

 Hear the words for this Unit pronounced, defined, and used in sentences at [www.vocabularyworkshop.com](http://www.vocabularyworkshop.com).

Note carefully the spelling, pronunciation, part(s) of speech, and definition(s) of each of the following words. Then write the word in the blank space(s) in the illustrative sentence(s) following. Finally, study the lists of synonyms and antonyms given at the end of each entry.

**Definitions**

**1. accrue**  
(ə krü')

(v.) to grow or accumulate over time; to happen as a natural result  
We allowed the interest to \_\_\_\_\_ on the account until it turned into a small fortune.

SYNONYMS: collect, accumulate, proceed from  
ANTONYMS: dwindle, decrease, diminish, lessen

**2. annotation**  
(an ə tā' shən)

(n.) a critical or explanatory note or comment, especially for a literary work  
Laurence Stern's novel *Tristram Shandy* has almost as many \_\_\_\_\_ as lines of text.

**3. bedlam**  
(bed' ləm)

(n.) a state or scene of uproar and confusion  
Is this the same band that caused mob scenes and virtual \_\_\_\_\_ on their first tour?

SYNONYMS: commotion, pandemonium, chaos, anarchy  
ANTONYMS: peace and quiet, order, tranquility

**4. covert**  
(kō' vert)

(adj.) hidden, disguised, purposefully kept secret; sheltered, secluded; (n.) a sheltered place, a hiding place  
Napoleon was an expert at making \_\_\_\_\_ preparations to attack unsuspecting opponents.

The bear made a lunge from her \_\_\_\_\_ before we realized she was nearby.  
SYNONYMS: (adj.) undercover, clandestine, sub-rosa  
ANTONYMS: (adj.) open, overt, undisguised

**5. debonair**  
(deb ə nâr')

(adj.) pleasant, courteous, lighthearted; smooth and polished in manner and appearance  
Quite a few \_\_\_\_\_ young men asked my cousin to dance.

SYNONYMS: carefree, jaunty, gracious, suave, urbane  
ANTONYMS: distraught, agitated, boorish, churlish

**6. dun**  
(dən)

(v.) to demand insistently, especially in payment of a debt; (n.) a creditor; (adj.) dark, dull, drab, dingy  
Many of Charles Dickens' characters are \_\_\_\_\_ by creditors because of their large debts.

SYNONYMS: (v.) hound, pester, harass, nag

**7. efficacious**  
(ef ə kə' shəs)

(*adj.*) effective, producing results  
Not the most charming of senators, he nevertheless wielded the most \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge of statecraft.  
SYNONYMS: effectual, efficient, potent, powerful  
ANTONYMS: ineffective, worthless, useless

**8. equanimity**  
(ek wə nīm' ə tē)

(*n.*) calmness, composure, refusal to panic  
Injustice always sent him into a rage, but he could endure misfortune with \_\_\_\_\_  
SYNONYMS: tranquility, imperturbability  
ANTONYMS: excitability, flappability, agitation

**9. fortuitous**  
(fōr tū' ə təs)

(*adj.*) accidental, occurring by a happy chance  
Due to a \_\_\_\_\_ drop in oil prices, the shipping company showed healthy profits for the year.  
SYNONYMS: unintentional, unplanned, random, lucky  
ANTONYMS: intentional, deliberate, premeditated

**10. gist**  
(jɪst)

(*n.*) the essential part, main point, or essence  
Would the talented fellow who keeps the back row in stitches please repeat the \_\_\_\_\_ of what I said?  
SYNONYMS: substance, core, nucleus

**11. gratuitous**  
(grə tū' ə təs)

(*adj.*) freely given; not called for by circumstances, unwarranted  
Though she had hoped to leave the lecture early, several members of the audience asked questions, delaying her by an hour.  
SYNONYMS: voluntary, unjustified, uncalled-for  
ANTONYMS: justified, warranted

**2. imperious**  
(ɪm pɪr' ə əs)

(*adj.*) overbearing, arrogant; seeking to dominate; pressing, compelling  
The Wizard of Oz's \_\_\_\_\_ manne failed him when he revealed himself as a fussy little man behind a curtain.  
SYNONYMS: domineering, magisterial, urgent, imperative  
ANTONYMS: fawning, obsequious, humble, unassuming

**inveictive**  
(ɪn vek' tɪv)

(*n.*) a strong denunciation or condemnation; abusive language  
(*adj.*) abusive, vituperative  
It was his usual hail of \_\_\_\_\_ a son of furious, harmless shower that left the air a bit clearer.  
As \_\_\_\_\_ speeches go, this one displayed originality, vigor, and, here and there, some wit.  
ANTONYMS: (n.) tribute, panegyric, encomium



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**14. motley**  
(mət' lē)

(*adj.*) showing great variety; composed of different elements or many colors; (*n.*) a jester's costume; a jester  
Tall and short, thick and thin, old and young, we share the family name but are a \_\_\_\_\_ bunch indeed.  
To "put on \_\_\_\_\_" is to say what only a king's jester would dare to say.  
SYNONYMS: (adj.) variegated, heterogeneous, diverse; (*n.*) fool  
ANTONYMS: (adj.) uniform, homogenous, monochromatic

**15. munificent**  
(myū nɪf' ə sənt)

(*adj.*) extremely generous, lavish  
Nothing the volunteers said could save the program until our anonymous friend donated a \_\_\_\_\_ sum.  
SYNONYMS: bounteous, liberal  
ANTONYMS: stingy, miserly, tightfisted, parsimonious

**16. procrastinate**  
(prə kras' tə nət)

(*v.*) to delay, put off until later  
We all want to \_\_\_\_\_ when a task is no fun, but some people make delaying a way of life.  
SYNONYMS: stall, temporize, dillydally

**17. provocative**  
(prə vək' ə tɪv)

(*adj.*) tending to produce a strong feeling or response; arousing desire or appetite; irritating, annoying  
The ideas discussed in the film were so \_\_\_\_\_ that I thought about them long after I left the theater.  
SYNONYMS: stimulating, arousing, vexing, galling  
ANTONYMS: dull, insipid, bland, unstimulating

**18. recondite**  
(rek' ən dɪt)

(*adj.*) exceeding ordinary knowledge and understanding even for people who are well versed in the sciences.  
SYNONYMS: esoteric, arcane, profound, abstruse  
ANTONYMS: simple, uncomplicated

**19. reprobate**  
(rep' rə bāt)

(*n.*) a depraved, vicious, or unprincipled person, scoundrel; (*adj.*) wicked, corrupt, or unprincipled; (*v.*) to disapprove of, condemn  
\_\_\_\_\_ are usually more charming, funny, or thrilling in fiction than they are in life.  
SYNONYMS: (n.) scoundrel, blackguard; (*adj.*) immoral, corrupt  
ANTONYMS: (n.) saint; (*adj.*) upright, virtuous, moral

**20. sedentary**  
(sed' ən ter ə)

(*adj.*) characterized by or calling for continued sitting, remaining in one place  
She exchanged her \_\_\_\_\_ job for a position as a swimming instructor.  
SYNONYMS: seated, stationary, static  
ANTONYMS: active, peripatetic, itinerant