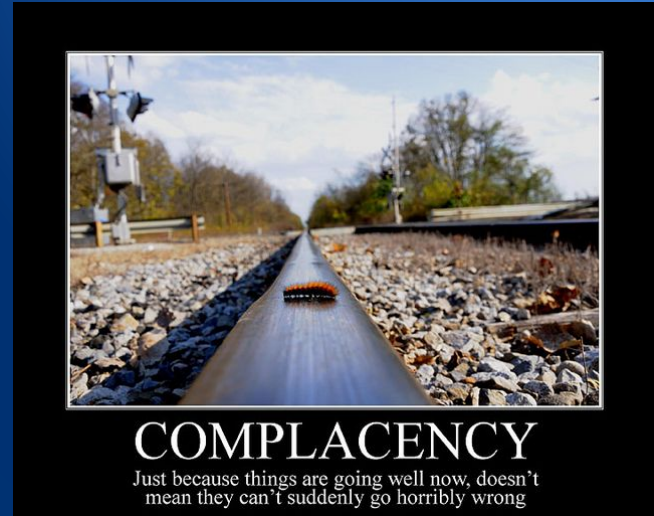


Complacency

(Kum play sen see)

Self-satisfaction; smugness



Complacency among employees is a problem sometimes faced by managers of successful companies

Coalesce (koh uh les)

Combine; fuse



To work together successfully, military units must **coalesce** to become a group of like-minded individuals

Charlatan

(shar luh tun)

a quack;
pretender to
knowledge



A charlatan sold me a watch worth \$5 for \$50

Censure

(sen sher)

blame;
criticize



The U.S. Senate can vote to censure members whose conduct is improper.

Compliance

readiness to yield;
conformity

(kum ply uns)



General Rogers did not expect every soldier to support his commands enthusiastically; however, he did expect their compliance.

Capricious

(kuh prish us)

unpredictable;
fickle



My cat is a **capricious** eater; everyday she wants something different to eat.

Compile

assemble; gather;
accumulate

(kum pile)



Newspapers **compile** information from many sources in order to give readers a wide view of what is happening in the world.

Colloquial

(kuh low kwee ul)

pertaining to conversational
or common speech



Colloquial words and expressions should not be used in formal English.

Eclectic

(ih klek tik)

composed of elements
drawn from diverse
sources.



Lionel has an **eclectic** collection of model trains from all over the world.

Elated

(ee lay ted)

overjoyed;
in high spirits

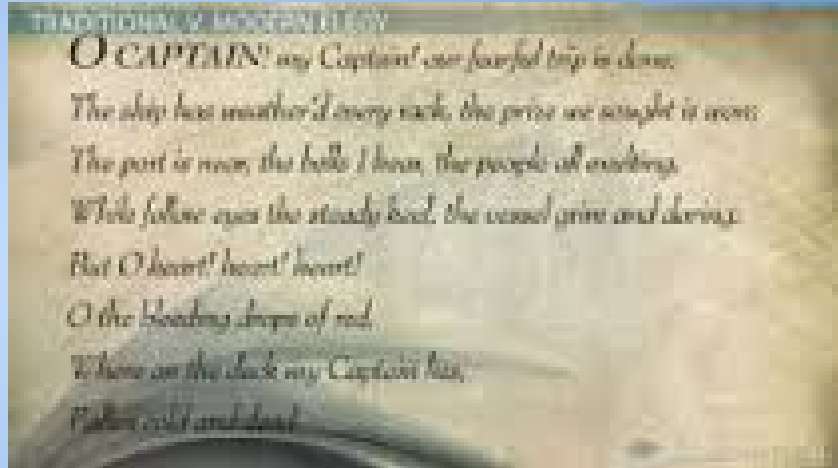


The new author was **elated** to see her first book in print.

Elegy

(el uh jee)

a poem or song
expressing
lamentation



Deeply saddened by the death of his young son, the poet Ben Johnson wrote an **elegy** to him.

Elusive

(ih loo ziv)

hard to grasp



Evidence for the existence of life on other planets has proved **elusive**.

Embellish

(em bel ish)

adorn; ornament;
add fictitious
detail



A True Fish Tale

Two Thai fishermen show a 646 pd giant catfish they caught from the Mekong River in northern Thailand on June 11. It was believed to have been the world's largest freshwater fish ever caught.

(Suthep Kritsanavarin, HO/AP)

A journalist should not **embellish** a story to make it more interesting to a reader.

Emulate

(em yuh layt)

imitate



Jim's mother wanted her son to **emulate** his father Jumbo Jim in every way, except for his tendency to overeat.

Enmity

(en mih tee)

ill will;
hatred

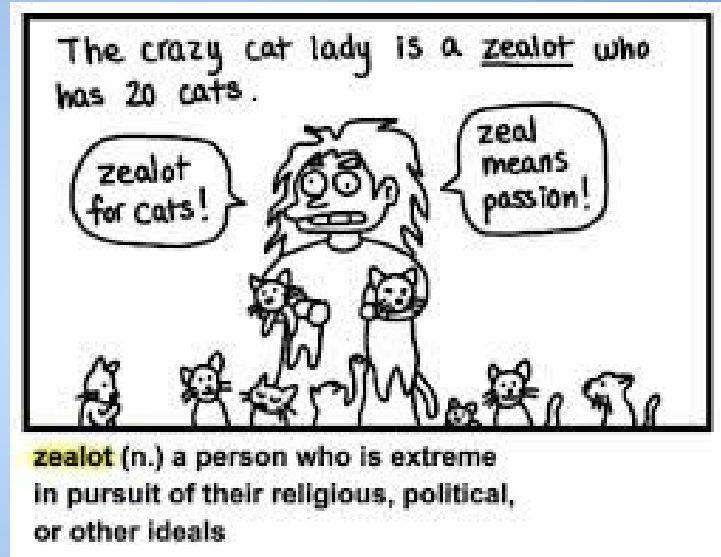


The Civil War caused great enmity between North and South that persists in some forms to this day.

Zealot

Fanatic; person who shows excessive zeal

(zel ut)



Uncle Rick could be regarded as a zealot when it comes to supporting his political party.

Whimsical

(hwim zih kul)

capricious;
fanciful

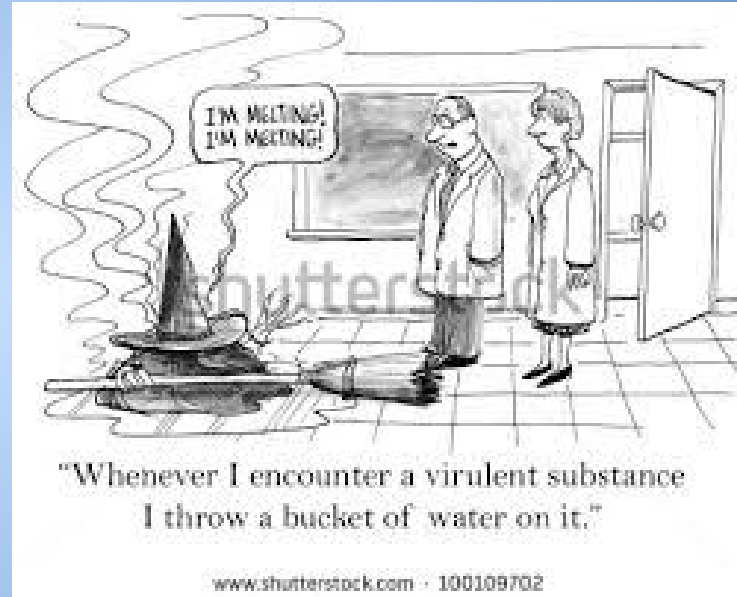


The movie *The Wizard Of Oz* displays a whimsical sense of humor that appeals to both children and adults.

Virulent

(veer yuh lunt)

extremely poisonous;
hostile; bitter



The virulent computer virus spread very rapidly around the world through the World Wide Web.

Virtuoso

(vur choo oh so)

highly skilled
artist



Jimi Hendrix was a guitar virtuoso who developed a new style of playing that still influences musicians today.

Viabile

(vi uh bul)

practical or workable;
capable of
maintaining life



Engineers are working to create a viable alternative to petroleum-driven cars that would cause less pollution.

Exemplary

serving as a model;
outstanding

(ig zem pluh ree)



The town council voted to recognize Mr. Stylinsons thirty years of exemplary service as town clerk with a special ceremony

Explicit

totally clear;
definite

(ik splis it)



The explicit meaning of the poem is clear, but is deeper, implied meaning is much more difficult to understand.

Extricate

(ek strih kayt)

free;
disentangle



Many countries are reluctant to commit troops in a foreign country because it is often difficult to extricate them.

Exuberance

joyful enthusiasm;
overflowing abundance

(ig zoo bur uns)



Pat could hardly contain her exuberance after she saw her score on the SAT; it meant she would be accepted at the college she always wanted to attend.

Rant

rave; talk excitedly;
scold; make a grand
speech

(rant)



The principal ranted for an hour at the assembly about the poor behavior of the students.

Ramble

(ram bul)

wander aimlessly



The teacher told Stan that his essay rambled too much.

Ravenous

(rav uh nus)

extremely hungry



After her one-week diet of nothing but vegetables, fruit, and rice Kim was ravenous.

Raze

destroy
completely

(rayz)



The hotel was razed so that an office building could be built on the site

Affable

(af uh bul)

easily approachable;
warmly friendly



The student was such an affable child, well-liked by the teachers and her peers.

Aggregate

total

(ag rih git)



The aggregate strength of the various branches of the U.S. armed services is immense.

Alleviate

relieve

(uh lee vee ayt)

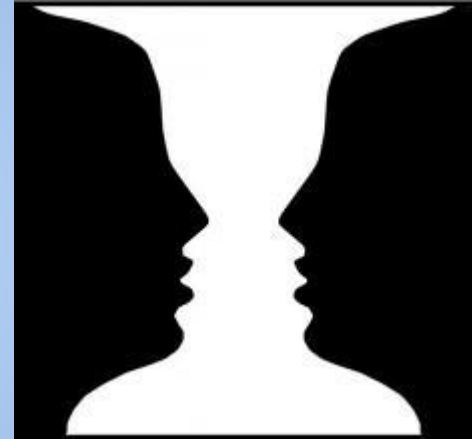


The United Nations is working to alleviate poverty in the world.

Ambiguous

(am big yoo us)

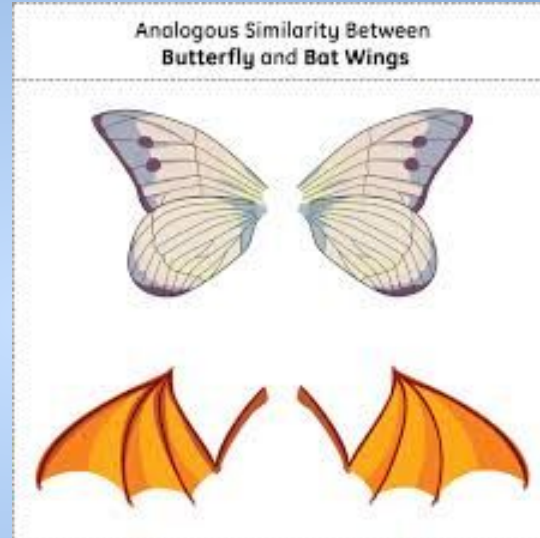
unclear or doubtful in
meaning



When writing an essay, try to avoid making ambiguous statements.

Analogous comparable

(uh nal uh gus)



The heart of an animal is analogous to a pump.

Saturate

(sach ur rayt)

soak thoroughly.

It's so humid that when I go jogging my shirt becomes saturated very quickly.



Scrutinize

(skroot in ize)

examine closely and
critically.



The computer programmer scrutinized the program that she had written to see if there were any errors in it.

Dissent

disagree

(dih sent)



Courage is often required for a person to dissent from the opinion of the majority.

Divergent

varying; going in different directions from the same point

(dih vur junt)



Chris and Sandra took **divergent** approaches to solving the equation, but both arrived at the correct answer.

Deride

ridicule;
make fun of

(dih ride)



Deride (v.) ridicule; make fun of; mock

When I am a parent, I will not **deride** my children and make them feel worthless.

Diligence

steadiness of effort;
persistent hard work

(dihl uh juns)



Learning a foreign language requires **diligence**.

Disdain

scorn;
unworthy of respect

(dis dayne)

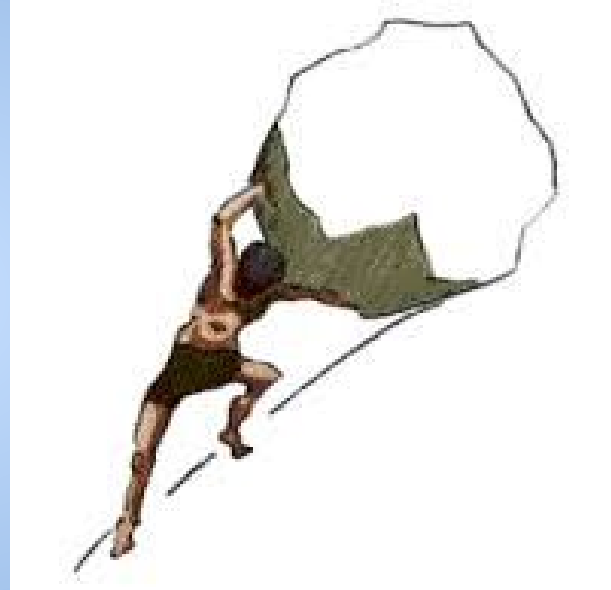


I have great **disdain** for for people who are dishonest.

Tenacity

firmness;
persistence

(tuh nas ih tee)



If you have enough **tenacity**, you can learn all 50 vocabulary words from this list.

Tirade

extended scolding;
a long, angry speech
of criticism or
accusation

(tie rayd)



Mr. Galmish is normally soft spoken, but once in a while he will launch into a **tirade**.

Turmoil

(tur moil)

great commotion and
confusion



Adolescence is often thought of as a time of emotional
turmoil.

Undermine

weaken or damage;
sap

(un dur mine)



You are not to **undermine** your parents' authority by disobeying.

Uniformity

sameness;
monotony

(yoo nuh form uh tee)

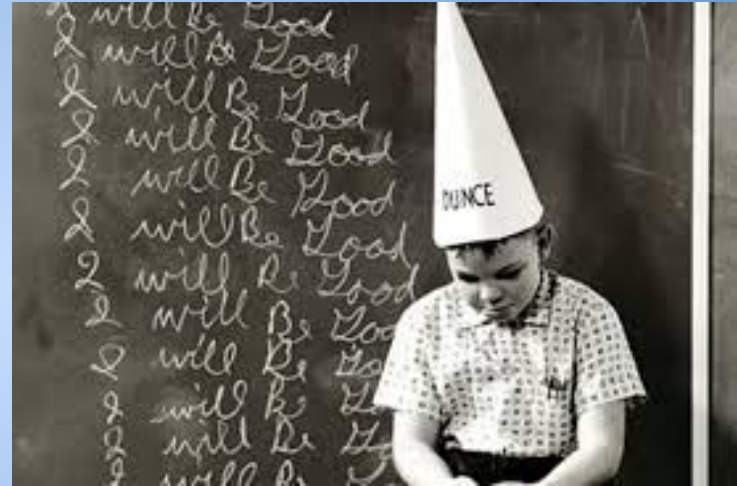


Some schools have a strict dress code in order to create uniformity.

Unwarranted

unjustified;
groundless;
undeserved

(un war un tid)



The assumption that any tall person can be a good basketball player is **unwarranted**.

Pacifist

one opposed to force;
antimilitarist

(pass uh fist)

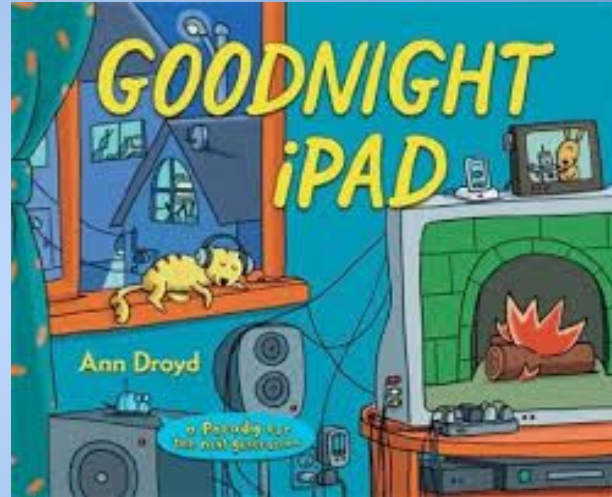


A group of pacifists protested peacefully against the war.

Parody

humorous imitation;
spoon; takeoff;
travesty

(par uh dee)

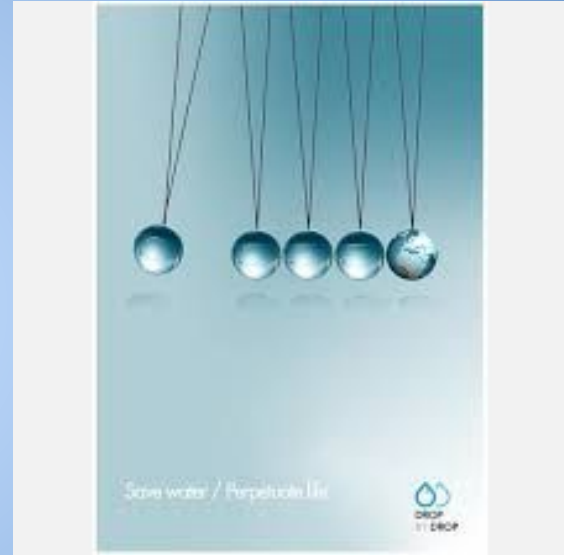


Our English teacher asked us to write a **parody** of a scene from Romeo and Juliet.

Perpetuate

make something last;
preserve from
extinction

(pur pech oo ayt)



The bully did everything he could to **perpetuate** the myth that no one could beat him up.

Proliferation

rapid growth;
spread;
multiplication

There is a proliferation of weeds on my front lawn and it is making me cry.

(pruh lif uh ray shun)

