

Chapter One

absolve (ăb-zōlv')	-to find innocent or blameless Having insufficient evidence of his guilt, the jury had to absolve Mr. Melman of the murder.
adamant (ăd' ə -mənt)	-not giving in; stubborn Ron is adamant about not changing plans. He insists we still camp out even though the weather report now says it will be cold and rainy.
amiable (ā' mē-ə-bəl)	-good-natured; friendly and pleasant My amiable dog greets both strangers and old friends with a happy yip and energetic tail-wagging.
amoral (ā-mōr' əl)	-lacking a moral sense; without principles Jerry is almost totally amoral . He cares only about making money and having fun and couldn't care less about right or wrong.
animosity (ăn' ə-mōs' ə-tē)	-bitter hostility I was shocked when Sandy said she hated Lionel. I'd never realized she felt such animosity towards him.
antagonist (ăn-tăg' ə-nīst)	-an opponent; one who opposes or competes At the divorce hearing, the husband and wife were such bitter antagonists that it was hard to believe they had once loved each other.
eccentric (ĭk-sēn' trĭk)	-differing from what is customary; odd Florence Nightingale, the famous nursing reformer, had the eccentric habit of carrying a pet owl around in one of her pockets.
encounter (ĕn-koun' tər)	-a brief or an unexpected meeting My encounter with matt in an LA supermarket surprised me, since I thought he still lived in Chicago.
epitome (ĭ-pĭt' ə-mē)	-a perfect or typical example of a general quality or type To many, the epitome of cuteness is a furry, round-eyed puppy.
malign (mə' lĭn)	-to make evil and often untrue statements about; speak evil of Stacy refuses to malign her ex-husband, even though he was the one who insisted on the divorce.

Chapter Two

curt (kûrt)	-rudely brief when speaking to someone The fast-food manager trained workers to give polite, full answers to customers, not curt responses.
demoralize (dĭ-mōr' ə-lĭz')	-to lower the spirits of; weaken the confidence or cheerfulness of Cara's refusal to date my brother demoralized him to the point that for months he lacked the confidence to ask another woman out.
dilemma (dĭ-lēm' ə)	-a situation requiring a difficult choice In old romantic movies, the heroine's dilemma often involves choosing between a rich boyfriend and the poor man she really loves.

inclination -a tendency to think, act, or behave in a certain way
(ĩn-klə-nā' shən) My **inclination** is to major in nursing, but I'm going to speak to a few nurses before I make my final decision.

irate -very angry
(ī-rāt') If Kate got angry only occasionally, I could take her more seriously, but she's always **irate** about something or other.

retort -to reply, especially, in a quick, sharp, or witty way
(rī-tōrt') "What do you want?" the young woman asked Dracula. "Only to drink in you charms," he **retorted**.

sabotage -to deliberately destroy or damage
(sāb' ə-tōzh') Terrorist groups train their members to **sabotage** airports and other public places.

subsequent -following, in order or time; next; later
(sūb' sī-kwənt') The first time Janet drove on a highway, she was terrified, but on **subsequent** trips, she felt more relaxed.

wary -cautious; on one's guard
(wār' ē) I'm a little **wary** of people who, when they first meet me, treat me as if I'm their best friend.

zeal -enthusiastic devotion; intense enthusiasm
(zēl) Beth attacked her food with such **zeal** that I thought that she hadn't eaten for a week!

Chapter Three

acclaim -great praise or applause; enthusiastic approval
(ə-klām') Any subway system that is clean, quiet, and safe deserves **acclaim**.

adjacent -close; near (to something)
(ə-jā' sənt) Since their desks were **adjacent**, Jeff and Kellie often exchanged looks and comments.

elicit -to draw forth
(ī-līs' ĩt) Elizabeth Taylor's violet eyes always **elicit** admiration and wonder.

engross -to hold the full attention of; absorb
(ēn' grōs') The suspenseful TV movie so **engrossed** Bryan that he didn't even budge when he was called for dinner.

escalate -to increase or intensify
(ēs' kə-lāt') The fight between the two hockey players **escalated** into an all-out battle among members of both teams.

exploit -to use selfishly or unethically; take unfair advantage of
(ēks-ploit') At the turn of the century, factory owners **exploited** children by making them work in terrible conditions for as many as eighteen hours a day.

methodical -orderly; systematic
(mə-thōd' ĩ-kəl) A **methodical** way to store spices is to shelve them in alphabetic order.

obsolete -no longer in use or practice; out of date
(ōb' sə-lēt') Computers are so common now that they have made typewriters almost **obsolete**.

tangible -able to be touched; having form and matter
(tǎn' jə-bəl) The sculptor loved making her ideas **tangible** by giving them form in metal and stone.

terminate -to stop; to bring to an end
(tûr' mə-nāt) As the clock's hands inched toward 3:06, the students waited impatiently for the bell to **terminate** the last class before spring vacation.

Chapter Four

deterrent -something that discourages or prevents a certain action
(dī-tûr' ənt) As a **deterrent** to burglars, my father put a sign on our lawn that says, "Beware of pit bull."

implication -an idea that is communicated indirectly, through a suggestion or hint
(ĩm-plĩ-kā' shən) When the boss said that the company profits were down, the **implication** was that nobody would be getting a raise.

inequity -an injustice; unfairness; an instance of injustice
(ĩn-ĕk' wīt-ē) Most Americans consider it an **inequity** that some millionaires pay less in taxes than ordinary citizens do.

infirmary -a physical weakness or defect; ailment
(ĩn-fûr' mə-tē) Rick used a wheelchair, but he doesn't let his **infirmary** keep him from traveling.

infringe -to intrude or trespass on; to go beyond the limits considered proper
(ĩn-frĩnj') When my mother is doing her homework, no one is allowed to **infringe** on her quiet time.

innovation -a new custom, method, or invention; something newly introduced
(ĩn-ə -vā' shən) When commercial bakers first offered sliced bread, it was considered an exciting **innovation**.

revitalized -to renew the strength and energy of; restore to a vigorous, active condition
(rē-vīt' əl-īz') When Darcy is tired after work, he finds a brief nap **revitalizes** him for an evening out with friends.

sparse -distributed thinly; not thick or crowded
(spārs) There are thick pine forests at the foot of the mountain, but higher up, the trees become **sparse**.

subjective -based on personal opinions, feelings, and attitudes; not objective
(səb-jĕk' tīv) Mary, a highly **subjective** judge of her son's abilities, feels he's brilliant in every respect. They boy's father, however, has a less emotional view of him.

succinct -expressed clearly in a few words; to the point; concise
(sək-sĩngkt') Your telegram should be **succinct** so that you get your message across clearly without paying for more words than necessary.

Chapter Five

allusion -an indirect reference
(ə-lōō' zhən) Ray didn't have the courage to come right out and ask Lucy to marry him. Instead, he made only an **allusion** to marriage by asking, "Wouldn't it be easier if we had to fill out just one tax form?"

altruistic -unselfishly concerned for the welfare of others; unselfish
(ăl' trōō -īs' tĩk) "I'm not often **altruistic**," Ashton admitted. "I usually put my own welfare first."

- appease** (ə-pēz') -to calm; especially by giving in to the demands of
My sister was so outraged when I accidentally scratched her favorite old Beatles record that nothing I could say or do would **appease** her.
- arbitrary** (är' bī-trēr' ē) -determined by personal judgement, not by rule or reason; based on impulse
Professor Miller's students were angry that he graded essays in an **arbitrary** way, rather than using clear-cut standards.
- assail** (ə-sāl') -to attack physically or verbally
The storm **assailed** us with hail and heavy rain.
- banal** (bā-nāl') -lacking originality; over used; commonplace
The film, with its overused expressions and unimaginative plot, was the most **banal** I had ever seen.
- euphemism** (yōō' fə-mīz' əm) -a mild or vague term used as a substitute for one considered offensive or unpleasant
The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is on record as having referred to assassinations with the **euphemism** "change of health."
- mercenary** (mûr' sə-nēr' ē) -motivated only by financial gain; greedy
Ed is totally **mercenary**. His philosophy is, "Pay me enough, and I'll do anything."
- syndrome** (sīn' drōm) -a group of symptoms typical of a particular disease or condition
Jet lag is a **syndrome** resulting from flying long distances; it often includes exhaustion, headache, and loss of appetite.
- taint** (tānt) -to stain the honor of a someone or something
The involvement of organized crime has **tainted** many sports, including boxing and horse racing.

Chapter 6

Prefix / Suffix / Base Word	Meaning	Words
auto-	-self	automobile autohypnosis
ex-	-out, from	exhale export
-ful	-full of	delightful fearful
multi-	-many	multilingual multiracial
pre-	-before	predetermined previews
re-	-again	reheated resold
super-	-above, greater	superstar superintendent
un-	-not	unusual unaware
uni-	-one	unit unison
vis, vid	-see	visual video