French.

Sentence: His male chauvinism makes him unpopular among women.

CHEMILUMINESCENCE

n. emission of light accompanying chemical reaction kemilūmi'nesəns

Origin: Prefix chemi- + word luminescence Latin kemiloomi'nesəns

Sentence: You can observe the chemiluminescence of phosphorous when it is exposed to air.

CHIFFONIER

n. Type of chest of drawers; wide low open-fronted cabinet shifə'ne:r

Origin: French

Sentence: All of her jewellery was kept in a box on the chiffonier

CHILIAD

n. a group of one thousand; a thousand years 'kiliad

Origin: Greek khilias, 'thousand'

Sentence: It will take an army of a chiliad to face that threat.

CHINCHILLA

n. small rodent; fur of this rodent chin'chilə

Origin: Spanish chinche 'bug'

Sentence: The chinchilla with its soft grey coat hides easily in the bushes.

CHIROPODIST

n. one who treats hands and feet ki'ropədɪst

Origin: Greek

Sentence: A chiropodist can treat the corns on your toes.

CHOLESTEROL

n. substance found in cells of the body, which helps to carry fats and produce oil etc kə'lestərol

Origin: Greek khole, 'bile' +stereos, 'stiff'

Sentence: Blood tests have shown that her cholesterol is normal.

CHORISTER

n. member of a choir 'korɪstə

Origin: Frenchquer, 'choir'

Sentence: She was invited to become a chorister as she sings so well.

CHRONOGRAPH

n. instrument for recording time with extreme accuracy; stopwatch 'kronəgrɑ:f

Origin: Greek khronos, 'time'

Sentence: A chronograph would record the exact time of each race.

CHRYsalis

n. pupa, esp. of a butterfly or moth

Origin: L>Gr

Sentence: During the butterfly season the chrysalis becomes plentiful on the trees.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

n. type of garden plant with brightly coloured flowers; flower from that plant kri'sanθiməm / kri'zanθiməm

Origin: Greek khrusanthemon, 'gold flower'

Sentence: I have just planted a chrysanthemum in my flower garden.

CIRRHOSIS

n. chronic disease especially of the liver, more often suffered by alcoholics si'rōsis

Origin: Greek kirrhos, 'tawny, orange-coloured' (the colour of diseased liver)

Sentence: The doctor has diagnosed the patient's illness to be cirrhosis of the liver.

CLAIRVOYANCE

n. the supposed ability to perceive things in the future, or to have exceptional insight kle:r'voyəns

Origin: French clair ('clear') + voir voy ('see')

Sentence: The fortune-teller claimed to be gifted with clairvoyance that made her look into my future.

CLASSICISM

n. (art, literature, etc) following the classic style 'klasisizm

Origin: Latin classis, 'class, rank'

Sentence: Those paintings illustrate seventeenth century classicism.

CLAUDICATION

n. cramping pain especially in the leg; limping klawdi'kāshən

Origin: Latin claudus, 'lame'

Sentence: She's not lame but experiences claudication at times.

CLAUSTROPHOBIA

n. abnormal fear of confined places klawstrə'fōbiə

Origin: Latin claustrum ('lock, enclosed place') + suffixphobia ('extreme fear')

Sentence: Her claustrophobia makes her afraid of using elevators.

CLEPSYDRA

n. Ancient device used to measure time by marking the flow of water through a small opening 'klepsidrə

Origin: Greek

Sentence: The clepsydra was developed in 1400BC

COCCYX

n. Small triangular tail-like bone at the base of spine

Origin: Greek 'koksiks

Sentence: The coccyx is found in humans and apes

COGNAC

n. high quality brandy

Origin: from Cognac in West France 'konyak

Sentence: I will have a glass of cognac as a night Cap.

COIFFURE

n. Hairstyle; the way the hair is arranged

Origin: French kwa:'fûr/kwo'fûr

Sentence: The beauty contestant's coiffure was a sight to behold

COLLOQUIUM

n. type of academic conference or seminar kə'lōkwɪəm

Origin: Latin colloquium, 'conversation'

Sentence: Academic staff and students will attend this year's colloquium in the auditorium.

COLOSSUS

n. Likened to a huge statue in size and importance

Origin: Greek kə'losəs

Sentence: Usain Bolt has become a colossus figure in sports

COMMINATORY

adj. threatening (punishment etc); denunciatory 'kominət(ə)ri

Origin: Latin comminari, 'to threaten'

Sentence: Commminatory announcements have been made by the principal and should be heeded.

COMMUNIQUE

n. an official communication esp. an official statement reporting on a meeting, conference, etc.

Origin: Fr

Sentence: Every week, the minister of information gives us an important communique.

CONCESSIONAIRE or
CONCESSIONNAIRE

n. holder of concession or grant especially for certain rights (e.g. for trading or holding land) kənseshə'ne:r

Origin: Latin concessio, 'yielding'

Sentence: The canteen is now operated by a private concessionaire.

CONCRESCENCE

n. (biology) growing together of initially separate parts; coalescence kən'kresəns

Origin: Latin condescere, 'to grow together'
Sentence: The parasite and the tree have grown into a condescence near the top.

CONFLAGRATION

n. great and destructive fire konflə'grāshən
Origin: Latin flagrare, 'to blaze'
Sentence: Someone started a fire, which has now become a conflagration on the hillside.

CONNOISSEUR

n. a person with a thorough knowledge and critical judgement of a subject, esp. one of the fine arts; an expert an any matter of taste e.g. wines, foods
Origin: French
Sentence: Let him tell you if that is a vintage wine, he is a connoisseur in wines.

CONSCIENTIOUS

adj. diligent; careful; guided by conscience konshi'enshəs
Origin: Latin conscire, 'to know'
Sentence: Conscientious students spend much time studying.

CONTEMPORANEOUS

adj. existing or occurring at the same time; of the same period kontempə'rāniəs
Origin: Latin con ('together') + tempus oris- ('time')
Sentence: Shakespeare was contemporaneous with Queen Elizabeth 1.

CONTEMPTUOUS

adj. showing scorn or contempt; insolent kən'tem(p)tūəs
Origin: Latin con ('with') + temnere ('to scorn')
Sentence: Some people are contemptuous of others who do not share their views.

CONTRAPOSITION

n. opposition; contrast kontrəpə'zishən
Origin: Latin Prefix contra +wordposition
Sentence: Your views are in direct contraposition to mine.

CORPUSCLES

n. red and white cells in the blood 'korpûslz
Origin: Latin corpusculum, 'a little body'
Sentence: Our blood consists of both red and white corpuscles.

COTYLEDON

n. seed-leaf koti'lēdən
Origin: Greek kotyledon, 'cup-shaped cavity'
Sentence: A seed may have only one cotyledon.

COUTURE	n. the design and manufacture of fashionable clothes (usually 'haute couture') koo'tûr Origin: French couture, 'sewing, dressmaking Sentence: Milay's Fashions is the place for haute couture.
CROCHETED	n. knitted by using a single hooked candle Origin: Fr Sentence: My mother crotched every evening to make beautiful center pieces
CRUSTACEOLOGY	n. branch of zoology that deals with crustaceans such as lobsters and cabs Origin: Latin Sentence: As a zoologist I am an expert in crustaceology
CUNEIFORM or CUNIFORM	adj., n. wedge-shaped; ancient wedge-shaped writing Origin: Latin cuneus 'wedge' 'kūniform Sentence: Several ancient languages were in cuneiform writing.
CURMUDGEON	n. bad-tempered or mean person ker'mûjən Origin: Unknown Sentence: He has few friends as he's such a curmudgeon.
CYANOCOBALAMIN	n. vitamin B 12 found in foods of animal origin sīānōkə'baləmin Origin: Gk. Combined cyano + cobal(t) +(vit)amin Sentence: Cyanocobalamin is found in foods such as liver, eggs and fish.
CYANOSIS	n. blue discoloration of skin due to presence of oxygen-deficient blood sīā'nōsis Origin: Greek kuanosis, 'blueness' Sentence: Cyanosis is said to be a visible sign of inadequate oxygen in the patient's blood.
CYCLAMEN	n. Type of plant with bulbous roots, blooming red, pink or white flowers 'sikləmən Origin: Greek Sentence: Our potted cyclamen is finally blooming
CYCLOTHYMIA	n. a psychological condition in which the person experiences great mood swings sīklə'θīmia Origin: Prefix cyclo ('cycle') + Greek thumos ('temper') Sentence: The extremely moody patient was diagnosed as having cyclothymia.

CYSTITIS	n. inflammation of the urinary bladder Origin: Greek kustis, 'bladder, pouch' si'stītis Sentence: People with cystitis sometimes experience pain in passing urine
DACHSHUND	n. Breed of dog with short legs and long bodies Origin: German 'dakshund / -sənd Sentence: The dachshund was used to hunt other animals
DAMNATORY	adj. conveying or causing censure or damnation 'damnət(ə)ri Origin: Latin damnare, 'to condemn' Sentence: The preacher boldly made damnatory pronouncements on the nation's 'evil practices'.
DASHIKI	n. a kind of loose unbuttoned shirt 'da:shiki Origin: West African Sentence: Some men prefer a dashiki to an open shirt.
DEBILITATE	v. to enfeeble; weaken di'bilitāt Origin: Latindebilis, 'weak' Sentence: The changes in the constitution will only serve to debilitate it.
DECRESCENDO	n. Gradual decrease in loudness Origin: Italian dēkri'shendō Sentence: That part of the piece was played in a decrescendo
DELIQUESCE	v. to become liquid; melt; dissolve in water deli'kwes Origin: Latin liquescere, 'be melt' Sentence: Ice left at room temperature will soon deliquesce.
DEMESNE	n. Territory or domain of a sovereign or landed Property di'mēn / di'mān Origin: Latin Sentence: It will take the Duke six months to tour his demesne
DEPRECATE	v. to express disapproval of; to avert by prayer Origin: Latin Sentence: Your mother is going to deprecate your decision to go to the dance

DERMATOLOGIST	n. specialist in study and treatment of skin diseases <i>dermə'toləjist</i> Origin: Greek <i>derma</i> , 'skin' Sentence: I need to ask the dermatologist to examine the rashes on my arm.
DESUETUDE	n. a state of disuse; the action of passing into disuse Origin: F>Lat Sentence: Old English words and phrases have long since fallen into desuetude
DIAERESIS or DIERESIS	n. mark (¨) over a vowel to indicate that it is sounded separately <i>dī'erisis // dī'e:risis</i> Origin: Greek <i>diaeresis</i> , 'separation' Sentence: The word 'naïve' is written with a diaeresis over the 'i'.
DIAPHRAGM	n. muscular partition between the thorax and abdomen; operating part of motor vehicle, etc <i>'dīəfrəm</i> Origin: Greek <i>diaphragma</i> , 'partition wall' Sentence: The diaphragm is the front part of the chest above the waist.
DIARRHOEA or DIARRHEA	n. condition of excessively frequent loose bowel movement <i>dīə'riə</i> Origin: Greek <i>diarrhein</i> , 'to flow through' Sentence: The patient's diarrhoea was diagnosed as a symptom of gastroenteritis.
DIFFERENTIATE	v. To constitute the distinction between Origin: Latin <i>difə'renshiāt</i> Sentence: One can differentiate subspecies of flies by the markings on their wings
DILEMMA	n. situation in which a choice has to be made between two equally undesirable options; indecision <i>di'lemə / dī'lemə</i> Origin: Greek <i>di</i> ('twice') + <i>lemma</i> , 'assumption' Sentence: He is in a dilemma as to whether he should sell the car or the house in order to pay the debt.
DIPHTHERIA	n. an acute contagious bacterial disease characterized by the inflammation of a mucous membrane esp. in the throat. Origin: Fr Sentence: Potentially fatal toxins can be produced in diphtheria
DISCORDANT	adj. not in harmony; disagreeing; clashing <i>di'skordənt</i>

Origin: French descorder, 'to disagree'

Sentence: There was not even one discordant note in the entire musical performance.

DODECAHEDRON

n. solid figure with twelve faces dōdekə'hedrən / dōdekə'hēdrən

Origin: Greek

Sentence: A regular dodecahedron .has regular pentagons as faces.

DOMICILIARY

adj. of a dwelling place (especially in relation to the visit of doctor, etc. to a person's house) domi'siliəri

Origin: From Latin domus, 'home'

Sentence: Doctor's pay domiciliary visits to homes for the aged and some orphanages.

DOSSIER

n. set of documents esp. record of information about a person or event 'dosia / 'dosiā / 'dosyā

Origin: French dos (Latindorsum)

Sentence: There's a substantial dossier on you at the registry.

DROSOPHILA

n. Type of fruit fly used in genetic research

Origin: Greek dro'sofilə

Sentence: The drosophila feeds on decaying fruits

DULCILOQUENT

adj. Speaking sweetly

Origin: French dūl'siləkwənt

Sentence: The dulciloquent tones of the lady charmed the young man.

DYSENTERY

n. kind of infection of the intestines causing bowel disorder 'dis(ə)nt(ə)ri

Origin: Greek dusentera, 'bad bowels'

Sentence: Severe diarrhoea is sometimes a symptom of dysentery.

DYSLEXIA

n. disorder evident in reading and spelling dis'leksia

Origin: Greek lexis, 'speech' + Latin legere, 'to read'

Sentence: The student with strange spelling problems soon discovered that he has dyslexia.

DYSPHEMISM

n. (substitution of) unpleasant or derogatory word etc for a more neutral one 'disfimizm

Origin: Greek

Sentence: We learn to read beyond the dysphemism in everything he says.

DYSPHORIA

n. state of unease or mental discomfort dis'foria

Origin: Greek

Sentence: The family has been in a state of dysphoria since their loss.

DYSPLASIA

n. abnormal growth of tissues dis'plāziə

Origin: Greekdys ('bad') + plasis ('formation')

Sentence: Cervical cancers usually begin as a dysplasia.

DYSPNOEA or DISPNEA

n. difficult or laboured breathing

Origin: Greek dys ('bad') + pne 'breathe, disp'nēə

Sentence: Her dyspnea keeps her awake some nights.

DYSTROPHY

n. type of physical disorder arising from defective nutrition 'distrəfi

Origin: Greekdys ('bad') + trophia 'nourishment'

Sentence: Proper eating habits help to prevent dystrophy.

DYSURIA

n. difficult or painful urination dis'ŭriə

Origin: Greekdys ('bad') + ouron, 'urine'

Sentence: Infection in his kidneys was found to be the cause of the dysuria.

EBULLIENT

adj. boiling, exuberant i'bŭlyənt / i'bulyənt

Origin: Latinbullire, 'boil'

Sentence: The ebullient speaker commanded the full attention of the audience.

ECCLESIASTICAL

Adj. Relating to the church or clergy

Origin: Greek i,klēzi'astikəl

Sentence: All the ecclesiastical readings were done by the pastor

ECHELON

n. Level or rank in an organization or society

Origin: Latin 'eshəlon / 'āshəlon

Sentence: The young man started with a job in the lower echelon of the corporation

ECHOLALIA

n. tendency to repeat the words just spoken by another ekō'lāliə

Origin: Greek echo ('echo') + lalia ('talk')

Sentence: Echolalia is sometimes a manifestation of a psychiatric condition.

ECSTASY

n. very strong feeling of joy and happiness 'ekstəsi

Origin: Greek ekstasis, 'standing outside oneself, a trance'
Sentence: The young child was in ecstasy at the prospect of meeting Santa Claus.

ECUMENICAL	adj. of or representing the whole Christian church; seeking or promoting worldwide Christian unity ēkū'menikəl / ekū'menikəl Origin: Greek oikoumenikos, 'related to the world' Sentence: All the churches have gathered for an ecumenical service at the National Stadium.
EFFEMINATE	adj. v. (a man) feminine in appearance or manner. Become womanish i'feminət / i'femināt Origin: Latin effeminatus, 'having become a woman' Sentence: He used to be a bit effeminate, but is quite masculine now.
EFFERVESCENT	adj. bubbling; giving off bubbles efə'vesənt Origin: Latin effervescere, 'to begin to boil' Sentence: Children have an effervescent spirit that adults seem to have lost.
EFFICACIOUS	adj. producing or sure to produce the desired effect efi'kāshəs Origin: Latin efficere, 'to achieve, be effective' Sentence: This is the shortest method of packing but not the most efficacious.
EFFIGY	n. a sculpture or model of a person 'efiji Origin: Latin effigere, 'to shape or fashion' Sentence: The demonstrators are carrying a huge effigy of their leader.
ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPH	Instrument recording electrical activity of brain ilektrōen'kef(ə)lōgra:f Origin: German / electro + encephalo + graph i'lektrōen' sef(ə)lōgra:f Sentence: An electroencephalograph records the activity of the brain.
ELEEMOSYNARY	adj. of, pertaining to, or of the nature of alms or almsgiving; charitable Origin: L>Gk Sentence: Eleemosynary releif has never yet tranquillized the working classes
ELEGIAC	adj. used for elegies (songs or poems of mourning); mournful eli'jīək Origin: Greek elegos, 'mournful poem' Sentence: The songs were elegiac and suited the funeral.

EMBROIDERY	n. art or practice of sewing designs on cloth; articles decorated with this em'broyd(ə)ri Origin: Middle English embrouderie, 'needlework on cloth' im'broyd(ə)ri Sentence: Embroidery is done by hand or by sewing machine.
EMBRYONIC	adj. in an undeveloped or early stage of growth embri'onik Origin: Greek embruon, 'foetus' Sentence: The plan is still at the embryonic stage but it will be developed.
EMOLUMENT	n. salary or fee for employment e'molūmənt / i'molūmənt Origin: Latin emolumentum, 'benefit' Sentence: He works too hard for such a small weakly emolument.
EMPHASES	n. plural of emphasis (stress or importance placed on a word or thing) 'emfəsēz Origin: Greek emphainein, 'to exhibit' Sentence: A word such as 'embryonic' is pronounced with two emphases.
ENCORE	n., v. call by audience for additional performance; the item that answers the call; to call for repeat performance 'oŋkōr Origin: French, encore, 'still again' Sentence: A loud encore from the audience brought the performers back on stage.
ENCUMBRANCE or INCUMBRANCE	n. burden, annoyance, impediment Origin: French encombrer, 'block up' en'kûmbrəns Sentence: He bought the property when he was in'kûmbrəns convinced it was free from encumbrance.
ENCYCLOPEDIA or ENCYCLOPAEDIA	n. book, often in a number of volumes, giving information on many subjects ensīklə'pēdiə Origin: Greek egkuklios paideia 'all-round insīklə'pēdiə education' Sentence: One consults an encyclopaedia for various kinds of information.
ENSEMBLE	n. an outfit, group of actors, musicians etc performing together on'sombl / ǎ'sǎ:bl Origin: Latin simul, 'at the same time' Sentence: Her wedding ensemble was pleasing to the eye.
ENTREPRENEUR	n. person who undertakes a commercial venture ontrəprə'ner

Origin: French entreprendre, 'undertake'
Sentence: This area needs a good entrepreneur to develop its resources.

EPIPHYTE
n. plant growing on another, but not parasitic 'epifit
Origin: Prefix epi ('upon') + Greek phuton ('plant')
Sentence: The orchid is classified as an epiphyte, not a parasite.

EQUINOCTIAL
adj. happening at or near the time of the equinox (when days and nights are of equal length) ěkwi'nokshəl
Origin: Latin equinoxium 'equal night'
Sentence: The year has two equinoctial times.

ESCRITOIRE
n. Type of writing desk with compartments, drawers
Origin: French eskrē'twa:
Sentence: The old escritoire is far more interesting but simple

ESCUTCHEON
n. a shield-shaped surface bearing a coat of arms; ornamental plate surrounding a keyhole
Origin: F>Lat
Sentence: Georginadrew the bolts on the front door and turned the large key in its handsome escutcheon

EUPHORBIA
n. type of flowering plant including spurges (plants with milky juice) ū'forbiə
Origin: Named after Euphorbus, Greek physician
Sentence: The poinsettia belongs to the euphorbia family.

EUTHANASIA
n. painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable and painful disease ūθə'nāziə
Origin: Greek eu ('good') + thanos ('death')
Sentence: People disagree on whether euthanasia should be made legal.

EXCULPATE
v to free from blame; clear of a charge 'ekskŭlpāt
Origin: Latin ex ('from') + culpare ('to blame')
Sentence: The lawyer sought to exculpate his client.

EXECRABLE
adj. abominable; detestable; of very poor quality 'eksikrəbl
Origin: Latin execrari, 'to curse'
Sentence: Such execrable behaviour is intolerable.

EX(H)ORBITANT	adj. excessive, immoderate Origin: Lat Sentence: Due to the devaluation of the dollar, the prices in the supermarket have become exorbitant
EXUBERATE	v. abound overflow or grow profusely; indulge freely in eg'zūbērāt / ig'zūbērāt Origin: Latin exuberare, 'be fruitful' Sentence: Cabbage and tomatoes exuberate in this area.
FAÇADE	n. an outward appearance or front esp. One which is deceptive; the face or front of a building Origin: French Sentence: The south façade has rounded arched windows and moldings and carvings
FACULTATIVE	adj. permissive; able to exist under more than one kind of condition; relating to a faculty 'fakəltətɪv Origin: Latin facultas (facilis, 'easy') Sentence: A facultative parasite can exist as a parasite or as a saprophyte.
FAHRENHEIT	adj. temperature scale on which water boils at 212 degrees 'far(ə)nhīt / 'fa:r(ə)nhīt Origin: Named after G Fahrenheit, German physicist Sentence: The boiling point of water is 212 degrees Fahrenheit or 100 degrees Celsius.
FANTOCCINI	n. Puppets animated by moving wires or mechanical means; play or show employing such puppets fantə'chēni Origin: Italian Sentence: The children enjoyed watching the fantoccini
FARINACEOUS	adj. Consisting or containing starch; having a mealy Texture fari'nāshəs Origin: Latin Sentence: The staple in our diet is mostly farinaceous
FEIGN	v. pretend; imitate; invent 'fān Origin: Latin fingere, 'to mould, invent, contrive' Sentence: He tried to feign madness hoping to avoid punishment for the crime.
FELICITOUS	adj. well chosen; pleasantly ingenious fi'lisitəs Origin: Latin felicitare, 'to make happy' Sentence: It was a felicitous occasion with greetings from friends and well-wishers.

FLAGELLANT	<p>n., adj. a person who punishes himself or herself or others as a religious discipline; concerning such action 'flaj(ə)lənt / flə'jelənt</p> <p>Origin: Latin flagellum, 'whip'</p> <p>Sentence: Flagellant muslims can be seen at certain Islamic observances.</p>
FLAMBOYANT	<p>adj. showy; gorgeous; bright and striking flam'boyənt</p> <p>Origin: French flamboyant, 'blazing'</p> <p>Sentence: Carnival kings and queens wear the most flamboyant costumes.</p>
FLIBBERTIGIBBET	<p>n. Gossiping, frivolous or restless person</p> <p>Origin: Medieval English flibəti'jibit</p> <p>Sentence: Would you rely on the words of that flibbertigibbet if your life depended on it?</p>
FLIRTATIOUS	<p>adj. teasing; trying to attract without serious intention fler'tāshēs</p> <p>Origin: Unknown</p> <p>Sentence: The young man misunderstood her flirtatious behaviour.</p>
FLUORESCES	<p>v. becomes fluorescent (showing a special radiation) flūr'resiz</p> <p>Origin: Scientific name</p> <p>Sentence: A white light fluoresces from the fluorescent tube.</p>
FRACAS	<p>n. Noisy disturbance or quarrel; a fight or brawl</p> <p>Origin: Italian 'fraka:</p> <p>Sentence: The opposing players were involved in a fracas</p>
FRICASSEED	<p>adj., v. made a fricassee (dish of stewed or fried pieces of meat served in thick a sauce) frikə'sēd</p> <p>Origin: French fricassee, 'cut up and cooked in a sauce'</p> <p>Sentence: The caterer served a delicious fricasseed chicken.</p>
FRUCTIFEROUS	<p>adj. bearing fruit frûk'tif(ə)rəs</p> <p>Origin: Latin fructificare, 'to bear fruit'</p> <p>Sentence: Those fructiferous trees will feed us all summer.</p>
FUCHSIA	<p>n. any of various ornamental shrubs having drooping flowers freq. with purple-red sepals; a shade of red like that of the fuchsia flower</p>

Origin: Latin

Sentence: I have a konini, which is an endemic specie of fuchsia growing in my garden

FULIGINOUS

adj. sooty; dusky; colour of soot fū'lijinəs

Origin: Latin fuliginosus, 'full of soot'

Sentence: This air is too fuliginous to be healthy.

FULMINATE

v. to denounce, condemn; flash like lightning 'fulmināt / 'fûlmināt

Origin: Latin fulminare, 'to hurl lightning'

Sentence: The congregation listened as the preacher continued to fulminate the deadly sins.

FURLOUGH

n., v. leave of absence; to lay off (staff) temporarily 'ferlō

Origin: Dutch verlof, 'for leave, permission'

Sentence: He is off on furlough but will return to his job after three months.

FUSCOUS

adj. sombre, dark; brownish grey colour 'fûskəs

Origin: Latin fuscus, 'dark-coloured, sombre'

Sentence: Animals with fuscous hair are not easily identified in the dark.

FUTILITARIAN

n., adj. a person devoted to futile pursuits; relating to the belief that human hopes are vain fūtili'te:riən

Origin: Latin futilis, 'leaky, worthless, futile'

Sentence: A futilitarian has little hope of succeeding.

GAIETY or GAYETY

n. merrymaking; festivity; colourful appearance

Origin: Frenchgaiete 'gāəti

Sentence: The Independence celebrations bring on a season of gaiety.

GALIMATIAS

n. confused or meaningless talk; gibberish gali'matiəs / gali'māshəs

Origin: French

Sentence: We have no time now for galimatias.

GARGOYLES

n. plural of gargoyle (type of waterspout carved like a face; any similar grotesque ornament) 'gargoylz

Origin: Frenchgargouille, 'gargoyle, throat'

Sentence: A number of gargoyles decorated the old stone building

GASTROENTERITIS

n. inflammation of the stomach and intestines gastrōentə'rītis

Origin: Greek

Sentence: Persons with gastroenteritis usually have vomiting and diarrhoea.

GAZETTEER

n. A journalist appointed and paid for by the government; a newspaper gazi'te:r

Origin: French

Sentence: In the library, the gazetteer is found in the periodical section

GECKO or GEKKO

n. nocturnal lizard found in warm climates 'gekō

Origin: Malaygekoq, imitating the sound it makes

Sentence: The gecko eats insects and has adhesive feet to climb vertical surfaces.

GERMANE

adj. related (to the topic being considered); relevant jer'mān

Origin: Latingermanus, 'of the same parents'

Sentence: Is that idea germane to the conversation or is it something new?

GERONTOLOGY

n. scientific study of old age and process of ageing

Origin: Greek

Sentence: I am studying gerontology for my masters

GIBLETS

n. the liver, gizzard, neck etc of a bird (removed for cooking) 'jiblits

Origin: Frenchgibelet, 'game stew'

Sentence: Some people use the giblets of the chicken for making soup.

GLAUCOMA

n. an eye disease caused by impaired pressure in the eyeball glaw'kōmə

Origin: Greekglaucoma, 'cataract'

Sentence: Glaucoma is a serious disease and should be treated very early.

GLOCKENSPIEL

n. musical instrument with bars played with hammers 'glok(ə)nspēl / 'glok(ə)nshpēl

Origin: German Glocken ('bell') + spiel ('play')

Sentence: The glockenspiel is not a popular instrument today.

GLOSSITIS

n. inflammation of the tongue glo'sītis

Origin: Greekglossa, 'tongue'

Sentence: Her severe mouth ache was diagnosed as glossitis.

GLOXINIA

n. type of tropical plant with large bell-like flowers glok'siniə

Origin: Named after P B Gloxin, 18th century botanist
Sentence: The gloxinia is in full bloom!

GLUTINOUS

adj. sticky; like glue 'glootinəs
Origin: Latingluten, 'glue'
Sentence: Flour and water will mix into a glutinous paste.

GLUTTONOUS

adj. greedy (like a glutton, eating too much) 'glût(ə)nəs
Origin: Latin gluttus, 'greedy'
Sentence: The gluttonous people got sick from overeating.

GLYCERINE or GLYCERIN

n. a kind of alcohol used in making soaps and many other items 'glis(ə)rēn / 'glis(ə)rin
Origin: Greek glukeros, 'sweet'
Sentence: Glycerine is used in the making of various household products.

GLYCOLYSIS

n. breakdown of glucose (sugar) by enzymes glī'kolisis
Origin: GreekPrefix glyco ('sugar') + suffix lysis ('breaking down')
Sentence: Glycolysis takes place in most living organisms to release energy.

GNASHED

v. ground - past tense of gnash, 'to grind' (one's teeth) 'nasht
Origin: Medieval English
Sentence: The coach gnashed his teeth in anger at the team's silly mistakes.

GOITRE or GOITER

n. a swelling at the neck from an enlarged gland
Origin: Latin guttur, 'throat' 'goytə
Sentence: The patient had an operation for her goitre.

GOULASH

n. Hungarian dish of stewed beef and vegetables 'goolash
Origin: Hungarian gulyas ('herdsman') +hus ('meat')
Sentence: This restaurant serves a delicious goulash.

GOURMET

n. a connoisseur of good food 'gûrmā / 'gormā
Origin: Frenchgourmet, 'wine-taster'
Sentence: They engaged a gourmet to select the dishes for the wedding.

GRADUAND

n. person about to receive an academic degree 'grajuand / 'gradūand

Origin: Latingraduare, 'to graduate'
Sentence: The graduand will be awarded a bachelor's degree.

GRAFFITI n. (plural of graffito) words or drawings scratched or painted on walls in public places gra'fēti
Origin: Italiangraffio, 'a scratch'
Sentence: The graffiti make those walls ugly.

GRAMINIVOROUS adj. concerning animals feeding on grass, cereals, etc grami'niv(ə)rəs
Origin: Latingramen ('grass') + suffix vorous 'feeding in'
Sentence: A cow is a graminivorous animal.

GRANDEUR n. great beauty or power 'grand-yə
Origin: French grand, 'great'
Sentence: The grandeur of those waterfalls is breathtaking.

GROTESQUE adj. absurd; monstrous; unnatural; weird grō'tesk
Origin: Italianpittura grottesca, 'cave painting'
Sentence: The children drew pictures of animals that seemed grotesque to the adults.

GUERDON n., v. (poetic use) reward; recompense; to give reward 'gerdən
Origin: Frenchgueredon
Sentence: He received a silver coin, a guerdon for his efforts.

GUERRILLA also GUERILLA n., adj. member of small independent army; this type of warfare gə'rilə
Origin: Spanish, diminutive of guerra, 'war'
Sentence: He became a guerrilla instead of joining the official army.

GUILLOTINE n. machine for beheading; machine for cutting paper 'gilətēn
Origin: Named after Joseph Guillotin, who proposed its use
Sentence: A guillotine is no longer used for execution.

GUSTATORIAL adj. related to tasting or the sense of taste
Origin: Lat
Sentence: Lining the surface of the tongue are gustatorial buds

GYNAECOLOGIST or GYNECOLOGI n. specialist doctor concerned with the reproductive organs of women gīni'koləjɪst / jīni'koləjɪst

Origin: Greek

Sentence: The woman went to see her gynaecologist for her menstrual problem.

GYNANDROMORPH

n. individual (especially insect) having male and female physical characteristics ji'nandrəmorf / gī'nandrəmorf

Origin: Greekgandros, 'of double sex'

Sentence: Some insects may be classified as a gynandromorph

GYRATION

n. movement with a circular or spiral motion

Origin: L>Gr

Sentence: The performer danced with energetic gyration

HACIENDA

n. (mainly in Spanish-speaking countries) an estate or plantation with dwelling house or factory hasi'endə

Origin: Spanish from Latin hacienda, 'things to be done'

Sentence: The family lived comfortably on their hacienda.

HAEMOGLOBIN or HEMOGLOBIN n. protein in red blood cells that carries the oxygen

Origin: Shortened fromhaemato+ globulin/Greek hēmə'glōbin / hemə'glōbin haima, 'blood'

Sentence: If your haemoglobin count is low you are anemic.

HAEMORRHAGE or
HEMORRHAGE

n. profuse bleeding; persistent and severe loss

Origin: Greek haimorrhagia, 'bursting of blood' 'hemərij

Sentence: The patient was rushed to the hospital because of the haemorrhage from her injuries.

HALCYON

adj. calm and peaceful; prosperous; mythical bird

Origin: Gk

Sentence: The Kingdom's halcyon years seem like they would never return

HALLUCINATION

n. illusion; fantasy; figment of the imagination həloosi'nāshən / həlūsi'nāshən

Origin: Latin (h)allucinari, 'to wander in mind'

Sentence: He said that he was seeing and hearing things, but it was only hallucination.

HAPLOGRAPHY

n. (in writing) accidental omission of letters when these are repeated in a word hap'logrəfi

Origin: Greekhaplous ('single') + suffixgraphy
Sentence: An example of haplography is seen in the writing of 'philophy' instead of 'philosophy'

HARANGUE

n., v. lengthy and earnest speech; to make a harangue hæ'rɑŋ
Origin: Latin harenga
Sentence: The Staff was subjected to a harangue that lasted for full fifteen minutes.

HARMONIUM

n. keyboard instrument in which notes are produced by air blown through reeds har'mōniəm
Origin: Latin harmonia, 'harmony'
Sentence: This chapel still has a harmonium, which the organist plays on Sundays.

HEORTOLOGY

n. Study of church festivals
Origin: Greek ior'toləji
Sentence: As a major in heortology, she attends many different types of church festivals

HETEROGENEOUS

adj. composed of many different kinds; diverse het(ə)rə'jēniəs
Origin: Greek heteros ('other') +genos ('kind') het(ə)rə'jenias
Sentence: There was a heterogeneous mass of het(ə)rō'jēniəs papers to be sorted.

HIEROGLYPHICS

n. ancient Egyptian writings hīrə'glifiks
Origin: Greek hiero ('sacred') +gluphe, 'carving'
Sentence: Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics make difficult reading for modern people.

HIPPOPOTAMUS

n. a very large heavy short-legged mammal
Origin: L>Gr
Sentence: The hippopotamus is one of the largest animals at the zoo.

HOMIOOTHERMIC

adj. warm-blooded; maintaining constant body temperature homoyō'θermik
Origin: Greek homoios ('like') + therme ('heat')
Sentence: Warm-blooded organisms are normally homiothermic.

HOMOLOGATE

v. to approve, ratify, pass; acknowledge; confirm hæ'moləgāt
Origin: Greek homologos, 'agreeing'
Sentence: There is a system to homologate cars for the race.

HOROLOGY

n. the art or study of making clocks, watches etc, and of measuring time ho'roləji

Origin: Greekhora ('time') + suffixology ('study of')
Sentence: Students of horology are engaged in an uncommon area of study.

HORS D'OEUVRES
n. appetizers served at the beginning
Origin: Fr
Sentence: Guests has hors d'oeuvres in the great dining hall.

HYENA or HYAENA
n. a wild animal somewhat resembling a dog
Origin: Greek, huaina, feminine of hus, 'pig' hī'ēnā
Sentence: When the spotted hyena barks, it sounds a bit like someone laughing.

HYACINTH
n. a kind of flowering shrub with sweet smelling blooms 'hīāsīnθ
Origin: Greek Hyakinthos, a youth in Greek myth, killed by Apollo and from whose blood a blue flower sprang
Sentence: The hyacinth blooms flowers in clusters of blue, pink or white.

HYALOID
adj. Glassy, clear and transparent
Origin: Greek 'hīāloīd
Sentence: The hyaloid membrane is found in the eye

HYDRANGEA
n. Shrub having clusters of white, pink or blue flowers
Origin: Latin hī'drānjə/ -žə
Sentence: The cool weather facilitates the blooming of the hydrangea

HYDRAULIC
adj. concerning or moved by the pressure of water or other liquids hī'drawlik / hī'drolik
Origin: Greekhydro ('water') +aulos ('pipe')
Sentence: A hydraulic engine uses the motion or pressure of fluids to produce power.

HYDROCEPHALUS
n. Accumulation of fluid in the brain
Origin: Greek hīdrā'sef(ə)lās / -kef
Sentence: Hydrocephalus is usually a congenital condition that leads to an enlarged head and mental retardation

HYDROPATHY
n. treatment of a disease or illness by using large amounts of water internally and externally hī'dropəθi
Origin: Greek
Sentence: The doctor administered hydrophathy as part of the treatment.

HYDROPONICS	<p>n. the practice of growing plants in sand, gravel, or liquid, without using soil hīdrə'poniks / hīdrō'poniks Origin: Greek hydro ('water') +ponos ('work, toil') Sentence: Vegetables grown by hydroponics look and taste like those grown in soil.</p>
HYPERBOLE	<p>n. Figure of speech in which exaggeration is used for emphasis hī'perbali Origin: Greek Sentence: The phrase 'I could sleep for a year", is an example of an hyperbole</p>
HYPOCHONDRIAC	<p>n. sufferer from morbid depression caused by imaginary illness hīpə'kondriak / hīpō'kondriak Origin: Greek hupokhondria Sentence: The hypochondriac is continually complaining of illness.</p>
HYPOCRISY	<p>n. the practice professing beliefs and standards contrary to one's own behaviour hi'pokrisi Origin: Greek hupokrites, 'actor, hypocrite' Sentence: A good leader does not practise hypocrisy.</p>
HYRAX	<p>n. type of small mammal 'hīraks Origin: Greek hurax, 'shrew-mouse' Sentence: The hyrax is mainly vegetarian but eats also insects and grubs.</p>
HYSSOP	<p>n. Type of plant used for purification Origin: Greek 'hisəp Sentence: Hyssop is used in some Jewish religious ceremonies</p>
HYSTERIA	<p>n. a wild uncontrollable emotion or excitement; disturbance in the nervous system hi'ste:riə Origin: Greek husterikos, ('of the womb' – hysteria in woman believed to originate in the womb) Sentence: It was some time before the hysteria of the crowd could be controlled.</p>
ICHTHYOLOGY	<p>n. the branch of zoology that deals with fishes Origin: Gk Sentence: Having completed in bachelor's in zoology, Brian decided to do his masters in ichthyology</p>
IDIOSYNCRASIES	<p>n. thoughts or ways of behaving peculiar to a person idiō'siŋkrəsiz Origin: Greek idios ('own') + synkrisis ('mixture') idiə'siŋkrəsiz Sentence: Her idiosyncrasies make her stand out among her friends.</p>

IDYLLIC	adj. blissfully peaceful and happy; charming Origin: Gk Sentence: Life in the hills was peaceful and calm, just simply idyllic
IGNORAMUS	n. ignorant person ignə'rāməs Origin: Latin ignorare, 'to not know, be ignorant' Sentence: It is unwise to accept the word of an ignoramus.
IKEBANA	n. Japanese art of flower arrangement iki'ba:nə Origin: Japanese ikebana, 'living flowers' Sentence: Ikebana was on display at the recent Flower Show
ILLEGITIMATE	adj., v. born to parents not married to each other; unlawful; to declare unlawful ili'jitimət / ili'jitimāt Origin: Latin Sentence: Her parents are unmarried so she is an illegitimate child.
ILLCIT	adj. unlawful; forbidden; illegal i'lisit Origin: Latin Sentence: The illicit sale of drugs landed them in prison.
IMBROGLIO	n. confused situation; misunderstanding or disagreement im'brōliō Origin: Italian imbrogliare, 'to confuse' Sentence: His leaving, with no clear successor has caused an imbroglio in the party.
IMMANENT	adj. inherent; in-dwelling; remaining within 'imənənt Origin: Latin related to in ('into, towards') + maneo ('remain') Sentence: There is immanent goodness in everyone.
IMMUNOLOGY	n. study of resistance to infection in man and animals imū'noləji Origin: Latin immunis, 'exempt from public service' Sentence: The young doctor is specializing in immunology.
IMPASSE	n. deadlock; position from which progress is impossible am'pa:s Origin: Prefix im+ French passes, 'to pass' Sentence: The negotiations came to an impasse which delayed progress for many months.

IMPECCABLE	adj. faultless; exemplary im'pekəbl Origin: Latin impeccabilis, (peccare, 'to sin') Sentence: His impeccable behaviour makes him a role model for his peers.
IMPECUNIOUS	adj. having little or no money impi'kūniəs Origin: Latin im ('not') + pecuniosus, 'having money' Sentence: In my impecunious state I can't even pay my bills.
IMPERCEPTIBLE	adj. very slight; hard to grasp impə'septibl Origin: Latin Sentence: The sound was imperceptible; we could hardly hear it.
IMPETUOUS	adj. acting hastily, with sudden energy; violent im'petūəs Origin: Latin impetuosus, Sentence: When it comes to shopping at the mall, she tends to be more impetuous than cautious.
IMPROMPTU	adj. without preparation or rehearsal im'prom(p)tū Origin: Latin in promptu, 'in readiness' Sentence: The student staged an impromptu concert after their exams.
IMPUGN	v. to challenge or question; to criticize im'pūn Origin: Latin impugnare, 'to fight against' Sentence: That statement suggests that you impugn my integrity
INAPPELLABLE	adj. that cannot be appealed against inə'peləbl Origin: Latin Sentence: The court declared the case inappellable.
INAUGURAL	adj. relating to the first, beginning, introduction i'nawgūrəl Origin: Latin inaugurare, 'to inaugurate' Sentence: The inaugural speech of the new president was well received.
INAUSPICIOUS	adj. ill-omened; unlucky; unfavourable inaw'spishəs Origin: Latin Sentence: The time is inauspicious for a wedding as the parties are mourning the loss of a parent.

INCANDESCENT	adj. glowing 'white' light; shining brightly inkan'desənt Origin: Latin candeo, 'be white' Sentence: Incandescent bulbs provide good light for reading.
INCAPACITATE	v. to make incapable or unfit (for work etc) inkə'pasitāt Origin: Latin Sentence: As for his job, the wearing of glasses will not incapacitate him.
INCENDIARY	adj. Causing fire; containing chemicals that produce hot fire in'sendyəri Origin: Latin Sentence: An incendiary bomb destroyed the building
INCERTITUDE	n. uncertainty; doubt in'sertitūd Origin: Latin Sentence: I am approaching the purchase with a great deal of incertitude.
INCESSANT	adj. continual; not ceasing in'sesənt Origin: Latin in ('not') + cessare ('to cease') Sentence: Although they were tired they did not waiver in their incessant study.
INCHOATE	adj. just begun; undeveloped in'kōāt Origin: Latin incohare, 'to make a begining' Sentence: Their inchoate plans will take years to develop.
INCLEMENT	adj. severe cold or stormy (weather) in'klemənt Origin: Latin inclemens Sentence: Fishermen at sea are advised to hurry home because of the inclement weather condition.
INCOGNITO	adv. with one's name or identity kept secret inkog'nētō / in'kognitō Origin: Latin incognitos, 'unknown' Sentence: A famous person may travel incognito to avoid special attention.
INCOGNIZANT	adj. unaware; unconscious in'ko(g)nizənt Origin: Middle English Sentence: He carried out the suggestion incognizant of the chance of harmful consequences.

INCOMMENSURATE	adj. out of proportion; inadequate inkə'menshərət / inkə'mensyərət Origin: Latin Sentence: That salary is incommensurate with the amount of work done.
INCOMPARABLE	adj. unequalled; supreme; not to be compared in'komp(ə)rəbl Origin: Latin Sentence: He was honoured for his incomparable service to the community.
INCONGRUOUS	adj. out of place; not appropriate; absurd in'kɒŋgruəs Origin: Latin Sentence: His vulgar actions were incongruous with the sacredness of the occasion.
INCORRIGIBLE	adj. (person) incurably bad; not readily improved; having a habit that cannot be corrected in'korijibl Origin: Latin Sentence: I have given up trying to reform that incorrigible liar.
INDECOROUS	adj. improper; in bad taste in'dek(ə)rəs Origin: Latin Sentence: His indecorous behaviour embarrassed everyone.
INDEFATIGABLE	adj. tireless; steady; constant (of person); unflagging indi'fatigəbl Origin: Latin indefatigabilis Sentence: We are indebted to you for your indefatigable efforts through thick and thin.
INDEFENSIBLE	adj. cannot be justified or defended indi'fensibl Origin: Latin Sentence: The attack on those innocent citizens was indefensible.
INDICES	n. another plural for index (mathematical sense – number, symbol, sign) 'indisēz Origin: Latin index, 'forefinger, informer, sign' Sentence: Examination results are not the only indices of success.
INDICTMENT	n. formal accusation of a crime; condemnation in'dītmənt Origin: Latin indicere, 'to announce' Sentence: The indictment came as a shock to the suspect and those who knew her.

INDIGENOUS	adj. born or produced in a particular land or region; (esp. of flora and fauna) native or belonging naturally Origin: Latin Sentence: My garden turned out to have only four plants which are indigenous to Britain
INDISCREET	adj. careless; not tactful; undiplomatic indi'skrēt Origin: Latin Sentence: His indiscreet remarks made him unpopular with some listeners.
INDISCRIMINATE	adj. done or acting at random; making no distinction indi'skriminət Origin: Latin Sentence: The soldiers were scolded for their indiscriminate shooting.
INDISPENSABLE or INDISPENSIBLE	adj. absolutely necessary; essential Origin: Lat Prefix in ('not') + worddispensable indi'spensəbl ('unnecessary') Sentence: Brakes are indispensable to a motorcar.
INDUBITABLE	adj. that which cannot be doubted; unquestionable Origin: Latin Sentence: He stands on his indubitable reputation for his honesty
INERTIA	n. lack of energy; tendency to remain unchanged i'nershə Origin: Latin iners, 'unskilled or idle' Sentence: This country must rise from its inertia and begin to really produce.
INEXHAUSTIBLE	adj. endless; that cannot be used up; tireless inig'zawstibl Origin: Latin Sentence: Children seem to have an inexhaustible source of energy.
INEXPUGNABLE	adj. incapable of being taken by force; impregnable inek'spûgnəbl / inik'spûgnəbl Origin: Latin Sentence: A fort is useful only if it is inexpugnable.
INFELICITY	n. inaptness of expression etc; unhappiness; misfortune infi'lisiti Origin: Latin infelicitas

Sentence: Her writing contains elements of infelicity.

INFINITESIMAL

adj. extremely minute or insignificant/ n. an extremely small or insignificant quantity or amount

Origin: Latin

Sentence: He got an infinitesimal increase in his government salary

INGRATiate

v. get oneself into favor; gain grace or favor (with); make oneself agreeable

Origin: Latin

Sentence: Courtiers who had once flattered on him, hastened to ingratiate themselves with the new power behind the throne

INNUMERABLE

adj. too many to be counted; uncountable i'nūm(ə)rəbl

Origin: Latin in ('not') + numerabilis ('able to be counted')

Sentence: The grains of sand on the shore are innumerable.

INSATIABLE

adj. extremely greedy; unable to be satisfied in'sāshəbl

Origin: Latin insatiabilis,

Sentence: Her addiction caused an insatiable appetite for alcohol.

INSTANTANEOUS

adj. occurring or done instantly (at once, very quickly) instən'tāniəs

Origin: Latin instantaneus

Sentence: As we ran into the shed there came an instantaneous flash of lightning.

INTERCEPT

v. to seize, catch or stop from going; check or stop an activity intə'sept

Origin: Latin interceptus, 'seized between places'

Sentence: The guard was on the watch to intercept his leaving.

INVEIGLE

v. to entice, persuade; to trick into an action in'veɪgl / in'vāgl

Origin: French enve(u)gle, 'to blind'

Sentence: She must decide independently and not allow you to inveigle her into joining.

INVIDIOUS

adj. tending to arouse resentment and unpopularity

Origin: Lat

Sentence: Fred was angered by the invidious gossip about his divorce

IRASCIBLE

adj. hot tempered; easily angered; irritable

Origin: F>Lat

Sentence: His irascible behaviour does not speak well for a mature person

IRRELIGIOUS

adj. hostile or indifferent to religion iri'lijəs

Origin: Latin

Sentence: The church does not support irreligious practices like human sacrifices

ISOSCELES

adj. having two equal sides in a triangle

Origin: L>Gk

Sentence: The angles of an isosceles triangle are equal.

ISTHMUS

n. a narrow piece of land connecting two larger pieces 'isθməs / 'istməs / 'isməs

Origin: Greek isthmos

Sentence: Panama is an isthmus, connecting Central and South America.

ITINERARY

n. planned route for a journey or trip; record of travel i'tinərəri / i'tinərəri

Origin: Latin itinerarium

Sentence: My itinerary to Europe includes a stop in London.

JACINTH

n. a precious stone also called hyacinth 'jasinθ / 'jāsinθ

Origin: Latin hyacinthus, 'hyacinth'

Sentence: The jacinth is a reddish stone used as a gem.

JACQUARD

n. apparatus with perforated cards, fitted to a loom to facilitate weaving of patterns 'jakard / 'jakəd

Origin: Named after J M Jacquard, French inventor

Sentence: She used a jacquard to help her weave the more intricate patterns.

JACUZZI

n. large bath with underwater jets that massage the body jə'koozi

Origin: Named after US inventor C. Jacuzzi

Sentence: I prefer a quick shower but Mom likes to relax in the Jacuzzi.

JEJUNE

adj. Intellectually unsatisfying; shallow; uninteresting

Origin: Latin ji'joon

Sentence: These writings are jejune and uninspiring

JUDAIC

adj. relating to the Jews or Judaism joo'dāik

Origin: Latin Judaicus
Sentence: The Judaic religion is monotheistic.

JUDICATURE n. judges collectively; the administration of justice 'joodikəchə / ju'dikəchə
Origin: Latin judicare, 'to judge'
Sentence: The judicature is responsible for administering justice.

JUGGERNAUT n. large heavy motor vehicle; huge overwhelming force or object 'jûgənaʊt
Origin: Sanskrit Jagannatha, 'lord of the world'
Sentence: A juggernaut is a powerful force.

JUJUBE n. a type of sweet; type of plant; its berry-like fruits 'joojoʊb
Origin: Latin jujuba
Sentence: Jujube is a fruit-flavoured sweet with a jelly-like texture.

JUNTA n. political or military clique taking power; administrative council or committee
Origin: Spanish
Sentence: A military junta took over the running of the country

JURISPRUDENCE n. science or philosophy of law; skill in law jûris'pɹooðəns
Origin: Latin jus juris, 'law' + prudential, 'knowledge'
Sentence: Lawyers and judges are specialists in jurisprudence.

JUVENILIA n. works produced by an author or artist in youth joʊvə'niliə
Origin: Latin juvenilis, 'juvenile things'
Sentence: The author's juvenilia may not be as inspiring as her mature writings.

JUXTAPOSITION n. placing side by side or close together jûkstəpə'zishən
Origin: Latin juxta, 'next, beside'
Sentence: The juxtaposition of the two contrasting colours creates an interesting effect

KABUKI n. form of popular traditional Japanese drama kə'booki
Origin: Japanese ka ('song') + bu ('dance') + ki ('art')
Sentence: In the traditional Japanese kabuki, the acting is done by males only.

KARAOKE	<p>n. a form of entertainment in which people sing popular songs against a pre-recorded backing kari'ōki / karə'ōki</p> <p>Origin: Japanese karaoke, 'empty orchestra'</p> <p>Sentence: Hotel guests seem to enjoy karaoke, even if they themselves do not sing.</p>
KEDGEREE	<p>n. type of Indian rice dish; a similar European dish 'kejərē</p> <p>Origin: Hindi khichri, a dish of rice and sesame</p> <p>Sentence: The Indian kedgerree is prepared with rice, split pulse, onions, eggs and other ingredients.</p>
KERATITIS	<p>n. inflammation of the cornea of the eye kerə'tītis</p> <p>Origin: Greek</p> <p>Sentence: An ophthalmologist diagnosed the condition as keratitis, and prescribed treatment.</p>
KIBBUTZNIK	<p>n. a member of the communal farming settlement in Israel ki'butsnik</p> <p>Origin: Yiddish (from kibbus, 'kibbutz')</p> <p>Sentence: The kibbutznik has agreed to move to the industrialized city.</p>
KINKAJOU	<p>n. type of nocturnal fruit-eating mammal living in trees 'kiŋkəjoo</p> <p>Origin: French quincajou</p> <p>Sentence: The kinkajou is a member of the raccoon family.</p>
KLEPTOMANIAC	<p>n. person with a morbid tendency to steal for the sake kleptō'māniək of stealing kleptə'māniək</p> <p>Origin: Greek kleptes, 'thief'</p> <p>Sentence: A kleptomaniac may receive professional help to control the compulsion to steal.</p>
KOOKABURRA	<p>n. an Australian kingfisher (bird)</p> <p>Origin: Aboriginal guguburra 'kukəbûrə</p> <p>Sentence: The kookaburra is known for its strange cry, like someone laughing.</p>
LACKADAISICAL	<p>adj. feebly sentimental; affectedly languishing; dreamily idle; listless; unconcerned; unenthusiastic</p> <p>Origin: Unknown</p> <p>Sentence: He was fired from his job because of his lackadaisical attitude</p>
LACTIFEROUS	<p>adj. yielding, conveying, secreting milk or milky fluid lak'tif(ə)rəs</p> <p>Origin: Related to lactic –Latin lac lactis, 'milk'</p> <p>Sentence: The female mammal is equipped with lactiferous organs for nursing purposes.</p>

LASAGNE(-GNA)	n. Pasta in the form of sheets and wide ribbons Origin: Itakian lə'zanyə / -sanyə / -sa:nyə Sentence: It was a delicious meal of lasagne and cheese sauce
LEPRECHAUN	n. in Irish folklore, a small, usually mischievous being of human form Origin: Irish Sentence: The leprechaun is usually associated with shoemaking or burried treasure
LEUK(A)EMIA	n. malignant disease affecting the bone marrow Origin: Greek leukos ('white') +haima ('blood') loo'kēmīa Sentence: Cure for and protection against leukaemia are hopefully, near.
LEXICOGRAPHY	n. the compiling of dictionaries leksi'kogrəfi Origin: Greek lexis ('word') +graphein ('to write') Sentence: Publishers of good dictionaries must engage experts in lexicography.
LIAISE	v. to establish cooperation; act as a link li'āz Origin: Latin ligare, 'to bind, put together' Sentence: The team project requires that we liaise with one another and meet when necessary.
LIBIDINOUS	adj. lustful li'bidinəs Origin: Related to Latin libido, 'lust' Sentence: People claim to have long observed a libidinous behaviour in the rapist.
LICENTIOUS	adj. Lacking moral discipline; having no regard for accepted rules or standards lī'senshəs Origin: Latin Sentence: Due to his licentious behaviour, he was thrown in jail
LIEUTENANT	n. an officer in the army or airforce; ranking next below a captain Origin: French Sentence: The lieutenant was asked to lead the platoon in combat
LINGERIE	n. women's underwear and nightclothes Origin: French linge, 'linen' 'lāž(ə)ri Sentence: She buys and wears only the most exquisite lingerie.

LIQUESCENT	adj. Becoming or apt to become liquid Origin: Latin li'kwesənt Sentence: Keep it frozen as it is as liquescent as water
LITHOTOMY	n. surgical cutting into bladder to remove stone li'θotəmi Origin: Greek lithotomia / Prefix litho ('stone') + suffix tomy ('surgery') Sentence: The surgeon performed a lithotomy to remove the stone from the urinary tract.
LOOFAH or LUFFA	n. vine producing gourd-like fruit; the dried fruit used as a sort of bathing sponge 'loofə Origin: Egyptian Arabic lufa Sentence: Some people prefer loofah to wash rags for bathing.
LOQUACIOUS	adj. talkative; (birds etc) babbling, chattering lo'kwāshəs Origin: Latin loqui, 'to speak' Sentence: Little children are among the most loquacious of people.
LOUVRE or LOUVER	n. set of slats in door or window to admit air and light but throw off rain 'luvə Origin: French lovier, 'skylight' Sentence: We can adjust the louvre to get more air into the room.
LUCUBRATION	n. meditation, study esp. at night lookū'brāshən Origin: Latin lucubrare, 'to work by lamplight' lūkū'brāshən Sentence: Lucubration involves laborious study especially at night.
LUDICROUS	adj. absurd; ridiculous; laughable 'loodikrəs Origin: Latin ludicrum, 'stage play' 'lūdikrəs Sentence: Everyone laughed at the ludicrous suggestion.
LUGUBRIOUS	adj. doleful; dismal; mournful lu'goobriəs Origin: Latin lugere, 'mourn' Sentence: A lugubrious sound drifted in from a distance.
MACABRE	adj. grim, gruesome mə'ka:br(ə) Origin: French danse macabre, 'dance of death' Sentence: She was scared at the sight of that macabre looking character.

MACHISMO	n. (show of) virility or courage; masculine pride mə'chizmō Origin: Mexican Spanish macho, 'male' mə'kizmō Sentence: That was an act of bravery as well as machismo.
MAGENTA	n. bright mauvish-crimson colouring; a dye of this colour mə'jəntə Origin: Named after Italian town, Magenta Sentence: The colours of the school flag are green, yellow, and magenta.
MALEFACTOR	n. criminal; evil-doer 'malifaktə Origin: Latin male 'badly' facio fact 'do with' Sentence: A malefactor is on trial for an offence.
MALEVOLENT	adj. wishing or desirous of doing evil to others mə'lev(ə)lənt Origin: Latin male ('bad') + volens ('wish') Sentence: A malevolent person is the opposite of a benevolent one.
MANICURIST	n. person who does professional treatment of the hands and fingernails 'manikyurist Origin: Latin manus, 'hand' + cura, 'care' Sentence: The manicurist has polished my fingernails beautifully.
MANOEUVRE or MANEUVER	v. to drive, manipulate person or thing by deceit Origin: Latin manu operor 'work with the hand' mə'noovə Sentence: The trickster plans to manoeuvre his way into the unsuspecting group.
MANNEQUIN	n. a model of a human figure; an artist's lay figure; a dummy for the display of clothes Origin: French Sentence: Every time I pass this boutique, I see a mannequin in the window display
MAQUETTE	n. Sculptor's small preliminary model in wax or clay Origin: Italian ma'ket Sentence: An art collector who was unable to get the final sculpture, happily paid a large sum for the maquette
MARIHUANA or MARIJUANA	n. dried bush of the hemp used as a drug; cannabis; Origin: Latin American Spanish mari'hwa:nə / maryu'a:nə

Sentence: Marijuana is said to be one of the oldest known drugs.

MARRIAGEABLE

adj. fit for marriage (e.g. at the right age) 'marijəbl

Origin: French marriage / marry + age

Sentence: All their children are now adults; independent and marriageable.

MASTECTOMY

n. surgical removal of a breast ma'stektəmi

Origin: Greek mastos 'breast'

Sentence: Mastectomy is one treatment for breast cancer.

MATRIARCHY

n. social organization in which mother is head of the family 'mātriarki

Origin: Related to patriarch – Latin mater 'mother'

Sentence: In Jamaica, instances of matriarchy are more evident than of patriarchy.

MAYONNAISE

n. a type of thick creamy sauce māə'nāz

Origin: French

Sentence: They like both ketchup and mayonnaise on their French fries.

MEGALOPOLIS

n. great city or its way of life; an urban complex megə'lop(ə)lis

Origin: Prefix mega ('large') + Greek polis ('city')

Sentence: Life is far more busy and exciting in the megalopolis than in the small town.

MELIORISM

n. doctrine that the world may be made better by human effort 'mēliərizm

Origin: Latin melior 'better'

Sentence: His belief in meliorism is unshaken.

MEMOIRS

n. autobiography; record of events written from personal knowledge or special sources 'memwə:z / 'memwəwz

Origin: Latin memoria 'mindful'

Sentence: He plans to write his memoirs soon after his retirement.

MENDACIOUS

adj. lying; untruthful; false

Origin: French

Sentence: The witness was accused of being pathologically mendacious

METIER	n. one's occupation or department of activity; usually a field in which one has special skill or ability; one's forte Origin: French Sentence: I knew nothing about farming and it certainly wasn't my metier
MNEMONIC	adj. of or pertaining to memory/ n. formula or code Origin: L>Gr Sentence: His drawing was no more than a mnemonic aid to remind them of a place they knew
MOIETY	n. either of two parts (not necessarily equal) into which something is or can be divided; a small part; a lesser share of something Origin: Fr Sentence: He took the smallest moiety of the pizza when it was divided
MORTGAGE	n., v. borrowing of money with land or house as security; the loan itself; the transaction itself 'morgij Origin: French mort ('dead') + gage ('pledge') Sentence: We didn't have enough money, so we took out a mortgage on the house.
MORTUARY	n. place for storing dead bodies; morgue 'mortuəri / 'morchuəri Origin: Latin mortuus, 'dead' Sentence: Bodies are kept in a mortuary until they are to be buried.
MOUSTACHE or MUSTACHE	n. hair grown above one's upper lip Origin: Greek mustax, 'upper lip' mə'sta:sh Sentence: His moustache joins with his beard to give him a very bushy face.
MUNIFICENCE	n. Splendid generosity; extreme kindness Origin: Latin mū'nifisəns Sentence: Several charities survive on your munificence
NAÏVE	adj. innocent; simple; believing; gullible nā'ēv / na:'ēv Origin: Latin nativus, 'native' Sentence: The naïve child didn't understand the real meaning of the tricksters.
NARCISSISM	n. excessive love for oneself; tendency to self-worship 'narsisizm / nar'sisizm Origin: Named after Greek Narkissos who fell in love with his reflection

Sentence: He's so preoccupied with himself that he is likely to be accused of narcissism.

NASCENT

adj. in the act of being born 'nasənt / 'nāsənt

Origin: Latin nascent-, 'being born'

Sentence: I have a nascent idea, which I will develop soon.

NASTURTIUM

n. type of trailing plant nə'stərsʰəm

Origin: Latinnasturtium, 'cress'

Sentence: The nasturtium has covered the trellis with yellow trumpet-like flowers.

NAUSEOUS

adj. affected with nausea (feeling like vomiting); causing nausea; disgusting 'nawziəs / 'nawsziəs

Origin: Greek nausea, 'seasickness'

Sentence: Travelling on winding roads makes me dizzy and nauseous.

NECROMANCY

n. prediction of the future by supposed communication with the dead 'nekrəmansi / 'nekrōmansi

Origin: Greek necros ('corpse') + mantis ('prophet')

Sentence: Children are afraid of that man who is said to practise necromancy.

NEFARIOUS

adj. Wicked; sinful; evil; iniquitous

Origin: Latin ni'fe:riəs

Sentence: The pirates of the Caribbean were quite nefarious

NEMESIS

n. person or thing which brings retribution (punishment) to another; one's fate, retribution 'nemisis

Origin: Latin nemein, 'to give what is due'

Sentence: That policeman who always catches me speeding must be my nemesis.

NEOPHYTE

n. A new convert especially to a religion; beginner or novice

Origin: L>Gr

Sentence: He is a neophyte at auto mechanics but give him a year and he will gain experience.

NEPHOLOGY

n. study of the clouds ni'fɒləʒi

Origin: Greeknephos ('cloud') + suffix logy ('study of')

Sentence: He's a naturalist who is now doing a course in nephology.

NEURALGIA

n. intense pain along the course of a nerve especially in the head or face nŭr'ralʒə

Origin: Greek neuron, 'nerve'

Sentence: His headache was diagnosed as neuralgia.

NEUROLOGY

n. scientific study of the nerve system nŭr'roləji

Origin: Greek neuron, 'nerve'

Sentence: These doctors are specialists in neurology.

NICHE

n. shallow recess in a wall; suitable or special place, job, market etc nich / nēsh

Origin: Latin nidus, 'nest'

Sentence: There is a niche in the wall where the sculpture will be placed.

NICTITATE

v. to blink or wink 'niktitāt

Origin: Latinnictitare, 'to blink repeatedly'

Sentence: She has a condition that makes her nictitate involuntarily.

NIGRESCENCE

n. Blackness; being dark or blackish

Origin: Latin nigrescens / nī'gresəns

Sentence: I admire the silky nigrescence of the dog's coat

NIHILISM

n. rejection of all religious and moral principles; assertion that nothing really exists 'nī(h)ilizm

Origin: Latin nihil 'nothing'

Sentence: His nihilism has made him rather unpopular with our very religious community.

NOMENCLATURE

n. a system of naming things; set of names or acts of naming nə'menkləchə / nō'menkləchə

Origin: Latin nomenclatura, 'list of names' 'nōmənklāchə

Sentence: The nomenclature of roads in this country is rather interesting.

NOMOTHETIC

adj. giving or enacting laws; legislative nomə'θetik

Origin: Greek nomothetikos

Sentence: The committee has administrative as well as nomothetic responsibilities.

NONCHALANT

adj. calm and casual; unconcerned 'nonshələnt

Origin: French non ('not') + chaloir ('to matter')

Sentence: Your nonchalant attitude gives the impression that you do not care.

NONDESCRIPT

adj., n. very ordinary; without remarkable features; a person or thing like this 'nondiskript

Origin: Latin Prefix non ('not') + descript ('described')

Sentence: This art is so nondescript it will attract little interest.

NOSTALGIA

n. yearning for the past; homesickness no'stalj(i)ə

Origin: Greek nostos, 'return home'

Sentence: Adults speak with such nostalgia for what they call 'the good old days'!

NOVELLAS

n. short novels; novelettes nə'veləz / nō'veləz

Origin: Italian

Sentence: I have read many novels but hardly any novellas.

NUCLEI

n. plural of nucleus (central part of a larger object, system, organization) 'nūklii

Origin: Latin nucleus, 'kernel' (nux, 'nut')

Sentences: The nuclei of all these organizations are the secretarial pools.

NULLIFIED

v. cancelled; abolished 'nūlifid

Origin: Latin nullus, 'none'

Sentence: The increased cost of lunch has nullified the increase I got in pocket money.

NUMISMATICS

n. the study of coins or medals nūmiz'matiks

Origin: Greek nomisma, 'coin'

Sentence: This museum is especially interesting to persons involved in numismatics.

NUNCUPATE

v. to declare (a will etc) orally 'nūŋkūpāt

Origin: Latin nuncupare, 'to name'

Sentence: Granddad had to nuncupate his will as he could not write.

NYCTALOPIA

n. The inability to see in dim light or at night

Origin: Greek niktə'lōpiə

Sentence: Because of his nyctalopia, he does not drive at nights

NYMPHOLEPT

n. person inspired by violent enthusiasm for an ideal 'nimfəlept

Origin: Greek numpholeptos 'caught by nymphs'

Sentence: A nympholept lives in a world of dreams.

OBEISANCE

n. Bow; curtsy; respectful gesture; homage; submission

Origin: French ə'bāsəns / ō'bāsəns

Sentence: Christians pay obeisance to Jesus Christ

OBITUARY

n. notice of death; account of the life of a deceased person ə'bichuəri / ō'bichuəri

Origin: Latin obitus, 'death'

Sentence: An obituary in the newspaper informed friends of his death.

OBLIGATORY

adj. compulsory; binding ə'bligət(ə)ri

Origin: Latin obligare, 'to bind'

Sentence: Paying of taxes is obligatory.

OBNOXIOUS

adj. offensive; disliked; objectionable

Origin: Lat

Sentence: The decaying bodies of animals gave off an obnoxious smell

OBNUBILATE

v. to cloud cover; (literary) to darken or obscure ob'nūbilāt

Origin: Latin obnubilare, 'to cover with clouds'

Sentence: Dark clouds almost omnubilate the sun.

OBSCENE

adj. indecent; highly offensive əb'sēn

Origin: Latin obscenus, 'indecent abominable'

Sentence: They objected to the obscene language of the intruder.

OBSCURANT

n., adj. an opposer of reform and enlightenment; of or relating to an obscurant ob'skûrənt

Origin: Latin obscurus, 'dark'

Sentence: An old obscurant like you would like to return to live in the past, wouldn't you?

OBSEQUIOUS

adj. compliant with the will or wishes of another; prompt to serve, please, or follow directions; obedient; dutiful

Origin: Lat

Sentence: He adopted an obsequious attitude when he realized that they would not grant him any favours

OBSESSED

v. preoccupied; haunted or possessed by an idea etc əb'sest

Origin: Latin obsessus, 'beseiged, possessed'

Sentence: He is obsessed with the idea of being a leader.

OBSOLETE

adj. no longer in use or practice; out of date 'obsəlēt

Origin: Latin *obsoletus*, 'worn out'
Sentence: Most prehistoric tools are now obsolete.

OBSTETRICS n. branch of medicine dealing with pregnancy and childbirth əb'stɛtrɪks
Origin: Latin *obstetrix*, 'midwife'
Sentence: Pregnant women are treated by doctors and nurses trained in obstetrics.

OBSTREPEROUS adj. turbulent; unruly; hard to control əb'strɛp(ə)rəs
Origin: Latin *strepere*, 'to make a noise'
Sentence: The obstreperous members had to be sent out of the meeting.

OCELOT n. medium-sized wild cat 'osɪlət / ōslət
Origin: Aztec *ocelotl*, 'jaguar'
Sentence: The ocelot has dark yellow fur with black stripes and spots.

OCHLOPHOBIA n. Abnormal fear of crowds
Origin: Greek *oklā'fōbiā*
Sentence: Her ochlophobia prevented her from visiting Honk Kong

OCTENNIAL adj. occurring every eight years; lasting eight years ɒk'tɛniəl
Origin: Latin *octennium*, 'period of eight years'
Sentence: The octennial celebrations were held at the same venue.

OCULARIST n. maker of artificial eyes 'ɒkʊlərɪst
Origin: Latin *oculus*, 'eye'
Sentence: An ocularist makes and supplies artificial eyes.

OESOPHAGUS or ESOPHAGUS n. passage from mouth to stomach; gullet
Origin: Greek *oisophagos* i'sɒfəgəs
Sentence: I can hardly swallow as my oesophagus is infected.

OFFICIOUS adj. domineering; giving unwanted help or orders ə'fɪʃəs
Origin: Latin *officiosus*; 'obliging, dutiful'
Sentence: His officious manner makes him unpopular in the office.

OLEACEOUS adj. Belonging to a family of trees and shrubs that include the olive, jasmine and ash ōli'āʃəs

Origin: Latin
Sentence: The olive is an oleaceous plant

OLEANDER n. type of flowering poisonous shrub ōli'andə
Origin: Latin
Sentence: The oleander blooms clusters of white, pink or red flowers.

OMINOUSLY adv. threatening of evil happening; with fearful signs 'ominəsli
Origin: Latin ominosus
Sentence: As the hurricane drew near, the rain clouds hung ominously.

OMNIVOROUS adj. feeding on both plant and animal material om'niv(ə)rəs
Origin: Latin omni, ('all') + vorare, (to eat greedily)
Sentence: Most human beings are omnivorous.

ONCOLOGY n. the study and treatment of tumours on'koləji
Origin: Greek onkos, 'mass'
Sentence: The young doctor is specializing in oncology.

ONOMATOPOEIC adj. adjective from 'onomatopoeia' (formation or use of a word from the sound it depicts) onəmatə'pēik / onōmatə'pēik
Origin: Greek onomatopoiia, 'word-making'
Sentence: Words such as 'swish', 'buff', 'buzzing' convey an onomatopoeic effect.

ONYX n. type of precious stone with alternating bands of colours 'oniks / 'ōniks
Origin: Greek onyx
Sentence: Onyx is an absolutely beautiful gemstone.

OPAQUE adj. not transparent; not translucent; no light passing through o/ō'pāk
Origin: Latin opacus, 'shaded, dark'
Sentence: Glass windows can be painted to be made opaque.

OPHTHALMOLOGIST n. doctor who studies and treats the eye ofθal'moləjist
Origin: Greek ophthalmos, 'eye'
Sentence: An ophthalmologist visits the clinic to examine patients eyes.

OPOSSUM	n. tree-living mammal which carries its young in a pouch ə'pɒsəm Origin: Virginian Indianopassum Sentence: An opossum can hang upside down by its tail.
OPPROBRIOUS	adj. (of language) severely scornful; abusive ə'prɒbrɪəs Origin: Latin probrum, 'disgraceful act' Sentence: Such opprobrious tone and manner were quite unnecessary and unkind.
OSCILLATE	v. to swing to and fro, side to side; waver between opinions 'osilāt Origin: Latin oscillare, 'to swing' Sentence: As the fans oscillate we feel much cooler.
OSCITATION	n. yawning; drowsiness; inattention; negligence osi'tāʃən Origin: Latin oscitare, 'to gape, yawn' Sentence: Oscitation after lunch is common in the office.
OSMOSIS	n. process by which something is acquired by absorption oz'mōsɪs Origin: Greek osmos, 'push' Sentence: Plants feed from the soil through a process of osmosis.
OSTEOPOROSIS	n. condition of brittle, fragile bones from loss of tissue ostiɒpə'rōsɪs Origin: Greek Sentence: Certain deficiencies in older people sometimes lead to osteoporosis.
PAEAN	n. a song of praise or thanksgiving; now usually a written or spoken attribution of praise Origin: L>Gr Sentence: His excellent long article about Jamaica's athletics is an unbroken paean
PAEDIATRICS or PEDIATRICS	n. branch of medicine dealing with children and their diseases pēdi'atrɪks Origin: Greek 'healer' Sentence: This doctor is specializing in paediatrics as she likes to work with children.
PAL(A)EONTOLOGY	n. the branch of sciences that deals with fossils of extinct animals and plants Origin: Gk Sentence: As a scientist he prefers palaeontology to archaeology

PALINDROMES	n. words or phrases that read the same backwards and forwards Origin: Gk Sentence: LEVEL and DAD are examples of palindromes
PANCREAS	n. gland near the stomach, that helps with digestion 'paŋkriəs Origin: Greek pagkreas Sentence: A person's pancreas is located behind the stomach.
PANDEMONIUM	n. uproar; utter confusion; chaos paŋdi'mōniəm Origin: Latin Sentence: As soon as the teacher left, pandemonium broke out in the class.
PANEGYRIC	n. a public speech or published text in praise of someone or something; a laudatory discourse; a eulogy Origin: F>L>Gr Sentence: The toast to the groom was a panegyric that would never be forgotten
PAPRIKA	n. a powdered hot spice made from hot pepper 'paprika / pə'prēkə Origin: Hungarian related to papar, 'pepper' Sentence: Many cooks use paprika to make their dishes spicy.
PAPYRUS	n. green grassy-looking bush; writing paper made from this bush pə'pīrəs Origin: Greek mpapuros Sentence: Papyrus grows in Jamaica mainly beside rivers and is used to make mats.
PARADIGM	n. An example that serves as a pattern or model Origin: Greek 'paradīm Sentence: The student used the case study as a paradigm for his project
PARENTHESSES	n. a pair of brackets enclosing a comment; the comments enclosed this way pə'renθisēz Origin: Greek parentithenai, 'to put in beside' Sentence: The reporter uses a pair of parentheses to enclose his personal comments.
PAROCHIAL	adj. referring or relating to a parish; narrow or limited pə'rōkiəl Origin: Latin parochialis (also linked with parish) Sentence: In the parochial elections, parishioners elect leaders for their parish only.

PARONYMOUS	adj. Allied by derivation from the same root Origin: Greek pə'roniməs Sentence: The words beautiful and beauteous are paronymous
PAROTITIS	n. mumps; inflammation of salivary gland parə'tītis Origin: Latin Sentence: Mumps, or parotitis, is a painful illness.
PAROXYSM	n. a violent attack or outburst of a specified emotion or activity; a fit; a convulsion Origin: L>Gr Sentence: The speaker's mispronunciation and misuse of words caused a paroxysm of giggling
PARQUET	n., v. flooring of wooden blocks in a pattern; a special kind of room; to do a parquet floor 'parkā / 'parki Origin: French parquet, 'small enclosure, floor' Sentence: The bedrooms are carpeted, but the floor in the parlour is parquet.
PATOIS	n. dialect belonging to a region 'patwa: Origin: French Sentence: Jamaican creole is often referred to as patois.
PAUCITY	n. scantiness; smallness of number or quantity 'pawsiti Origin: Latin paucus, 'few' Sentence: The country has done well considering the paucity of its resources.
PECCADILLO	n. a small fault; a venial sin; a trifling noise Origin: Span Sentence: His sin would be considered a peccadillo as there was a natural goodnes in him
PECUNIARY	adj. consisting of money; exacted in money Origin: Lat Sentence: He had admitted obtaining pecuniary advantage at a previous hearing
PEDAGOGY	n. science of teaching (frompedagogue, 'teacher') 'pedəgogi / 'pedəgoji Origin: Greek paidagogos, 'a child's tutor' Sentence: To become a certified teacher, he has to do courses in pedagogy.

PENICILLIN	n. any of several antibiotics used to treat bacterial infections peni'silin Origin: Latin penicillum, 'paintbrush' Sentence: The doctor prescribed penicillin to clear up the infection.
PENOLOGY	n. study of the punishment of crime and of prison management pi'noləji Origin: Latin poena, 'penalty' Sentence: The prison administrator was well versed in penology.
PENURIOUS	adj. poor; scanty; stingy pi'nʊriəs Origin: Latin penuria, 'penury, poverty' Sentence: The poor people had difficulty surviving on such penurious supplies.
PEREMPTORY	adj. final; admitting no denial or refusal pə'rem(p)t(ə)ri Origin: Latin peremptorius, 'decisive' 'perim(p)t(ə)ri Sentence: The judge gave a peremptory order for his immediate arrest.
PERIODONTICS	n. branch of dentistry concerned with structures that surround and support teeth periə'dontiks Origin: Greek Sentence: The young dentist is specializing in periodontics.
PERJURY	n. the act of telling a lie while under oath to tell the truth 'perj(ə)ri Origin: Latin perjurium, 'a false oath' Sentence: It is against the law to commit perjury in court.
PHAGOCYTOSIS	n. (scientific use) consumption of bacteria by certain cells fagəsɪ'tōsis / fagōsɪ'tōsis Origin: Greek phagein, 'to consume' Sentence: Phagocytosis is the ingestion of bacteria by phagocyte cells.
PHANTASHMOGORIA	n. a shifting and changing external scene consisting of many elements Origin: Fr Sentence: An opium-eater's daydream is nothing to the phantasmogoria of the sky tonight
PHARMACEUTICAL	adj. of or engaged in pharmacy; use or sale of medicinal drugs farmə'sūtɪkəl Origin: Greek pharmakon, 'drug' Sentence: Many local shrubs have been found to be of pharmaceutical value.

PHENOMENON	n. strange occurrence; remarkable person or thing fi'nominən Origin: Greek phainomenon, 'thing appearing' Sentence: To be able to attend university at age ten, would be a phenomenon.
PHLEGM	n. thick substance discharged by nose or throat when one has a cold; a kind of personality 'flem Origin: Greek phlegma, 'inflammation' Sentence: Someone with a heavy cold will probably cough up a lot of phlegm.
PHOSPHORESCENCE	n. the emission of light without any perceptible heat Origin: Gk Sentence: It was a vast cavern, eerily lit by the phosphorescence in the rock walls
PHOTOSYNTHESIS	n. process by which green plants make carbohydrate fōtō'sinθisis Origin: Greek Sentence: Sunlight provides the energy needed by plants during photosynthesis.
PIAZZA	n. covered walkway; public square or market pi'atsə Origin: Greek plateia, 'broad (way)' Sentence: People sat at little tables out on the piazza and sipped cool drinks.
PICTURESQUE	adj. pretty; scenic; beautiful; charming pikchə'resk Origin: Italian pittore 'painter' Sentence: From the hill top we had a picturesque view of the plains.
PIQUANT	adj. sharp or stinging to the feelings; severe; bitter; stimulating to the mind and taste; racy; spicy; fascinating/ n. something sharp or pointed Origin: Fr Sentence: Salt is very piquant to the tongue
PIROUETTE	n. an act of spinning round on one foot or on the points of the toes by a ballet dancer; a rapid whirl of the body/ v. move with a whirling motion; spin; whirl Origin: Fr Sentence: Sandra performed a little pirouette, as though warming up for Swan Lake
PISE or PISEE	n. rammed clay or earth (and gravel) as building material 'pēzā / 'pize

Origin: French piser, 'to beat down (earth)'
Sentence: Pise has been used historically to build huts and quite formidable structures.

PITEOUS
adj. deserving or causing pity (compassion); distressing; pitiable; pitiful 'pitɪəs
Origin: Latin pietas, 'duty, piety'
Sentence: The beggars of our country live in piteous conditions.

PITHECANTHROPUS
n. a hypothetical evolutionary intermediate between apes and humans
Origin: Gk
Sentence: The primitive extinct man from Java could be considered a pithecanthropus

PLAGIARISM
n. literary theft; an act or instance of this
Origin: L>Gk
Sentence: Plagiarism is the worst of his crimes; he brazenly takes over the best known passages

PLATEAU
n. extensive level ground at the top of a hill; period of stable prices or wages after an increase 'platō / plə'tō
Origin: French platel, 'small flat surface'
Sentence: The climbers were pleased to get to a plateau large enough to pitch their tents.

PLATYPUS
n. Australian egg-laying amphibious mammal
Origin: Greek 'platipəs
Sentence: The platypus has webbed feet and a broad flat tail

PLEBEIAN
n, a member of the common people/ adj. commonplace, undistinguished; uncultured; vulgar; coarse; ignoble
Origin: Lat
Sentence: He is unashamedly plebeian in the way he dresses

PNEUMONIA
n. illness caused by inflammation of the lung nū'mōniə
Origin: Greek pneumon, 'lung'
Sentence: A person with pneumonia is seriously ill.

POINCIANA
n type of tropical tree with bright showy red or orange coloured flowers poynsi'a:nə
Origin: Modern Latin
Sentence: The Poinciana (or Flamboyant) has wide spreading branches with brilliant flowers.

POINSETTIA	n. a type of tropical plant with flower-like groups of bright colourful leaves pɔɪn'setiə Origin: Modern Latin Sentence: Bright red poinsettias brighten our gardens and hedges at Christmas time.
PORNOCRACY	n dominance of a government by prostitutes por'nokrəsi Origin: Greek porne ('prostitute') + suffix cracy Sentence: With prostitutes having more of a say in the affairs of this country, it will not be long before we have a pornocracy.
PORPHYRY	n. an unstratified or igneous rock having a homogeneous groundmass Origin: Lat Sentence: Porphyry is an attractive red or purple stone taking a high polish
PORTATIVE	adj. portable; serving to carry or support 'portətɪv Origin: Latin portare, 'carry' Sentence: The missionaries travelled with a small portative organ for playing at open air services.
PORTRAITIST	n. one who paints or takes pictures (portraits) 'portrɪtɪst Origin: French peindre, 'to depict' Sentence: The portrait was done by an expert portraitist.
PRESTIDIGITATION	n. sleight of hand; conjuring tricks Origin: F+ Lat Sentence: It was entertaining watching the prestidigitation of the magician
PROBOSCIS	n. Long flexible snout, elongated mouth parts or sucking organs of some animals prɔ'bɒsɪs Origin: Greek Sentence: The elephant has a long proboscis
PRODIGIOUS	adj. marvelous; amazing Origin: Lat Sentence: Henry, whose memory was prodigious, had forgotten nothing
PROGNOSTICATE	v. to foretell; indicate prɒg'nɒstɪkət Origin: Latin prognosticare, 'to predict'

Sentence: Let us wait on the results and not try to prognosticate events.

PROLEPSIS

n. anticipation and answering of possible objections in a rhetorical speech prō'leps̄is / prō'lēps̄is

Origin: Greek prolepsis, 'anticipate'

Sentence: A good speaker might employ prolepsis as a powerful rhetorical device.

PROMISSORY

adj. conveying, expressing a promise 'promis(ə)ri

Origin: Latin promissorius

Sentence: He gave me a promissory note to repay the money borrowed.

PROPITIATION

n. offering, or sacrifice

Origin: Lat

Sentence: Jesus Christ was a propitiation for our sins

PROSELYTE

n. Person converted from one belief to another

Origin: Greek 'prosilīt

Sentence: She entered the synagogue as a proselyte, renouncing Christianity in favour of Judaism

PROTÉGÉ

n. a person under the protection, care or patronage of another, esp. of a person of superior position or influence

Origin: F>Lat

Sentence: The intern is a protégé of her consultant and will one day specialize in his field of cardiology

PSITTACOSIS

n. a contagious disease of birds caused by a virus-like bacterium

Origin: Lat

Sentence: Psittacosis is transmissible to humans, causing a form of pneumonia

PSYCHOLOGY

n. scientific study of the human mind, behaviour, attitudes etc sī'koləji

Origin: Latin

Sentence: Teachers study educational psychology which helps them to understand students.

PTOMAINES

n. a type of poisonous substance produced usually in decaying foods 'tōmān

Origin: Greek ptoma, 'corpse'

Sentence: A person may get ptomaine poisoning from eating unsafe food.

PUISSANCE	<p>n. Competition that tests the horse's ability to jump large obstacles such as fences 'pūsəns / 'pwēsəns /'pwisəns</p> <p>Origin: Latin</p> <p>Sentence: In the puissance section of the gymkhana, my horse jumped the highest fence</p>
PULCHRITUDE	<p>n. beauty</p> <p>Origin: Lat</p> <p>Sentence: The pulchritude of the sunset was picture perfect</p>
PUSILLANIMOUS	<p>adj. Lacking courage or determination; timid or Cowardly pūsi'laniməs</p> <p>Origin: Latin</p> <p>Sentence: The chairman was so pusillanimous that he couldn't take action on any matter of importance</p>
PUTRESCENT	<p>adj. in the process of becoming decomposed or rotten</p> <p>Origin: Lat</p> <p>Sentence: The putrescent dog was hit by a car three days ago</p>
QUADRATURE	<p>n. The process of making a square or dividing in squares; position of heavenly body in relation to another 'kwodrəchə</p> <p>Origin: Latin</p> <p>Sentence: As a mathematician, he had no problems with quadrature</p>
QUADRILLE	<p>n. type of square dance; music for this dance kwə'dril</p> <p>Origin: Spanish cuadra, 'square'; cuadrilla, 'troop, company'</p> <p>Sentence: Quadrille is an old, graceful dance.</p>
QUADRI(U)(A)PLEGIA	<p>n. paralysis of hands and feet (all four limbs) kwodri'plējə</p> <p>Origin: Prefix quadri ('four') + Greekplege ('blow')</p> <p>Sentence: The quadriplegia resulted from an accident some years ago.</p>
QUADRUPPLICATE	<p>adj., v. fourfold; four copies made; to multiply by four kwo'drooplikət</p> <p>Origin: Latin quadruplicare, 'multiply by four' kwo'drooplikāt</p> <p>Sentence: All the documents had to be copied in quadruplicate for the four persons in the meeting.</p>
QUALM	<p>n. uneasy doubt; misgiving; scruple 'kwa:m / 'kwawm</p>

Origin: Uncertain Probably Old English
Sentence: He's so unprincipled; he has no qualm about lying.

QUANDARY n. perplexing situation; dilemma; state of indecision 'kwɒnd(ə)ri
Origin: Uncertain
Sentence: Having lost the files we are now in a quandary as to what should be done.

QUERULOUS adj. complaining; peevish; tendency to grumbling 'kwɛrʊləs / kwɛrjʊləs
Origin: Latin querulus (queri, 'to complain')
Sentence: Her querulous voice conveyed her feelings to everyone.

QUEUEING or QUEUING v. forming a line; standing in line
Origin: Latin cauda, 'tail' 'kju:ɪŋ
Sentence: The children are queuing up to get their lunch.

QUICHE n. type of tart with filling of beaten eggs etc 'kɛʃ
Origin: French quiche
Sentence: This ackee quiche is delicious.

QUIESCENT adj. motionless, inert; dormant; silent
Origin: Lat
Sentence: The "e" in moveable is quiescent

QUINCENTENARY n. five hundredth anniversary kwɪnsɛn'tɛn(ə)ri
Origin: Latin quinque, 'five' kwɪnsɛn'tɛn(ə)ri
Sentence: Next year the church will celebrate its kwɪn'sɛntɪnəri quinqucentenary.

QUINQUAGENARIAN n., adj. person between age 50 and 59; related to this age kwɪŋkwəʃi'ne:riən
Origin: Latin quinquagenarius 'containing fifty'
Sentence: She is a quinquagenarian, but her brother is already sixty years old.

QUINTESSENCE n. the perfect example; purest and most perfect form kwɪn'tɛsəns
Origin: Latin quinta essentia, 'fifth essence
Sentence: He is the quintessence of decency and kindness.

QUINTUPLETS n. five children or animals at one birth 'kwɪntʊplɪts / kwɪn'tʊplɪts

Origin: Latin quintus, 'fifth'
Sentence: The quintuplets were two boys and three girls.

QUOTIENT n. a result obtained by dividing one quantity by another. 'kwōshənt
Origin: Latin quotiens, 'how many times'
Sentence: If we divide 15 by 3 the quotient will be 5

RAILLERY n. Good natured teasing or ridicule
Origin: Old French 'rāləri
Sentence: The student resigned from the fraternity because he was too sensitive to the constant raillery

RAMBUNCTIOUS adj. Boisterous and disorderly
Origin: North American ram'bûŋkshəs
Sentence: The rambunctious child was sent out of the class

RAMEKIN n. a small dish for baking and serving an individual portion of food; the food served 'ramikin / 'ramkin
Origin: French ramequin
Sentence: A ramekin dish will be enough for supper.

RANCOUR or RANCOR n. long-lasting feeling of bitterness, dislike hatred
Origin: Latin rancor, related to 'rancid' 'raŋkə
Sentence: Her bitterness had developed into a kind of rancour that was painful to observe.

RAPACIOUS adj. grasping; extortionate; predatory rə'pāshəs
Origin: Latin rapere, 'to seize'
Sentence: The action of some business people is unfair and rapacious.

RAPPORT n. relationship or communication; emotional bond ra'por
Origin: French rapprocher, 'to bring back'
Sentence: Students learn best when there is good rapport between class and teacher.

RAPPROCHEMENT n. establishment or resumption of harmonious relations especially between states ra'proshmä
Origin: French rapprocher, 'to bring back'
Sentence: Efforts are being made to achieve a rapprochement between the parties.

RASPBERRY or RAZZBERRY	n. juicy small red or black fruit; bramble bearing this Origin: Middle English 'ra:zb(ə)ri Sentence: The raspberry has thorns but produces tasty berries.
RATATOUILLE	n. type of vegetable dish fried and stewed in oil rata'tooi / rata'twē Origin: French touiller, 'to stir' Sentence: Ratatouille is a favourite with vegetarians.
RAUCOUS	adj. harsh sounding; loud and hoarse 'rawkəs Origin: Latin raucus, 'hoarse' Sentence: The angry man's raucous voice made others angry.
RECIDIVISM	n. a relapse into crime; the habit of turning back to crime ri'sidivizm Origin: Latin recidivus, 'falling back' Sentence: Persons freed from prison often need help lest recidivism should set in.
RECONNAISSANCE	n. a survey of a region to get information (about an enemy, weather conditions etc) ri'konisəns Origin: Latin recognoscere, 'to explore, recognize' Sentence: The army sent out a reconnaissance to establish the position of the enemy.
RECONNOITRE or RECONNOITER	v.n. to make a reconnaissance (survey of an area for information); a reconnaissance rekə'noytə Origin: Latin recognoscere, 'to explore, recognize' Sentence: An aeroplane has gone to reconnoitre the hurricane and report on it
REFECTORY	n. room used for communal meals, especially in a monastery or college ri'fekt(ə)ri Origin: Latin reficere, 'to refresh' Sentence: Residents were required to eat all meals in the refectory.
REFLEXOLOGY	n. a system of massage through reflex points on hands, feet and head, to relieve tension and cure illnesses rēflek'soləji Origin: Latin reflexus, 'bent back' Sentence: Treatment by reflexology is helpful for some mental and physical conditions.
REGURGITATE	v. to bring up (eg swallowed food) again; repeat exactly something said ri'gerjitāt Origin: Latin regurgigatus, 'gushed back'

Sentence: Some animals regurgitate digested food to feed their young.

REITERATION

v. said or done again or repeatedly riitə'rāshən

Origin: Latin reiterates, 'repeated'

Sentence: Reiteration of words and their spelling is a good method of learning to spell.

REMINISCENT

adj. Similar or tending to remind one of or to suggest

Origin: Latin remi'nisənt

Sentence: This painting is reminiscent of Kapo's style

RENAISSANCE

n. a revival (of art, literature, etc) similar to that of the historic Renaissance Period 'rənesās / ri'nāsəns

Origin: French renaissance, 'rebirth'

Sentence: These strikingly unusual paintings may lead the way toward a renaissance in art.

RENDEZVOUS

n. a meeting by arrangement; an agreed or regular meeting place 'rondāvoo / 'rondivoo

Origin: French serendre, 'to present oneself'

Sentence: They agreed to a rendezvous in an alcove nearby.

REPERTOIRE

n. a stock of plays, music, writings, etc 'repərtwə / 'repətwa:

Origin: French repertoire

Sentence: The performer selected several pieces from his extensive repertoire of songs

REPETITEUR

n. tutor or coach of opera singers, ballet dancers, etc repeti'ter

Origin: French repetiteur

Sentence: A repetiteur is an important member of the opera company.

RESIDUUM

n. a substance left after combustion, evaporation, or distillation; residue ri'zidūəm

Origin: Latin residere, 'to stay behind'

Sentence: The residuum from the solution is at the bottom of the jar.

RHAPSODY

n. an ecstatic utterance; piece of music in one extended movement, usually emotional 'rapsədi

Origin: Greek rhapsoidia 'to sew the song together'

Sentence: The audience went into a rhapsody over the brilliant performance.

RHETORIC

n. the art of persuasion; language designed to persuade or impress 'retərik

Origin: Greek rhetorike '(the art of) rhetoric'

Sentence: The speaker's rhetoric impressed everyone.

RHEUMATISM

n. disease marked by inflammation of and pain in joints, muscles etc 'r̩ʊmətɪzəm

Origin: Greek rheumatismos

Sentence: She can hardly walk because of the rheumatism in her legs.

RHINOCEROS

n. large thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the snout r̩'nɒs(ə)rəs

Origin: Greek rhinos ('nose') + keras ('horn')

Sentence: The hunters did not try to capture the rhinoceros.

RHIZOMES

n. underground root-like stems bearing both roots and shoots 'r̩zōmz

Origin: Greek rhizoma (rhiza, 'root')

Sentence: Plants such as ginger and turmeric are rhizomes.

RHODIUM

n. a hard white metallic element of the platinum group 'r̩dɪəm

Origin: Greek rhodon, 'rose', from the colour of its salts in solution

Sentence: Rhodium is used in making alloys and in plating jewellery.

RHODODENDRON

n. type of shrub with large clusters of bell-shaped flowers r̩də'dendrən

Origin: Greek rhodon, 'rose'

Sentence: The garden has come to life with the blooms of the rhododendron!

RHOMBOIDEUS

n. A muscle connecting the shoulder blade to the Vertebrae r̩m'boɪdiəs

Origin: Latin

Sentence: My rhomboideus often gets knotted and sore after sitting and waiting for long periods

RHUBARB

n. type of plant producing fleshy leaf stalks cooked as food; the stalks 'r̩ʊbɑːb

Origin: Latin rhabarbarum, 'foreign rhubarb'

Sentence: My friend used to bake the most delicious rhubarb pies.

RICOCHET

v., n. to rebound off a surface; rebounding of bullet etc off a surface 'r̩kəʃə / 'r̩kəʃet

Origin: French

Sentence: Thrown from that angle the pebble will only ricochet off the window.

ROGUSH

adj. playfully mischievous; like a rogue (unprincipled, tricky person) 'r̩ɡɪʃ

Origin: Uncertain

Sentence: That roguish grin is hiding something.

ROSACEOUS

adj. belonging to the rose family or resembling a rose rō'zāshəs

Origin: Latin rosa, 'rose'

Sentence: The rose, the apple, the plum, the blackberry are members of the rosaceous family.

ROTTWEILER

n. A member of a breed of large powerful dogs, black and tan in colour

Origin: Named after Rottweil, a town in Germany

Sentence: The rottweiler is a good watchdog.

RUBELLA

n. infectious disease with red rash otherwise called German measles ru'belə

Origin: Latin rubellus 'reddish' (rebeus, 'red')

Sentence: People can be vaccinated against rubella.

RUBICUND

adj. (face, complexion, etc) red; rosy; ruddy 'roobikənd

Origin: Latin rubicundus (rubere, 'red')

Sentence: The sunny climate has given her a beautiful rubicund complexion.

RUDIMENTARY

adj. fundamental; basic or learnt first; not yet developed roodi'ment(ə)ri

Origin: Latin rudis, 'unformed'

Sentence: Everybody needs at least rudimentary knowledge of mathematics.

RUSSET

adj., n. reddish-brown; a reddish-brown colour; type of apple 'rûsit

Origin: Latin russus, red

Sentence: She wore a russet coloured hat to match her brown shoes.

RYOKAN

n. Traditional Japanese inn

Origin; Japanese ri'ōkan

Sentence: The students slept in a ryokan

SABOTEUR

n. one who commits sabotage or undermines sabə'ter

Origin: French saboter, 'to destroy, sabotage'

Sentence: With so many things going wrong in the business one had to conclude that a saboteur was at work

SALIFEROUS

adj. containing too much salt

Origin: Lat
Sentence: Sea water is known to be quite saliferous

SALUBRIOUS adj. healthy or healthy-giving; agreeable; pleasant
Origin: Lat
Sentence: The salubrious climate is conducive to good health

SAPONACEOUS adj. containing or resembling soap; soapy sapə'nāshəs
Origin: Latin saponis, 'soap'
Sentence: This substance may be saponaceous but is not pure soap.

SAPPHIRE n., adj. type of precious stone with bright blue colour; having the colour of sapphire 'safīə
Origin: Greek sappheiros
Sentence: She has a ring with ruby and another with sapphire.

SCHIZOPHRENIA n. mental disorder in which one has a split personality skitsə'frēniə / skitsō'frēniə
Origin: Greek schizein ('to split') + phren ('mind') skidzə'frēniə / skidzō'frēniə
Sentence: His schizophrenia is often mistaken for madness.

SCRUMPTIOUS adj. (colloquial) delightful; delicious; pleasing 'skrûm(p)shəs
Origin: Uncertain
Sentence: The children are enjoying their scrumptious snacks.

SEBACEOUS adj. Fatty; related to fat, tallow or oily matter
Origin: Latin sebaceus
Sentence: The sebaceous glands secrete oil for skin lubrication

SECATEURS n. a pair of pruning clippers with crossed blades, for use with one hand
Origin: Fr
Sentence: Mom used a pair of secateurs in the garden

SEGUE v. To make a smooth transition from one condition to another 'segwā
Origin: Italian
Sentence: Daylight will segue into night

SEISMIC adj. of or relating to an earthquake 'sīzmik

Origin: Greek seismos, 'earthquake'

Sentence: There are instruments for measuring the seismic waves generated by an earthquake.

SENESCENT

adj. growing old; elderly; ageing

Origin: Lat

Sentence: The congregation at that church is mostly senescent

SEPULCHRAL

adj. of a tomb or burial; funereal or suggestive of tomb si'pûlkrəl

Origin: Latin sepulcrum, 'burial place, sepulcre'

Sentence: That sepulchral mound indicates the place where the dead cat was buried.

SERVIETTE

n. a napkin for use at the table servi'et

Origin: French servir, 'to serve'

Sentence: At dinner one uses a serviette to wipe fingers.

SESQUIPEDALIAN

n. A long word

Origin: Latin eskwipi'dāliən

Sentence: Antidisestablishmentarianism is a sesquipedalian

SETIFEROUS

adj. having bristles si'tif(ə)rəs

Origin: Latin sela, 'bristle'

Sentence: A pig's coat could be described as setiferous in appearance and feel.

SILHOUETTE

n., v. profile; shadow-like sketch of a person or thing; to represent something in silhouette silu'et

Origin: Named after French author and politician, Etienne de Silhouette

Sentence: The artist sketched the figures in silhouette, using black on white paper.

SKIING

v., n. sporting or travelling on skis 'skēiŋ

Origin: Old Norse skith, 'piece of split wood; snowshoe'

Sentence: Some skiers are skiing on snow while others are doing water skiing.

SLEUTH

n., v. (informal) detective; bloodhound; to track or follow 'slooθ

Origin: Abbreviation of sleuthhound (a dog trained to trap people)

Sentence: A private sleuth has been engaged to help with the investigations.

SOBRIQUET

n. an epithet; a nickname

Origin: Fr

Sentence: Tony Blair's role as Bush's unwavering ally has already earned him the sobriquet "puppet"

SOPHISTICATED

adj. cultured and refined; highly developed and complex sə'fistikātid

Origin: Latin sophisticatus, 'tampered with'

Sentence: In manner and dress this child is rather sophisticated for his age and status.

SOUFFLE

n. adj. Light spongy dish made with egg yolks / light and Frothy 'sooflā

Origin: French

Sentence: The most tasty of the dishes was a cheese soufflé from the school canteen

SOUVENIRS

n. objects kept as a reminder; mementos soovə'ne:rz

Origin: French souvenir, 'remember'

Sentence: Tourists usually take home souvenirs to remind them of their visit to a place.

SOVEREIGN

n., adj. supreme ruler (like a monarch); an old British coin; supreme; excellent; royal 'sovrin

Origin: Latin super ('above') + reign ('rule')

Sentence: Queen Elizabeth is sovereign in England.

SPECIOUS

adj. misleading; apparently true though lacking merit 'spēshəs

Origin: Latin speciosus, 'beautiful'

Sentence: Their first report to the investors was filled with specious accounts of what they had accomplished.

SQUALOR

n. state of being very dirty, squalid, filthy 'skwolə

Origin: Latin squalere, 'to be stiff with dirt'

Sentence: It took a massive clean-up team to clear the squalor around that dump.

STACCATO

adj., n. (music) played with each sound or note sharply detached, for effect; a staccato piece etc stə'ka:tō

Origin: Italian staccare, 'to detach'

Sentence: The staccato notes added an interesting quality to the music.

STETHOSCOPE

n. instrument used (usually by doctors and nurses) to listen for sounds in the human body. 'steθəskōp

Origin: Greek stethos, 'chest'+ skopeein, 'to view'

Sentence: The doctor used her stethoscope to listen to my heart.

STEVEDORES	n. persons employed in loading and unloading ships 'stēvədɔːz Origin: Spanish estibador, 'a packer, ship loader' Sentence: All the stevedores are now busy loading cargo on to the ship.
STRABISMUS	n. a squint; non-alignment on one's eyes strə'bizməs Origin: Greek strabos, 'squinting' Sentence: Strabismus is a medical condition in which one or both eyes are not correctly aligned.
STRYCHNINE	n. deadly poison obtained from the seeds of certain plants. 'striknēn / 'striknin Origin: Greek strychnos 'nightshade' Sentence: Strychnine is a highly poisonous substance.
SUBTLE	adj. delicate; slight; unnoticeable; not obvious 'sūtl Origin: Latin subtilis, 'finely woven' Sentence: My food must have the strong taste of seasoning, but she prefers a subtle flavour.
SUCCUMBED	v. gave in (to pressure, temptation etc); fell victim (to a disease etc) sə'kūmd Origin: Latin succumbere, 'to lie below' Sentence: She succumbed to temptation and ate the chocolate against her better judgement.
SUDATORY	adj; n. promoting perspiration; a sudatory drug 'sūdət(ə)ri / 'soodət(ə)ri Origin: Latin sudare, 'sweat' Sentence: This excessive perspiration may be the effect of using sudatory drugs.
SUEDE	n. velvety leather; woven cloth resembling suede 'swād Origin: French (gants de) Suede, '(gloves of) Sweden Sentence: Suede shoes and handbags are dressier than those of ordinary leather.
SUMPTUOUS	adj. extravagant or lavish; rich, luxurious; expensive 'sûm(p)tūəs Origin: Latin sumptuosus Sentence: His guests were treated to a sumptuous meal at the most splendid restaurant.
SUPEREROGATION	n. the performance of more than duty requires soopərerə'gāshən Origin: Latin supererogare, 'to suspend above the sūpərerə'gāshən limit' Sentence: Works of supererogation are specially valued.

SUSCEPTIBILITY	n. vulnerability; the state of being impressionable or easily influenced səsepti'biliti Origin: Latin susceptibilis, 'take up' Sentence: Your susceptibility to colds makes it necessary that you take precautions.
SUSHI	n. type of Japanese dish which often includes raw fish 'sooshi / 'sushi Origin: Japanese word meaning 'it is sour' Sentence: Some people have vegetables instead of raw fish in their sushi.
SYCAMINE	n. A black mulberry tree Origin: Greek 'sikəmin / 'sikəmīn Sentence: From the top of the sycamine tree, he could see everything
SYCOPHANCY	n. Self-seeking or servile flattery Origin: Greek 'sikəfansi Sentence: You may use persuasion, but don't stoop to sycophancy to get you the job
SYNAGOGUE or SYNAGOG	n. Jewish place of worship; the assembly itself Origin: Greek sunagoge, 'assembly, meeting' 'sinəgog Sentence: Every Saturday the Jews meet for worship in the synagogue.
SYNCHRONISED or SYNCHRONIZE	v., adj. caused to occur at the same time; co-ordinated Origin: Greek syn, 'together' + chronos, 'time' 'siŋkrənīzd Sentence: We synchronized our watches to ensure that they were all showing the same time.
SYNONYMS	n. words with same or nearly the same meaning 'sinənimz Origin: Greek syn, 'together' + onyma, 'name' Sentence: The words 'happy' and 'glad' are synonyms.
SYZYGY	n. (astronomy) conjunction or opposition of the moon with the sun; pair of connected things, etc 'siziji Origin: Greek suzugos, 'yoked, paired' Sentence: Syzygy in the sun-earth-moon system occurs at the time of full and new moon.
TACITURN	adj. reserved in speech; uncommunicative 'tasitərn Origin: Latin taciturnus (tacitus, 'silent') Sentence: That taciturn fellow is a bit of an introvert.

TAFFETA	n. type of silk or silk-like fabric 'tafitə Origin: Persian tafta, 'twisted' Sentence: The bridesmaids' dresses were made from pink taffeta.
TAPIR	n. type of hooved mammal resembling a pig 'tāpe:r / 'tāpə Origin: Brazilian tapira Sentence: The tapir looks like a pig but is related to the rhinoceros and horse.
TATTERDEMALION	n. a person in ragged or tattered clothing; a ragamuffin/ adj. of or pertaining to such a person Origin: Unknown Sentence: That tatterdemalion is often seen begging at the traffic lights
TAUPE	adj. n. greyish brown colour 'tōp Origin: French taupe, 'mole' Sentence: Taupe was the colour he chose for the suit.
TAUTOLOGY	n. repetition esp. addition of unnecessary words taw'toləji Origin: Greek tauto, 'the same' Sentence: The speech was loaded with tautology.
TEETOTALLER	n. ones who does not take alcoholic drinks tē'tōtələ Origin: Reduplication of total Latin Sentence: Do not offer him alcohol; he's a teetotalter
TELEGRAPHY	n. science or practice of communicating by telegraph (signals transmitted by wire) ti'legrafi Origin: Greek Sentence: Some post offices will send urgent messages for customers by telegraphy.
TEMPERAMENT	n. person's distinct nature or character 'temp(ə)rəmənt Origin: Latin temperamentum, 'a mixing' Sentence: She tends to have a nervous temperament.
TEMPESTUOUS	adj. stormy; violent; passionate tem'pestūəs Origin: Latin tempestas, 'season, storm' Sentence: The boats were nearly overturned when caught in the tempestuous seas.

TERGIVERSATION	<p>n. the action of turning one's back on or forsaking something; desertion or abandonment of a cause or party</p> <p>Origin: Lat</p> <p>Sentence: The politician demonstrated his tergiversation by crossing the floor in parliament</p>
TERRAZZO	<p>n. type of smooth flooring material of stone and tə'ra:tsō concrete.</p> <p>Origin: Italian</p> <p>Sentence: Terrazzo is commonly used on floors in home and offices.</p>
TERRIGENOUS	<p>adj. produced by the earth or the land te'rijinəs</p> <p>Origin: Latin terrigenus, 'earth-born'</p> <p>Sentence: Much of the sediment at the bottom of the sea is terrigenous deposit from neighbouring lands.</p>
TESTACEOUS	<p>adj. (of shells or shellfish) having a hard continuous outer covering; brick-red colour te'stāshəs</p> <p>Origin: Latin testaceus, 'shell-covered'</p> <p>Sentence: Shellfish and turtle could be described as testaceous.</p>
TETHERED	<p>v. tied with a rope to restrict movement 'teθəd</p> <p>Origin: Norse tjothe</p> <p>Sentence: The donkey was tethered to the post to prevent it wandering about.</p>
TETRAHEDRONS	<p>n. four-sided figures whose sides are triangles; triangular pyramids tetrə'hēdrəns / tetrə'hedrəns</p> <p>Origin: Greek tetraedron, 'four-sided (thing)'</p> <p>Sentence: The pyramids of Egypt are tetrahedrons.</p>
THEODOLITE	<p>n. surveying instrument with rotating telescope θi'odəlīt</p> <p>Origin: Latin theodolitus</p> <p>Sentence: He needs his theodolite to survey the land.</p>
THERAPEUTIC	<p>adj. curative; relating to healing θerə'pūtik</p> <p>Origin: Greek therapeuein 'to take care of, heal'</p> <p>Sentence: He recovered completely after the therapeutic treatments.</p>
THESAURUS	<p>n. collection of words and phrases arranged according to sense; dictionary of synonyms θi'sawrəs</p>

Origin: Greek thesauros 'treasury'
Sentence: In a study of words a thesaurus is usually very useful.

THYROID n. large gland in the neck, regulating growth 'θīroyd
Origin: Greek thureos, 'oblong shield'
Sentence: The thyroid gland regulates a person's growth and development.

TINTINNABULATION n. the sound of a ringing or tinkling of bells
Origin: Lat
Sentence: Accompanied by a faint tintinnabulation of jewelry, he approached the front door

TITUBATION n. type of nervous condition causing unsteadiness titū'bāshən
Origin: Latin titubare, 'to totter'
Sentence: The neurologist said that he was suffering from titubation.

TONSILLECTOMY n. surgical removal of the tonsils tonsi'lektəmi
Origin: Latin tonsillae ('tonsils') + suffix ectomy ('surgical removal')
Sentence: Because of repeated problems with her tonsils, the patient consented to a tonsillectomy.

TOPONYMY n. the study of the place and names of a region to'ponimi
Origin: Greek topos ('place') + onoma ('name')
Sentence: He came as a tourist but was mostly engaged in toponymy wherever he went.

TORPEFY v. to make numb or torpid (sluggish, inactive) 'torpifi
Origin: Latin torpere, 'to numb'
Sentence: Read; think; explore; or you'll torpefy your mind!

TOUPEE or TOUPET n. small wig to cover a bald spot
Origin: French toupet, 'tuft of hair' 'toopā
Sentence: He wears a toupee covering his bald crown.

TOXICITY n. pertaining to amount of poison in a substance tok'sisiti
Origin: Greek toxikon, 'poison (for arrows)'
Sentence: The toxicity of that water makes it dangerous for drinking.

TRACASSERIE n. state of annoyance; fuss; petty quarrel trə'kas(ə)ri

Origin: French tracasser, 'bustle, fuss about'
Sentence: Let's get over this tracasserie and move on.

TRADUCIANISM n. Belief that the soul is inherited from the parents along with the body trə'dūshənizm trə'dūsianizm
Origin: Latin
Sentence: Traducianism is a theological belief

TRANSCENDS v. surpasses human reasoning; overcomes or surmounts tran'sendz / tra:n'sendz
Origin: Latin transcendere, 'to climb'
Sentence: Your kindness transcends all expectation.

TRIGAMOUS adj. having three wives or husbands at the same time; thrice married 'trigəməs
Origin: Greek trigamos / Prefix tri ('three') + suffixgamy ('marriage')
Sentence: In most Western countries it is illegal to be trigamous.

TRIPARTITE adj. relating to something shared by three parties trī'partīt
Origin: Latin tripartitus, 'in three parts'
Sentence: A tripartite agreement was made by the three countries.

TRIPTYQUE n. a custom permit serving as a passport for a motor vehicle trip'tēk
Origin: French triptych (the document originally had three parts)
Sentence: Modern export and landing papers have probably replaced the triptyque of former years.

TRITURATE v. to grind to a fine powder; masticate (chew) thoroughly; triturated substance 'tritūrāt
Origin: Latin triturare, 'thresh corn'
Sentence: You can triturate coffee beans in a mortar with pestle.

TROUBADOUR n. type of singer or poet especially on theme of love 'troobədɔr
Origin: French trobar, 'compose in verse'
Sentence: The early troubadour composed and sang songs about courtly love.

TROUSSEAU n. the clothes collected by a bride for her marriage 'troosō
Origin: French, trousseau ' little bundle'
Sentence: There are no stockings and gloves in this bride's trousseau.

TRUANCY n. absence from school or work, through idleness 'trooənsi

Origin: Welsh truan, 'a wretch, truant'
Sentence: Truancy has made you miss several school lessons.

TRUCULENT
adj. aggressively defiant; fierce; quarrelsome 'trûkûlânt
Origin: Latin truculentus (trux, 'fierce')
Sentence: He's normally calm and agreeable, not so truculent.

TRUMEAU
n. section of a wall or a pillar between two openings (e.g. a pillar dividing a large doorway) troo'mō
Origin: French
Sentence: A trumeau divides the wide doorway at the entrance.

TSUNAMIS
n. long high sea waves caused by underwater earthquake etc tsoo'na:miz
Origin: Japanese tsu ('harbour') +nami ('wave')
Sentence: Several tsunamis were experienced after the devastating earthquake.

TUBERCULOSIS
n. a disease caused by the tubercle bacillus bacteria and affecting especially the lungs tûberkû'lōsis
Origin: Latin tuberculum, 'small swelling'
Sentence: While he suffered from tuberculosis he coughed a lot.

TULLE
n. soft fine silk or net for veils and dresses etc 'tool / 'tûl
Origin: Named after Tulle, a town in France
Sentence: The bride's veil was made from white tulle.

TUMULTUOUS
adj. noisy and enthusiastic; uproarious; disorderly tû'mûltûæs
Origin: Latin tumultus, 'commotion'
Sentence: The football team returned home to a tumultuous welcome.

TURMERIC
n. yellow root (rhizome) of plant used as spice; curry etc made from this rhizome 'termærik
Origin: Latin terra merita, 'meritorious earth'
Sentence: Turmeric makes good curried chicken.

TUTELAGE
n. education; guardianship; tuition 'tûtîlij
Origin: Latin tutela, 'keeping'
Sentence: He benefited to a great extent from tutelage by his older brother.

TYPOGRAPHY
n. the art of printing; style and appearance of printed matter tî'pogræfi

Origin: French typographie (type +graphy)
Sentence: Professional printers are skilled in typography.

UBIQUITOUS

adj. present everywhere simultaneously; common
Origin: Latinubique, 'everywhere' ū'bikwitəs
Sentence: The ubiquitous air that we breathe consists of several gases.

UCHIMATA

n. an inner-thigh throw made with one's legs braced between those of one's opponent
Origin: Jap
Sentence: The wrestler got the better of his opponent with an uchimata, seconds before the end of the round

UKULELE or UKELELE

n. a small four-stringed Hawaiian guitar
Origin: Hawaiian ukulele, 'jumping flea' ūkə'lāli
Sentence: Tyrone plays the ukulele in the band.

UMBELLIFER

n. type of plant bearing umbels (kind of flower cluster) ūm'belifə
Origin: Latinumbella, 'sunshade'
Sentence: Parsley and parsnip are members of the umbellifer family.

UNABRIDGED

adj. (book, story, etc) complete, not shortened ūnə'brijd
Origin: O Fr
Sentence: I prefer the unabridged version of the book to the shortened form.

UNCONSCIONABLE

adj. not in accordance with what is right or reasonable/ adv. Excessively
Origin: Lat
Sentence: Leaving a small child unattended all day long is an unconscionable act

UNCOUTH

adj. uncultured; rough; crude ūn'kooθ
Origin: Old English uncuth, 'unknown'
Sentence: He apologized for his uncouth behaviour and promised to be more refined.

UNCTUOUS

adj. insincerely charming or unpleasantly flattering; oily, greasy 'ŭŋktūəs
Origin: Latin unctus, 'anointing'
Sentence: She's a good person but can be rather unctuous at times.

UNDULATION	n. a wavy movement or pattern; gentle rise and fall ûndû'lāshən Origin: Latin unda, 'a wave' Sentence: The undulation of the road caused the ride to be somewhat bumpy.
UNGUICULATE	adj. Having claws or nails Origin: Latin ûŋ'gwikûlət Sentence: Cats and dogs are unguiculate pets
URBANELY	adv. elegantly; sophisticatedly; with refinement er'bānli Origin: Latin urbanus, 'of the town' Sentence: He was urbanely dressed and had perfect manners.
URCEOLATE	adj. having the shape of a pitcher Origin: Lat Sentence: This vase is urceolate in shape
URETER	n. duct by which urine passes from kidney to bladder ū'rētə / 'uritə Origin: Greek ourein, 'to urinate' Sentence: The ureter carries urine from the kidney to the bladder.
URETHRA	n. duct by which urine is discharged from the bladder ū'rēθrə Origin: Greek ourein, 'to urinate' Sentence: The urethra carries the urine from the bladder to the external organ.
URTICARIA	n. a skin rash caused by an allergy; nettle-rash erti'ke:riə Origin: Latin urtica, 'nettle' Sentence: The doctor diagnosed the rash as an urticaria and gave the appropriate treatment
UTILITARIANISM	n. the doctrine that actions are right if they are useful or beneficial to the majority ūtili'te:riənizm Origin: Latin utilitas, 'utility, usefulness' Sentence: Utilitarianism is an old doctrine to which some people adhere.
UXORIOUS	adj. greatly or excessively fond of one's wife ûk'soariəs Origin: Latin uxor, 'wife' Sentence: An uxorious husband may be said to be 'madly in love' with his wife.

VACILLATE	v. to change opinions or decisions frequently; to waver 'vasilāt Origin: Latin vacillatus, 'swayed' Sentence: If you vacillate so much you will never make a choice.
VACUOUS	adj. empty or lacking expression; unintelligent 'vakūəs Origin: Latin vacuus, 'empty' Sentence: Instead of an answer, all we received was a vacuous stare.
VALEDICTORIAN	n. person who gives a valedictory (farewell speech) validik'tōriən Origin: Latin vale, 'farewell' + dicere, 'to say' Sentence: The graduating class is about to choose its valedictorian.
VALET	n. a man's personal attendant; hotel employee with similar duties 'valā / 'valit Origin: French vaslet, 'page, boy attendant' Sentence: At the hotel a valet came forward to park the car for us.
VALETUDINARIAN	n. sickly or weak person, who is constantly and morbidly concerned with his or her health Origin: Lat Sentence: She appeared to be spunky, but was in fact an utterly self-centered valetudinarian
VALISE	n. a kitbag; overnight bag or case vəl'lēz Origin: Italian valigia Sentence: For the short trip he packed a few items in his valise and left for the airport.
VANGUARD	n. person or group that leads the way; foremost part of an army etc 'vangard Origin: French avant-garde, 'advance guard' Sentence: Today the computer technologists are in the vanguard of society.
VARIEGATED	adj. marked with patches of different colours 've:rigātid / 've:riəgātid Origin: Latin variegates, 'made varied' Sentence: Some garden plants have variegated leaves of two or three colours.
VAUDEVILLE	n. a kind of entertainment on stage; a kind of song 'vawdəvil / 'vōdəvil Origin: Named after Vau de vire, birthplace of an early composer Sentence: The concert audience thoroughly enjoyed the vauderville put on as a special feature.

VEHEMENT	adj. showing strong feelings; forceful; ardent 'vēimənt Origin: Latin vehemens, 'eager' Sentence: They were vehement in their defence of their colleague.
VELLUM	n. fine quality writing paper (originally from calf skin) 'veləm Origin: French velin, related to veal (calf's flesh) Sentence: All her letters are written on delicate, scented vellum.
VELOUTE	n. White sauce made of chicken or fish stock, thickened with flour and butter və'looṫā Origin: French Sentence: The chef made a veloute that enhanced the delicate flavour of the chicken
VELUM	n. membrane covering; flap 'vələm Origin: Latin, velum, 'sail, covering' Sentence: The thin membrane covering a young mushroom is called a velum or veil.
VELVETEEN	n. cotton fabric that imitates velvet velvi'tēn Origin: Latin villus, 'shaggy hair' Sentence: If velvet is expensive, then velveteen will do.
VENDETTA	n. prolonged animosity, enmity, strife; revenge ven'detə Origin: Latin vindicare, 'to avenge, punish' Sentence: The vendetta between the two communities has ceased and they are now trying to be friends.
VENEER	n., v. thin covering of fine wood; deceptive outward appearance; to apply a veneer vi'ne:r Origin: French furnir, 'to furnish' (then forneer) Sentence: The furniture looks like mahogany but is really a veneer of mahogany over coarse pine.
VENTRILLOQUY	n. skill of speaking words so that they seem to come from elsewhere; ventriloquism ven'triləkwi Origin: Latin ventriloquus, 'ventriloquist' (venter ('belly') + loqui ('speak')) Sentence: In his act of ventriloquy, the ventriloquist spoke without moving his lips.
VENTRIPOTENT	adj. having a large abdomen; big-bellied; having a voracious appetite; gluttonous Origin: Lat Sentence: Surgery on a ventripotent patient can be very challenging

VERBATIM	<p>adv., adj. in exactly the same words; word-for-word ver'bātim Origin: Latin verbum, 'word'</p> <p>Sentence: The words of the witness were recorded verbatim so we can check back on exactly what he said.</p>
VERBIAGE	<p>n. useless words; too many unnecessary words 'verbiiġ Origin: French verbier, 'to chatter' Sentence: Please discard the verbiage and get to the point.</p>
VERDIGRIS	<p>n. basic copper acetate used as a paint pigment and fungicide Origin: Fr Sentence: Crystallized verdigris is used as a pesticide</p>
VERISIMILITUDE	<p>n. Appearance or semblance of being true or real Origin: Latin verisi'militūd Sentence: The play was entertaining, but lacked verisimilitude</p>
VERNACULAR	<p>n., adj. language or dialect of a particular country; related to one's native language və'nakŭlə Origin: Latin vernaculus, 'domestic, native' (literally 'belonging to a household slave) Sentence: We Jamaicans like to speak in the vernacular when we are with our friends.</p>
VERRUCA	<p>n. a kind of usually contagious wart or similar growth ve'rookə Origin: Latin verruca, 'wart' Sentence: A doctor can treat that verruca on the sole of your foot.</p>
VESPIARIES	<p>n. nests of wasps 'vespiəriz Origin: Latin vespa, 'wasp' Sentence: The exterminators are coming to remove those vespiaries and any wasps in them.</p>
VETERINARY	<p>adj., n. related to diseases and injuries of animals; veterinary surgeon 'vet(ə)nri / 'vet(ə)rinəri Origin: Latin veterinae, 'cattle' Sentence: A veterinary surgeon is the best person to treat an injured animal.</p>
VEXATIOUS	<p>adj. annoying; troublesome; distressing vek'sāshəs Origin: Latin vexare, 'to shake, disturb, annoy' Sentence: After many vexatious delays, the entertainment began two hours late.</p>

VEXILLOLOGY	n. study of flags Origin: Lat Sentence: His interest in vexillogy made him a collector of flags
VICARIOUS	adj. indirect, second-hand (experience, authority, etc) vi'ke:riəs / vī'ke:riəs Origin: Latin vicarious, 'substitute' Sentence: I can't go to the party but I will get vicarious pleasure from your going.
VICESIMAL	adj. related to the number 20, twentieth; reckoned in 20's Origin: Lat Sentence: This is our vicesimal wedding anniversary
VICISSITUDES	n. changing fortunes or circumstances; ups and downs vi'sisitūdz / vī'sisitūdz Origin: Latin vices, 'change' Sentence: Despite the vicissitudes in his life this year, he has managed to do reasonably well.
VIGNETTES	n. Short descriptive essays or character sketches; illustrations on title pages; certain photographs vē'nyets / vi'nyets Origin; French Sentence: The photographer had a delightful collection of vignettes
VIRAGO	n. a woman of masculine strength or spirit; domineering woman; fierce or abusive Origin: Lat Sentence: The higgler who was quarrelling in the market was behaving like a virago
VISCERAL	adj. Related to internal organs or to inward feelings Origin: Latin 'vis(ə)rəl Sentence: Her reaction was visceral; she knew something was wrong
VOCIFEROUS	adj. (person, speech, etc) noisy; insistently and forcibly expressing one's views vō'sif(ə)rəs / və'sif(ə)rəs Origin: Latin vociferates, 'carried by voice' Sentence: The staff made vociferous demands for improved working conditions.
VOLUPTUOUS	adj. related to sensuous pleasure; full-figured, attractive woman və'lûptūəs Origin: Latin voluptuosus, 'full of pleasure'

Sentence: The movement of the dancers was slow and voluptuous.

VOODOOIST	n. person who practises voodoo (certain magical beliefs and practices observed in some societies) 'voodooist' Origin: French. Dahomey vodu, 'voodoo' Sentence: In Haiti, it is not uncommon to come across a voodooist
VORACIOUS	adj. greedy; ravenous; very eager və'rāshəs Origin: Latin vorare, 'to devour' Sentence: Some animals have voracious appetites and should be fed well.
WAPITI	n. large North American deer Origin: Shawnee Indian 'wopiti Sentence: The wapiti is also called the American elk
WHEEDLE	v. coax by flattery; persuade by tempting 'wēdl Origin: Uncertain Sentence: He tried to wheedle us into going but we resisted the temptation.
WHIMSICAL	adj. odd, with strange ideas; casual; capricious 'wimzik(ə)l Origin: Uncertain Sentence: The whimsical visitor surprised us with his strange ideas and casual attitude.
WHIPPET	n. a dog of a small slender breed 'wipit Origin: Uncertain Sentence: A whippet is a swift dog that looks somewhat like a small greyhound.
WILDEBEEST	n. another name for the gnu, a type of antelope 'wildəbēst / 'vildəbēst Origin: Afrikaans wildebeest, 'wild beast' Sentence: The wildebeest is an antelope with a mane, a beard, and curved horns.
WISEACRE	n. person who assumes an air of knowing a lot 'wīzākə Origin: Dutchwijseggher, 'soothsayer, prophet' Sentence: Some wiseacre will soon come along with a mouthful of advice!
WITTICISM	n. witty or clever remark or comment 'witisizm

Origin: Old English wit(t), 'mind, thought, wit'
Sentence: He entertained the party all evening with his storytelling and witticism.

XANTHOCHROID adj. Having light complexion and light hair
Origin: Latin zan'thōkroyd
Sentence: Scandinavians have a xanthochroid appearance

XENOPHOBIA n. deep dislike or fear of foreigners or strangers zenə'fōbiə
Origin: Greek. Prefix xeno 'foreigner, other' + phobia 'fear, dislike of'
Sentence: People with xenophobia are unlikely to be good tourists.

XERODERMA n. disease showing dryness of skin zerō'dermə / ze:rō'dermə
Origin: Greek. Prefix xero, ('dry') + derma ('skin')
Sentence: The doctor diagnosed her skin condition to be xeroderma, and prescribed treatment.

XYLOPHONIST n. player of xylophone (musical instrument of metal bars struck with a wooden hammer) zɪ'lɒfənɪst
Origin: Prefix xylo ('wood') + phone ('sound instrument')
Sentence: The xylophonist satisfied the audience with melodious music.

YAKITORI n. dish consisting of small chicken pieces grilled on small skewers
Origin: Jap
Sentence: This restaurant serves yakitori with rice

YATAGHAN n. curved blade sword without a guard
Origin: Turk
Sentence: The yataghan is an old Turkish sword

YTTERBIUM n. soft silvery metallic element i'terbiəm
Origin: Named after Ytterby, a quarry in Sweden
Sentence: Ytterbium is one of the scarcest of the rare-earth elements.

YTTRIUM n. silver-grey metallic element 'itriəm
Origin: Named after Ytterby, a quarry in Sweden
Sentence: Yttrium is used in producing coloured television screens.

YUAN n. unit of currency in China ū'a:n

Origin: Chinese, meaning 'round thing'
Sentence: In China the chief monetary unit is the yuan.

YUCCA
n. a family of tropical plants with sword-like leaves 'yûkə
Origin: Carib yucca, 'cassava'
Sentence: Various species of yucca may be seen growing in many parts of Jamaica.

ZABAGLIONE
n. a kind of Italian dessert za:ba:'lyōni
Origin: Italian
Sentence: Zabaglione is made from egg yolks, sugar and wine whipped and heated.

ZEUGMA
n. a figure of speech in which a word is applied to two 'zūgmə or more others though strictly speaking it fits only one.
Origin: Middle English zeugma, 'yoking together'
Sentence: 'Clapping our hands and hearts' is an example of zeugma.

ZIGGURAT
n. a pyramid-like temple in ancient Mesopotamia 'zigurat
Origin: Assyrian ziqquratu, 'mountain top, pinnacle'
Sentence: The ziggurat of ancient Mesopotamia was a temple with many storeys tapering upward.

ZUCCHETTO
n. the skullcap worn by a Roman Catholic priest
Origin: Ital
Sentence: The Cardinal wears a red zucchetto

ZUCCHINI
n. a kind of dark green squash zu'kēni
Origin: Italian zucca, 'gourd'
Sentence: The zucchini is a member of the squash family to which cucumbers belong.

ZUGWANG
n. in chess, an obligation to move in one's turn even if this is disadvantageous
Origin: Ger
Sentence: He was up against a zugzwang, and checkmate was inevitable

ZWIEBACK
n. kind of biscuit rusk or sweet cake toasted in slices
Origin: Ger
Sentence: A zwieback with a cup of coffee is all I need

ZYGAENA

n. a hammerhead shark

Origin: Gk

Sentence: The marine biologists are studying the eating habits of the zygaena

ZYGOMYCETOUS

adj. capable of sexual reproduction by fusion of specialized organs containing gametes or asexual reproduction by means of non-motile spores

Origin: Gk

Sentence: In the lab, the scientist isolated a zygomycetous strain of fungus

