General Words

Junior General Level 1

bear
(say bair)
noun a large heavy animal with short rough hair and a very short tail:
A bear can be very dangerous.

black
(say blak)
adjective completely dark, or without colour and brightness:
I have a new pair of black shoes.

brolga
(say bro-l-guh)
noun a large silvery-grey bird with long legs, which is known for its dancing:
The brolga is a native Australian bird.

chess
(say chess)
noun a game played by two people, each with sixteen pieces, on a board marked with squares:
Liam likes playing chess.

cloud
(say klowd)
noun a white or grey mass of water vapour, ice, smoke or dust that floats in the air:
There was a big dark cloud in the sky, so we knew there was a storm coming.

creek
(say kreek)
noun a small river:
We like to catch tadpoles in the creek.

doctor
(say dok-tuh)
noun someone who has learned about diseases and treats sick people:
I went to the doctor because my stomach was sore.

enjoy
(say en-joy)
verb If you enjoy something, you get pleasure from it:
I enjoy science fiction films.

farmer
(say fah-muh)
noun A farmer is someone who works on a farm, growing plants and keeping animals for food:
My father wants to leave the city and become a farmer.

flood
(say flud)
noun a big overflowing of water, especially over land that is usually dry:
Weeks of heavy rain had caused a flood, and the main street was now under water.

forest
(say fo-ruhst)
noun land thickly covered with trees:
The firefighters stopped the blaze reaching the pine forest.
garden
(say gah-duhn)
noun an area, usually with trees and plants, used for pleasure and as a place to relax:
They were sent outside to play in the garden.

label
(say lay-buhl)
noun a piece of paper or material put on something to show what it is, who owns it, or where it is going:
I lost my bag because it didn't have a label.

letter
(say let-uh)
noun a message in writing or printing, addressed to a person or group:
She received a letter from her friend in Vietnam.

lion
(say luy-uhn)
noun a large, honey-coloured member of the cat family, living in Africa and southern Asia:
The lion was sunning itself on a rock.

loud
(say lowd)
adjective noisy and able to be heard very clearly:
The TV's too loud -- please turn it down.

meat
(say meet)
noun the flesh of animals when used for food:
Some people do not like meat and only eat vegetables.

milk
(say milk)
noun the white liquid produced by female mammals to feed their young. The milk of the cow and some other animals is used as food for humans:
All our new baby sister drinks is milk.

monster
(say mon-stuh)
noun someone or something that is frighteningly cruel:
The monster in the film was extremely scary.

moss
(say moss)
noun a plant with very small leaves that grows in patches on rather wet ground, tree trunks or rocks:
We slipped on the moss growing on the rocks.

night
(say nuyt)
noun Night is the time of darkness after the sun sets and before it rises again:
Some animals sleep through the day and go looking for food at night.

pain
(say payn)
noun a feeling of suffering or hurt:
The pain in his leg made walking difficult.
party
(say pah-tee)
noun a social gathering, often to celebrate something:
I'm having a birthday party next week.

pray
(say pray)
verb If you pray, you talk to the god that you believe in, often to ask for help or to be forgiven for something that you have done wrong:
I pray every night before I go to bed.

price
(say pruys)
noun the amount of money for which something is bought or sold:
Everything in the shop had its price written on it.

rash
(say rash)
noun red, itchy spots or patches on the skin:
He wasn't supposed to scratch his rash even though it was really itchy.

river
(say riv-uh)
noun a natural body of water that flows over the land in a long winding path:
We paddled our canoes along the river.

rock
(say rok)
noun a large mass of stone:
Kim and Sally sat on a flat rock and ate lunch.

royal
(say roy-uhl)
adjective having to do with a king or queen:
People were excited by the royal wedding.

sale
(say sayl)
noun the act of selling:
This house is not for sale.

shake
(say shayk)
verb If you shake something, you move it sharply backwards and forwards or up and down:
Shake the bottle before taking the medicine.

sheep
(say sheep)
noun an animal which is kept for its meat and thick wool:
The dog managed to get the flock into the pen except for one stubborn sheep.

shine
(say shuyn)
verb If you shine a light somewhere, you point or direct it there in order to see something:
If you shine the torch in here we might be able to find the key.
shoe
(say shooh)
noun a covering, usually made of leather, for your foot:
My shoe has a hole in it and now my foot is wet.

silver
(say sil-vuh)
noun a shiny grey metal used for making things like jewellery:
My new ring is made of silver.

skill
(say skil)
noun the ability to do something well:
She has many talents, but her great skill is singing.

sleep
(say sleep)
verb To sleep is to rest with your eyes closed and your mind unconscious:
She always felt better if she could sleep through the whole night without waking.

slug
(say slug)
noun a creature like a snail but without a shell:
I squealed when I stepped on a slug -- the slug didn't like it much, either.

space
(say spayce)
noun the continuous openness which exists outside the earth's atmosphere:
A rocket was used to launch a satellite into space.

spine
(say spuyn)
noun the column of bones in the back:
Mum has hurt her spine and has to rest until it is better.

stone
(say stohn)
noun the hard substance which rocks are made of:
The cold stone was good to lean against in the heat.

storm
(say stawm)
noun a violent change in the weather bringing wind, rain, thunder and lightning:
The storm suddenly hit and we all raced for cover.

surf
(say serf)
noun the waves which break along the shore:
Let's go down to the surf and catch some waves.

tact
(say takt)
noun a sense of the right time to do or say something:
He had the tact to leave her alone when she heard the news.

target
(say tah-guht)
noun A target is something that you aim at and try to hit or reach:
She hit the target with the ball and won a prize.
thorn  
*(say thawn)*  
noun a sharp-pointed prickle on the stem of a plant:  
*She ripped her dress on the rose thorn.*

**timber**  
*(say tim-buh)*  
noun Timber is wood which has been cut into pieces so that it can be used to build things:  
*The builder said the timber would be delivered the next day.*

trail  
*(say trayl)*  
noun a path or track, usually through the bush:  
*If you stay on the trail, you won't get lost.*

twig  
*(say twig)*  
noun a small, thin branch of a tree:  
*When we were camping, we used a twig to stir our tea.*

wild  
*(say wuyld)*  
*adjective* If an animal or plant is **wild**, it is living or growing in a natural state without humans taking care of it:  
*There are wild mushrooms growing in the paddock.*
Junior General Level 2

abet
(say uh-bet)
verb to help or encourage in committing something, usually something bad:
The children were wrong to aid and abet each other in the deception.

abide
(say uh-buyd)
verb If you abide by something, you accept it:
If you enter the contest, you have to abide by the rules.

absent
(say ab-suhtn)
adjective not in a certain place at a given time:
Dimitri is absent from school today because he's sick.

account
(say uh-kownt)
noun a story telling the important things that have happened:
The police wanted us to give an account of everything we had seen.

acorn
(say ay-kawn)
noun a nut with a cup-shaped bottom part, which grows on an oak tree:
The squirrel was munching on an acorn.

actual
(say ak-chooh-uhl)
adjective real or true:
The character in the film was based on an actual person.

adorn
(say uh-dawn)
verb to increase the beauty of something by decorating it:
We used tinsel instead of lights to adorn our Christmas tree.

advise
(say uhd-vuyz)
verb If you advise someone to do something, you tell them what you think they should do:
Can you advise me on what to buy him as a present?

afraid
(say uh-frayd)
adjective If you are afraid, you feel frightened:
Ellie was afraid when she heard the strange noises outside.

against
(say uh-genst or uh-gaynst)
preposition in contact or leaning upon:
He leant the piece of wood against the wall.

alien
(say ay-lee-uhn)
noun in science fiction, a being from outer space:
In the book I am reading an alien flies to Earth in a spaceship.
amaze
(say uh-mayz)
verb to surprise someone a lot:
It would amaze my friends if I changed the colour of my hair to green.

ambush
(say am-boosh)
verb to hide and wait for someone so as to attack them by surprise:
The bushrangers were waiting in the hills to ambush the coach.

ankle
(say ang-kuhl)
noun the part of your body where your foot joins your leg:
I tripped over a branch and sprained my ankle.

anthem
(say an-thuhm)
noun An anthem is a song that you sing at important times or events:
Australia's national anthem is 'Advance Australia Fair'.

apricot
(say ay-pree-kot or ay-pruh-kot)
noun a small, round, juicy fruit:
I always find it hard to tell the difference between an apricot and a peach.

argue
(say ah-gyoooh)
verb If you argue with someone about something, you say things, often in an angry way, which show that you disagree with them:
The two brothers would argue for hours over who had first go on the trampoline.

astound
(say uh-stownd)
verb to overwhelm with amazement:
The actors hoped to astound their audiences with their new interpretation of the play.

attic
(say at-ik)
noun a room or a space directly under the roof of a building:
We stored our old furniture in the attic.

awful
(say aw-fuhl)
adjective very bad or unpleasant:
It took weeks to clean up the awful mess left by the flood.

bamboo
(say bam-booh)
noun a woody plant whose stem is sometimes used for making furniture:
We have a chair on our balcony made from bamboo.

bashful
(say bash-fuhl)
adjective very modest or shy:
Don't be bashful -- tell them about your award.

beetroot
(say beet-rooht)
noun the dark red root of the beet plant which is eaten as a vegetable:
I hate it when they put beetroot in my hamburger.
beneath
(say buh-neeth)
adverb below, or underneath:
Martha hid beneath the table in a game of hide and seek.

bilby
(say bil-bee)
noun a type of bandicoot. It is an animal currently rated as vulnerable rather than endangered:
The bilby is quite different in appearance from other types of bandicoot.

blanket
(say blang-kuht)
noun a large piece of soft woollen or cotton material, used as a bed covering:
She wrapped herself in a blanket in front of the TV.

bloat-ed
(say bloh-tuhd)
adjective swollen:
I always feel bloat-ed after Christmas lunch because I eat too much.

blossom
(say bloss-uhm)
noun the flower of a plant, especially of a fruit tree:
The blossom of an orange tree smells really sweet.

bounce
(say bownce)
verb If you bounce a ball, you throw it against a surface to make it spring back towards you:
I'll bounce the ball against the wall, and you can catch it when it comes back.

breakfast
(say brek-fuhst)
noun the first meal of the day:
Shane has two bowls of cereal for breakfast.

breathe
(say breedh)
verb to take in and give out air:
While we were hiding we had to breathe very quietly.

brought
(say brawt)
verb the past form of the word bring:
It was a crazy day when we all brought our pets to school!

burgl-e
(say ber-guhl)
verb to perform a burglary in:
The bandits devised a plan to burgl-e the jewellery shop.

burrow
(say bu-roh)
noun a hole in the ground dug by an animal, to live and shelter in:
The wombat sleeps in a burrow during the day.

cabin
(say kab-uhm)
noun a small house:
The old man lived in a cabin in the bush.
canal
(say kuh-nal)
noun an artificial river made for boats to travel along:
The farmers used the canal to send their produce to market.

canyon
(say kan-yuhn)
noun a deep valley with steep sides:
Everything at the bottom of the canyon looks very small.

captain
(say kap-tuhn)
noun someone who is in charge of a sporting team:
Max was chosen as the captain of our cricket team.

caption
(say kap-shuhn)
noun the words written underneath a picture to describe or explain it:
The people in the photo are named in the caption.

cardigan
(say kah-dig-uhn)
noun a knitted jacket with buttons down the front:
It was starting to get cold so I put on my cardigan.

career
(say kuh-rear)
noun the job or profession in which you earn your living:
My sister wants a career in television.

cashew
(say kash-ooh)
noun a small, kidney-shaped nut that you can eat:
The cashew comes from a tree native to South America.

chafe
(say chayf)
verb to wear down or make sore by rubbing:
The bandage began to chafe against his wound so he took it off.

charcoal
(say chah-kohl)
noun partly burnt wood, which can be used for drawing:
We drew pictures with sticks of charcoal in our art class.

cheep
(say cheep)
verb A chicken cheeps when it makes weak, high sounds:
We could hear the baby bird cheep until its mother returned.

civil
(say siv-uhl)
adjective polite or courteous, although perhaps not particularly friendly:
She's not overly friendly, but she's always been perfectly civil to me.

climate
(say kluy-muht)
noun the usual weather of a particular place:
The climate in Australia is generally quite warm and sunny.
cockroach
   (say kok-rohch)
   noun an insect, usually active at night, with a flattened body and long feelers, which is a common household pest:
   Marie was horrified to see a big, black cockroach crawling up her leg!

cocoon
   (say kuh-coohn)
   noun the silky covering spun by the larvae of many insects:
   We found a cocoon hanging from some leaves.

collar
   (say kol-uh)
   noun the part of a piece of clothing that is worn around your neck:
   Jack did up his collar and put his tie on.

combat
   (say kom-bat)
   noun the fighting that takes place between opposing armies:
   The soldiers were locked in combat.

compost
   (say kom-post)
   noun a mixture of things like vegetable scraps and leaves, left to rot and then used to fertilise the soil:
   We dug some compost into the ground before we planted our vegetable garden.

convict
   (say kon-vikt)
   noun in the past, a person transported to the British colonies to serve out a prison sentence:
   The life of a convict in Port Arthur was very hard.

cotton
   (say kot-uhn)
   noun a light material made from the soft, white hairs covering the seeds of the cotton plant:
   Clothes made of cotton are comfortable to wear when it is very hot.

country
   (say kun-tree)
   noun a large area of land occupied by people organised under a single government:
   Australia is a country, and so is Fiji.

courage
   (say ku-rij)
   noun the strength a person has inside them to do something they find frightening:
   She showed great courage when she saved the child from the fire.

crooked
   (say krook-uhd)
   adjective If something is crooked, it is not straight:
   Vicky lent against the crooked fence.

curd
   (say kerd)
   noun a jelly-like substance formed in milk which has been treated with an acid, eaten fresh or used for making cheese:
   We learned how to make cheese from curd produced from goats' milk.
curtain
(say ker-tuhn)
noun a piece of material hanging from a rod over a window:
Let's pull the curtain back so some light can come in.

cutlet
(say kut-luht)
noun a small cut of meat, usually lamb or veal, that contains a rib:
I quickly took the last lamb cutlet from the barbecue.

dazzle
(say daz-ulhl)
verb If a light dazzles you, it shines in your eyes and stops you from seeing properly:
Bright headlights often dazzle me.

debt
(say det)
noun anything that you owe someone else:
He has paid back all his loans and does not have a single debt.

denim
(say den-uhm)
noun a heavy cotton material used to make jeans and other clothes:
The invitation stressed that you should not wear denim.

desert
(say dez-uht)
noun a sandy or stony place without enough rainfall to grow many plants:
It very rarely rains in the desert.

devoid
(say duh-voyd)
adj adjective If something is devoid of something, it is without it:
The park was completely devoid of trees.

dollop
(say dol-uhp)
noun a shapeless lump; a blob:
She put a dollop of cream on her scone.

dormant
(say daw-muhnt)
adj adjective not active:
This volcano has been dormant for 800 years.

doubt
(say dowt)
noun a feeling of uncertainty or suspicion:
There is some doubt about her ability to finish the job.

druid
(say drooh-uhd)
noun one of an order of priests among the ancient Celts of Gaul, Britain, and Ireland:
A druid was one of an ancient order of Celtic priests, about which very little is known.

earnest
(say er-nuhst)
adj adjective serious or sincere:
Is she earnest about wanting to play the violin?
elephant
(say el-uh-fuhnt)
noun a very large animal of Africa or India, with a thick grey skin, a long trunk which can grasp and carry things, and long curved tusks:
We went to the zoo especially to see the new African elephant.
elevator
(say el-uh-vay-tuh)
noun An elevator is something shaped like a large box for carrying people up and down inside tall buildings:
Let's catch the elevator -- it's quicker than walking up the stairs.
embellish
(say em-bel-ish)
verb To embellish something is to make it beautiful by decorating it:
They used precious jewels to embellish the crown.
emblem
(say em-bluhm)
noun a badge or something that serves as a sign or symbol:
The floral emblem of New South Wales is the waratah.
emerald
(say em-ruhld)
noun a valuable, bright green jewel:
The ring featured a single, brilliant emerald.
empire
(say em-puy-uh)
noun a group of countries ruled by an emperor or other powerful sovereign or government:
The British Empire was once very large.
empty
(say emp-tee)
adjective If something is empty, it doesn't contain anything:
In the morning she wheeled the empty garbage bin back into the yard.
encounter
(say en-kown-tuh)
verb If you encounter someone, you meet them:
I had not expected to encounter an old friend such a long way from home.
engross
(say en-grohs)
verb to occupy the mind or attention of completely:
That book will engross you for days.
enough
(say uh-nuf)
adjective If something is enough, it is all you need:
Is there enough milk for breakfast?
eraser
(say uh-rayz-uh or ee-rayz-uh)
noun An eraser is a small piece of soft rubber used to rub out pencil marks:
I have made a mistake. I need an eraser.
excess
(say ek-ses or uhk-ses)
noun an amount that is more than what is necessary or usual:
*We have an excess of eggs, so please take some.*

expiry
(say ek-spuy-ree)
noun a coming to an end:
*He intends to retire at the expiry of his present contract.*

family
(say fam-uh-lee)
noun parents and their children:
*Our family went for a holiday to the snow last year.*

fashion
(say fash-uhn)
noun a style of dressing:
*She always wears the latest fashion.*

feature
(say fee-chuh)
noun any part of your face:
*His nose is his best feature.*

federal
(say fed-uh-ruhl or fed-ruhl)
adjective relating to a union of states under a central government:
*He is a journalist who writes about federal politics.*

fever
(say fee-vuh)
noun an unusually high body temperature caused by illness:
*She had a fever for three days and had to stay at home.*

flea
(say flee)
noun a small wingless insect which moves by jumping and which sucks blood from animals:
*A bite from a flea can make you very itchy.*

flicker
(say flik-uh)
verb If a flame *flickers*, it burns unsteadily:
*The wind made the candle flicker.*

flora
(say flaw-ruh)
noun the plants of a particular area:
*The flora of Australia includes the wattle tree.*

flour
(say flow-uh)
noun a fine powder made from rice, wheat, or other grain and used in cooking:
*Dad bought some flour to make pancakes.*

fluent
(say flooh-uhnt)
adjective flowing smoothly and easily:
*She speaks fluent French after living in Paris for a year.*
fossil
(say foss-uhl)
noun the remains of an animal or plant from long ago, preserved in rock:
We found a fossil of a fern leaf in a cave.
fountain
(say fown-tuhn)
noun a decorated structure with flowing water, often situated in a public place:
We had lunch beside the fountain in the park.
frantic
(say fran-tik)
adjective wild with fear, worry, pain or excitement:
We were frantic when we couldn't find our dog for two days.
frail
(say frawd)
noun deliberate cheating or trickery:
The accountant was charged with fraud after cheating his clients out of their money.
frequent
(say free-kwuhnt)
adjective happening often:
The charity makes frequent appeals for donations.
fright
(say fruyt)
noun a sudden feeling of fear or shock:
The sudden noise gave us a fright.
garbage
(say gah-bij)
noun rubbish or waste material:
We picked up the garbage and put it in the bin.
garment
(say gah-muhnt)
noun a piece of clothing, such as a dress, shirt or coat:
He was wearing a very peculiar garment of purple and green satin.
gecko
(say gek-oh)
noun a small lizard which is active at night, with special pads on its toes which help it stick to things:
We shone a torch up the tree and spotted a gecko high up the trunk.
ghost
(say gohst)
noun the spirit of someone who has died, imagined as visiting living people:
My friend reckons he has seen a ghost but I don't believe him.
giraffe
(say juh-rahf)
noun an African animal with spots, a very long neck and long legs:
A giraffe can reach the leaves that other animals can't.
graham
(say gram-uh)
noun the parts of a language, such as sounds and words, and the way they are combined into phrases and sentences:
It's good to know about grammar when you study a foreign language.
grotto
(say gro-toh)
noun a cave:
The scuba diver took his mask off when he surfaced inside the grotto.

handful
(say hand-full)
noun as much or as many as the hand can contain:
Billy picked up a handful of peanuts as he walked out of the kitchen.

hazard
(say haz-uhd)
noun a risk or danger:
The hole in the footpath is a hazard for pedestrians.

health
(say helth)
noun the general state of your body:
Eating fresh fruit and vegetables is a necessity for good health.

helmet
(say hel-muht)
noun a special hat that protects your head:
You must wear a helmet when you ride a bike.

highlight
(say huy-luyt)
noun the best, brightest or most outstanding part:
The magician's act was the highlight of the party.

history
(say his-tree)
noun the events which have happened in the past, or the study of these events:
We are studying the history of Japan this term.

holiday
(say hol-uh-day)
noun a day's break from work or school, usually to celebrate or remember an important event:
We have a public holiday to celebrate New Year.

injure
(say in-juh)
verb If something injures you, it causes you some harm:
Falling off your bike without a helmet can injure you badly.

instead
(say in-sted)
adverb in place of someone or something else:
Instead of bouncing off the wall, the ball went straight through the window.

iron
(say uy-uhn)
noun a type of metal used in making tools, machinery and other things:
The railing around the old house was made of iron, and was very rusty.

island
(say uy-luhnd)
noun a piece of land completely surrounded by water:
We rowed out to the island in the middle of the lake.
jetty
(say jet-ee)
*noun* a long structure, sticking out into a river or the sea, that boats or ships can be tied to:
_We sat on the jetty and tried to catch some fish for dinner._

journey
(say jer-nee)
*noun* the act of travelling between two places:
_A driver on a long journey should stop every two hours._

jungle
(say jung-guhl)
*noun* the thick trees and plants which grow in warm, slightly wet, tropical conditions:
_Monkeys love living in the jungle because they can swing on the vines._

justice
(say jus-tuhs)
*noun* the quality of being just and fair:
_It is important to uphold justice in a society._

kennel
(say ken-uhl)
*noun* A *kennel* is a small building for keeping a dog warm and dry:
_The kennel was full of all the things Rover had collected during the past week._

kingdom
(say king-duhm)
*noun* a country or government ruled over by a king or queen:
_The knights of Camelot defended their kingdom valiantly._

kiosk
(say kee-osk)
*noun* a small shop or stall which sells food and drink:
_After our swim we walked up the beach to buy some drinks at the kiosk._

koala
(say koh-ah-luh)
*noun* a furry, grey, Australian marsupial without a tail, which lives and feeds in certain types of gum trees:
_Lots of people think that the koala is a bear, but it isn't._

lagoon
(say luh-goohn)
*noun* a shallow pool of water, often separated from the sea by a bank of sand or a reef:
_The sea was too rough so we swam in the lagoon._

lance
(say lans or lahns)
*noun* a long spear:
_The knight lowered his lance when he charged at his opponent._

laundry
(say lawn-dree)
*noun* a room in a house for washing clothes:
_He took his wet football clothes straight to the laundry._

lava
(say lah-vuh)
*noun* the hot liquid rock which comes out of a volcano:
_Rivers of lava poured down the side of the mountain._
leather

(say ledh-uh)
noun the skin of animals prepared by tanning, used to make such things as shoes and bags:
My sister is very proud of her new red leather boots.

leech

(say leech)
noun a small worm that sucks the blood of humans or animals:
We made the leech let go by putting salt on it.

legend

(say lej-uhnd)
noun a story that comes from long ago in the past and which is thought by many people to be at least partly true:
Many people know of the legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table.

lethal

(say lee-thuhl)
adjective Something lethal causes death:
The venom of the funnel-web spider can be lethal.

limb

(say lim)
noun a person's arm or leg, or a similar part of an animal's body, such as a wing:
In our first aid lessons, we learned how to treat a broken limb until a doctor arrives.

lizard

(say liz-uhd)
noun a reptile with a long body, four legs and a tail:
The lizard was lying in the sun to warm itself up for the day.

loyal

(say loy-uhl)
adjective Someone is loyal when they do not change in their friendship, support or love for someone or something:
A dog is a loyal companion.

maggot

(say mag-uht)
noun the small, white grub which turns into a fly or other similar insect, often found on decaying flesh or food:
Pablo threw his apple away when he found a maggot in it.

mammal

(say mam-uhl)
noun an animal whose young feeds on its mother's milk:
A whale is a mammal which lives in the sea.

mangrove

(say mang-grohv)
noun an area where trees grow on mudflats:
The mangrove area of the Murray River supports a huge diversity of plant and animal life.

marine

(say muh-reen)
adjective having to do with the sea:
The ocean is full of many kinds of marine life.
mattress
(say mat-ruhs)
noun a case filled with soft material, often reinforced with springs, used as a bed:
I need a bigger bed and mattress now that I'm a teenager.

memory
(say mem-ree or mem-uh-ree)
noun something that you remember:
His memory of his first day at school was a happy one.

mildew
(say mil-dyoooh)
noun a coating or growth which appears on slightly wet cloth, leather, etc.:
My shoes are covered in mildew after this damp weather.

mirror
(say mi-ruh)
noun glass that has been treated so that you can see yourself reflected in it:
Dad glanced in the mirror to make sure his tie was straight.

mulch
(say mulch)
noun plant material such as grass clippings and leaves, spread on gardens to protect
and feed the plants:
Jim spread mulch around his new seedlings.

neither
(say nuy-dhuh or nee-dhuh)
adjective not one nor the other:
Neither colour suits me -- I look awful in both orange and purple.

nervous
(say ner-vuhs)
adjective worried or frightened, especially about something that is going to happen:
He was very nervous about the speech he had to give.

nuzzle
(say nuz-uhl)
verb To nuzzle someone or something is to touch or rub them with the nose:
The dog nuzzled its rescuer with its big, wet nose.

office
(say off-uhs)
noun rank or duty:
She takes the responsibilities of her office very seriously.

onion
(say un-yuhn)
noun a white vegetable with a white, brown or purple skin and a strong smell and
taste, used in cooking:
He chopped up an onion and put it on the barbecue.

opinion
(say uh-pin-yuhn)
noun what you think or decide:
In my opinion, we should have more sport at school.

orchard
(say aw-chuhd)
noun a farm where fruit trees are grown:
The orchard was full of apple trees.
organ
(say aw-guhn)
noun a part of the body which has a particular job, such as the heart which pumps blood or the liver which makes bile:
The doctors were worried that he had damaged a major organ in the accident.

painful
(say payn-fuhl)
adjective If something is painful, it hurts:
My arm was very painful when it was broken.

parcel
(say pah-suhl)
noun a package or wrapped bundle of goods:
He was carrying a large brown parcel which he had picked up from the post office.

pardon
(say pah-duhn)
noun forgiveness, especially for a crime:
The prisoner received a pardon for his crimes.

pasture
(say pahs-chuh)
noun land suitable for cattle or sheep to graze on:
The land near the river is good pasture for the cattle.

patient
(say pay-shuhnt)
noun someone who is being treated by a doctor or is in a hospital:
The doctor had to check on one last patient before he could leave for the night.

peanut
(say pee-nut)
noun a small nut which ripens in a pod underground and which you can eat:
Some people have a bad reaction when they eat a peanut.

pheasant
(say fez-uhnt)
noun a kind of large, long-tailed bird, often eaten as food:
Pheasant is a popular item on menus in Europe.

piece
(say peece)
noun a bit or part of something:
Who would like a piece of cake?

pillow
(say pil-oh)
noun a bag filled with soft material to rest your head on when you are in bed:
When I sleep over at a friend's place, I always take my own pillow.

pirate
(say puy-ruht)
noun someone who attacks and robs ships at sea:
The pirate swung onto the deck, brandishing a sword.

pizza
(say peet-suh)
noun a thin dough base covered with tomato, olives, grated cheese or similar savoury foods and baked in an oven:
We bought a pizza with lots of garlic and mushrooms.
plait
(say plat)
verb To plait hair is to wind three or more strands of it together:
Will you plait my hair for me?

possum
(say poss-uhm)
noun an Australian marsupial that lives in trees, has a long tail for climbing and is active at night:
There was a possum in the tree outside my bedroom window last night.

practical
(say prak-tik-uhl)
adjective If something is practical, it has to do with actually doing things, rather than with ideas:
Part of learning to be a teacher is gaining practical experience in front of a class of students.

probably
(say prob-uhb-lee)
adverb If you say that something will probably happen, you mean it is likely or that you expect it to happen:
The traffic is so bad that we will probably be late.

promise
(say prom-uhhs)
noun an announcement or statement that you will do, or keep from doing something:
If you make a promise, it is very important that you keep it.

puny
(say pyooh-nee)
adjective of little importance:
He made a few puny attempts at helping and then disappeared.

pursue
(say puh-syooh)
verb to follow someone or something in order to catch them:
The police had to pursue the thieves through the streets.

python
(say puy-thuhn)
noun a large snake which crushes its prey but is not venomous:
I like visiting the python at the zoo, but I wouldn't want to meet one anywhere else!

qualm
(say kwahm)
noun a slightly guilty feeling:
We were left to clean up, so we didn't have a qualm about finishing off the cake as well.

quota
(say kwoh-tuh)
noun the part or share of something which is due to someone:
You've eaten your quota of biscuits, so leave the rest for the others.

reindeer
(say rayn-dear)
noun a kind of deer with large antlers:
The reindeer lives in the cold northern areas of the world.
reptile
(say rep-tuyl)

noun a cold-blooded animal that lays eggs, such as a lizard or snake:

Because a reptile is cold-blooded, it needs to lie in the sun to warm up.

review
(say ruh-vyoooh)

noun an article which describes and gives an opinion of something, such as a book or film:

The review was so good that we're going to see the film.

rissole
(say riss-ohl)

noun a fried ball or small cake of chopped up food:

I had a cold tuna rissole for lunch.

route
(say rooht)

noun a way or road from one place to another:

We weren't sure of the route to the zoo so we asked the way.

rural
(say rooh-ruhl)

adjective having to do with the country or with farming:

Now that my cousins have moved to a country town, they love rural life, and they don't miss the city at all.

salami
(say suh-lah-mee)

noun a kind of sausage with a strong salty taste:

It will be a simple picnic of bread and salami.

salmon
(say sam-uhn)

noun a large fish with pink flesh:

The salmon returns from the ocean to breed in rivers.

sausage
(say soss-ij)

noun finely chopped up meat packed into a thin skin:

She put another sausage on the barbecue.

scandal
(say skan-duhl)

noun an event that shocks people because they think it involves wrong behaviour:

The bribery scandal threatened to bring down the government.

scheme
(say skeem)

noun a plan of action:

The children worked out a scheme for raising money.

sermon
(say ser-muhn)

noun a serious talk, usually one preached in church:

Yesterday's sermon was about loving your neighbour.

several
(say sev-ruhl)

adjective not many, but more than two:

After several attempts he gave up.
shearer
(say shear-ruh)
noun someone who shears sheep:
Each shearer had to shear eighty sheep a day.

shoulder
(say shohl-duh)
noun the part of the body that joins the neck to the arm:
Her shoulder was sore after carrying the heavy bag all day.

shovel
(say shuv-uhl)
noun a tool with a wide, flat metal part on a long wooden handle, used for moving material such as sand and soil:
Dad used a shovel to move the pile of dirt.

sinew
(say sin-yooh)
noun a cord of strong tissue joining a muscle to a bone:
She strained a sinew in her knee playing netball.

skipper
(say skip-uh)
noun the captain of a team or of a ship:
The skipper of the cricket team gave the squad an encouraging talk at lunchtime.

sleeve
(say sleev)
noun the part of a piece of clothing that covers the arm:
In art, I spilt red paint all over the sleeve of my white shirt.

sneeze
(say sneez)
verb When you sneeze, air blows noisily out of your mouth and nose:
Hiding quietly behind the chair, I had a terrible urge to sneeze.

spinach
(say spin-ich)
noun a plant with large green leaves which are eaten as a vegetable:
I don't like spinach very much but I do like other green vegetables.

sponge
(say spunj)
noun a material with lots of holes for soaking up liquid, used especially for wiping and cleaning:
He wiped down the table with a damp sponge.

squirm
(say skwerm)
verb If you squirm, you wriggle, often because you feel uncomfortable or embarrassed about something:
We started to squirm with embarrassment when we realised how silly we had been.

squirt
(say skwert)
verb If you squirt a liquid, you make it come out of a small hole in a thin, fast stream:
If you squeeze the bottle, the shampoo will squirt out.
statue
(say stach-ooh)
noun an image of a person or animal made out of stone, wood or bronze:
There is a statue of Banjo Paterson in the park.

strait
(say strayt)
noun a narrow strip of water connecting two large bodies of water:
The island was separated from the mainland by a strait which was used by many ships.

suburb
(say sub-erb)
noun an area of a city with its own shopping centre, school and other facilities:
I was lucky that my best friend lived in the neighbouring suburb.

survey
(say ser-vay or ser-vay)
verb If someone surveys an area of land, they measure it in order to draw a map of it that shows things such as the location of its boundaries:
Before we could build our new house we had to get an expert to survey the land.

sweaty
(say swet-ee)
adjective covered with perspiration:
Mark was very sweaty because he had run all the way home.

tadpole
(say tad-pohl)
noun A tadpole is a baby frog or toad. It has a round body and a tail and it lives in water. As it gets bigger it grows legs and is able to leave the water:
I think the biggest tadpole in the fish pond will turn into a frog today or tomorrow.

taint
(say taynt)
verb To taint is to spoil slightly:
Wine makers have to ensure that too many overpowering flavours do not taint their wine.

tangy
(say tang-ee)
adjective having a sharp flavour or smell:
The lemon cake had a nice tangy flavour.

tantrum
(say tan-truhm)
noun a childish fit of temper or anger:
He throws a tantrum whenever he doesn't get his own way.

tarnish
(say tar-nish)
verb (of metal) to lose shine and become stained:
Eventually all silver will tarnish and will need polishing.

tassel
(say tass-uhl)
noun a bunch of silk, or other threads, to make something look pretty:
There was a tassel at each end of the belt of her robe.
temple
(say tem-puhl)
noun A temple is a special place where people worship a god or gods:
The young Buddhist monk showed us around the temple.

tempt
(say tempt)
verb If you tempt someone, you try to make them do something:
Don't tempt me into going to the movies, as I've got too much work to do.

tendon
(say ten-duhn)
noun a cord of strong tissue joining a muscle to a bone:
It was his first tournament since severing the tendon in his ankle.

tendril
(say ten-druhl)
noun a twisted, thread-like part, as of a climbing plant:
A tendril from the vine was twisting around the pillar.

tense
(say tens)
adjective If you are tense, you are worried and nervous about something:
The team felt very tense before they went onto the field.

terminate
(say ter-muh-nayt)
verb To terminate something is to bring it to an end:
They had to terminate the show because it was losing money.

termite
(say ter-muyt)
noun A termite is a white insect that eats wood and which can destroy houses:
Once mature, the queen termite can produce up to 2000 eggs a day!

thaw
(say thaw)
verb to become soft or liquid:
Mum had to thaw the meat before she could cook it.

thief
(say theef)
noun someone who steals:
Oh no! A thief has taken my bag!

thimble
(say thim-buhl)
noun a protective cover for the top of the finger, usually metal, and worn to stop the
needle pricking your finger when you are sewing:
I use a thimble when I sew so I don't prick my finger.

throat
(say throht)
noun the part of your body that leads from your mouth to your stomach and lungs:
When I was sick I had a very sore throat.

tiara
(say tee-ah-ruh)
noun a piece of jewellery that looks like a tiny crown:
She wore a diamond tiara in her hair.
timid
(say tim-uhd)
**adjective** If you are timid, you are easily frightened:
*She was so timid that she never said anything in class.*

tinsel
(say tin-suhl)
**noun** shiny coloured strips which glitter and are made for decoration:
*They decorated the tree with red and gold tinsel.*
tofu
(say toh-fooh)
**noun** a food made from white soya beans:
*This curry has tofu instead of meat.*
tongue
(say tung)
**noun** the muscle in your mouth that helps in eating food and shaping the sounds of speech:
*Our drama teacher told us how important the tongue is in forming different sounds with our voices.*
tonsil
(say ton-suhl)
**noun** either of the two lumps inside the back of your throat:
*My right tonsil was red and sore.*
torment
(say taw-ment)
**verb** to worry or annoy someone greatly:
*Thoughts of the accident still torment him.*
torso
(say taw-soh)
**noun** the trunk of the human body:
*The dancer held her torso quite still while her feet moved to the music.*
trample
(say tram-puhl)
**verb** To trample something is to damage it by stepping heavily on it:
*Be careful not to trample his flowerbed or you will never hear the end of it!*
transform
(say trans-fawm)
**verb** to completely change, usually for the better:
*The uniform tended to transform him -- he suddenly looked very official.*
trapdoor
(say trap-daw)
**noun** A trapdoor is a small door in a floor or ceiling:
*We squeezed through the trapdoor to get into the roof.*
treasure
(say trezh-uh)
**noun** something worth a lot of money, such as gold and jewels, or anything which is highly valued:
*The pirates buried the treasure under a coconut palm.*
trek
(say trek)
*verb* To *trek* is to walk or travel, especially over a long distance or with much
difficulty:
They began their trek through the jungle, looking for a way to the coast.

trinket
(say tring-kuht)
noun a cheap ornament:
I bought a pretty trinket from a stall at the street market.

trivia
(say triv-ce-uh)
*plural noun* facts that are not important or essential:
His head is filled with cricket trivia.

trousers
(say trow-zuhz)
*plural noun* *Trousers* are a piece of clothing for the lower half of your body, divided
into two parts for the legs:
He hated wearing trousers to work in the summer because it was too hot.

tundra
(say tun-druh)
noun a treeless arctic plain with mosses, lichens and small plants:
The frozen tundra seemed to extend forever.

turnstile
(say tern-stuyl)
noun a turning gate that allows one person to pass at a time:
Only one person could go through the turnstile at a time.

tweezers
(say tweez-uhz)
*plural noun* small pincers for pulling out hairs or picking up small objects:
She used tweezers to pull the splinter out of her finger.

udder
(say ud-uh)
noun the part of the body which produces milk in some female animals, such as cows
and goats, usually hanging and bag-like and with more than one teat:
On our visit to the dairy farm we were shown how to draw milk from an udder.

urgent
(say er-juhnt)
*adjective* Something *urgent* needs immediate action or attention:
I'm sorry to interrupt, but I have an urgent message for you.

vanity
(say van-uh-tee)
noun extreme pride in yourself:
Her vanity would not allow her to admit that she was wrong.

velvet
(say vel-vuht)
noun a kind of soft, slightly furry fabric:
The magician wore a cloak of dark blue velvet.
**verdict**

*(say ver-dikt)*

*noun* A **verdict** is what a judge or a jury decides about a prisoner in a court of law: *The verdict was 'not guilty' and the prisoner went free.*

**vermin**

*(say ver-muhn)*

*plural noun* harmful, troublesome, or unpleasant animals, such as rats, cockroaches, and fleas: *The old abandoned factory was full of vermin.*

**vessel**

*(say vess-uhl)*

*noun* a ship or boat: *A rescue vessel was sent out for the survivors.*

**viable**

*(say vuy-uh-buhl)*

*adjective* able to be used or likely to succeed: *The government has decided that building a new tunnel is not a viable alternative.*

**virus**

*(say vuy-ruhs)*

*noun* a very small living thing that can cause illness: *Scientists are trying to find a way to prevent the spread of this dangerous virus.*

**volume**

*(say vol-yoohm)*

*noun* the size, measure, or amount of anything in three dimensions: *We had to calculate the volume of the parcel before we could send it.*

**walnut**

*(say wawl-nut)*

*noun* a type of round nut with a wrinkly shell: *Would you like me to crack a walnut for you?*

**wattle**

*(say wot-uhl)*

*noun* a tree with small, round, yellow flowers, which grows in warm areas of the world: *You know that spring is coming when you see the yellow flowers on the wattle.*

**wince**

*(say wince)*

*verb* If you **wince**, you start or draw back because of pain or a blow: *I always wince when I have to have an injection.*
Junior General Level 3

ability
(say uh-bil-uh-tee)
noun the power to do something:
Put has the ability to swim across the pool.

abolish
(say uh-bol-ish)
verb to put an end to something:
The parliament passed a law to abolish capital punishment.

abstract
(say ab-strakt)
adjective A work of art is abstract if it does not try to show objects in a realistic way:
The abstract painting was full of big sweeping brushstrokes in beautiful colours.

absurd
(say uhb-serd or uhb-zerd)
adjective foolish or without common sense:
Toni’s suggestion to have ice-cream for breakfast was absurd!

activist
(say ak-tuh-vuhst)
noun someone who works very hard for something they believe in:
My uncle is an activist for the environment.

advisory
(say uhd-vuy-zuh-ree)
adjective having the power to advise:
The school had an advisory council made up of teachers and parents.

affluent
(say af-looh-uhnt)
adjective wealthy or rich:
Australia is a relatively affluent country with few people living in extreme poverty.

aggravate
(say ag-ruh-vayt)
verb to make worse or more severe:
Going out in the rain will only aggravate your flu.

aghast
(say uh-gahst)
adjective shocked and frightened:
We were aghast to find that the floodwater had reached the back door.

ailment
(say ayl-muhnt)
noun an illness:
She has a serious ailment and needs ongoing treatment.

alfalfa
(say al-fal-fuh)
noun a plant used as feed for animals, and whose sprouts are used in salads:
We liked to put alfalfa sprouts on our sandwiches instead of lettuce.

algae
(say al-jee or al-gee)
plural noun a type of green plant found in or near water:
Seaweed is a type of algae.
allotment
    (say uh-lot-muhnt)
    noun a portion or share:
    We had to make our allotment of food last for the whole week of the camping trip.

almond
    (say ah-muhnd)
    noun an oval-shaped, cream-coloured nut with a sweet taste:
    My neighbour makes a delicious almond cake.

amiable
    (say ay-mee-uh-buhl)
    adjective friendly and cooperative:
    They had an amiable discussion about how to solve the problem.

annul
    (say uh-nul)
    verb to abolish or wipe out:
    The judge agreed to annul the bankruptcy of the company.

antelope
    (say ant-uh-lohp)
    noun a fast animal with horns, related to cattle, sheep and goats:
    The antelope was being stalked by the lion.

aphid
    (say ay-fuhd)
    noun a small insect which sucks the juice from certain plants:
    Mum says if I see an aphid on her roses I should squash it!

aplomb
    (say uh-plom)
    noun the ability to handle difficult or unusual situations:
    Our school captain introduced the guest speaker with aplomb.

apparent
    (say uh-pa-ruhnt)
    adjective able to be seen or understood:
    Her red face made it apparent that she was embarrassed.

appendix
    (say uh-pen-diks)
    noun a small tube-like body part joined to the large intestine in the right side of the abdomen:
    My friend has had her appendix taken out, and she won't be back at school for a week.

arable
    (say a-ruh-buhl)
    adjective suitable for growing crops:
    Only half of the property was arable -- the rest was thick bush.

armament
    (say ahm-uh-muhnt)
    noun the weapons on a military aircraft or ship:
    Torpedoes were part of the submarine's armament.

aromatic
    (say a-ruh-mat-ik)
    adjective having a pleasant smell:
    The heated aromatic oil made the whole house smell pleasant.
arsenic  
(say ah-suh-nik)  
**noun** a greyish white element which can form poisonous compounds:  
*Arsenic was often used as a poison in old murder mysteries.*

artichoke  
(say ah-tuh-chohk)  
**noun** a thick, round flower which grows on a thistle-like plant and is used as a vegetable:  
*The artichoke is eaten as a vegetable but it is really a flower.*

artisan  
(say ah-tuh-zuhn)  
**noun** a skilled worker who makes useful things like tools, cooking items, etc.:  
*The medieval town had an artisan who made fine silverware.*

ashen  
(say ash-uhn)  
**adjective** grey or ash-coloured:  
*Her face was ashen when she heard the terrible news.*

assessor  
(say uh-sess-uh)  
**noun** someone who makes assessments, as of damage for insurance purposes, or of property, etc., for taxation purposes:  
*An assessor evaluated the damage to our house after the thunderstorm.*

astrology  
(say uhs-trol-uh-jee)  
**noun** the study of the possible effects of the stars and planets on our lives:  
*Astrology involves judging the influence of the stars and plants on our lives.*

atoll  
(say at-ol)  
**noun** a coral island with a saltwater lagoon in the middle:  
*We enjoyed swimming in the lagoon within the atoll.*

attentive  
(say uh-ten-tiv)  
**adjective** paying watchful attention:  
*The audience was very attentive during the piano recital.*

attitude  
(say at-uh-tyoohd)  
**noun** the way you think or behave:  
*He has a friendly attitude and people like spending time with him.*

auditor  
(say aw-duh-tuh)  
**noun** a person appointed to examine accounting records:  
*An auditor came to review our tax records.*

austere  
(say ost-ear or awst-ear)  
**adjective** very plain and simple:  
*The monks lead an austere life with no luxuries at all.*

avocado  
(say av-uh-kah-doh)  
**noun** a green, pear-shaped fruit with a large seed:  
*She sliced an avocado and added it to the salad.*
awesome
(say aw-suhtm)
adjective filling you with feelings of respect and fear:
The power of the waves was awesome.

bachelor
(say bach-uh-luh)
noun a man who is not married:
The hero of the novel was a bachelor who had many admirers.

backgammon
(say bak-gam-uhn)
noun a board game in which two people take turns to move pieces after throwing dice:
On Wednesday nights I play backgammon with my grandfather.

ballot
(say bal-uhht)
noun a ticket or paper you must fill in to record your vote:
Please mark your vote on the ballot and put it in the box.

balmy
(say bah-mee)
adjective fine or pleasant:
It was a balmy evening so we decided to eat outdoors.

bangalow
(say bang-guh-loh)
noun a palm tree of New South Wales and Queensland, sometimes growing in clumps near the coast:
He climbed a bangalow to get a better view of the beach.

banksia
(say bangk-see-uh)
noun an Australian shrub or tree with hard jagged leaves and spikes of tiny, coloured flowers:
The banksia outside my window attracts beautiful parrots.

basalt
(say bass-awlt)
noun a type of dark, dense, volcanic rock:
Basalt is a rock formed by the rapid cooling of lava.

basmati
(say buh-zoom-tee)
noun a type of rice from India:
Basmati is the best rice to serve with this curry.

bazooka
(say buh-zoo-kuh)
noun a cylindrical weapon that fires a rocket to destroy tanks, etc.:
The rebels took aim at the helicopter with a bazooka.

beacon
(say bee-kuhn)
noun a signal which shows the way or warns of danger:
The lighthouse's beacon had prevented many shipwrecks.

bedraggled
(say buh-drag-uhld)
adjective wet, dirty and hanging limply:
His clothes were muddy and bedraggled.
beech
(say beech)
noun a tree with smooth, grey bark and hard wood which is often used for making furniture:
Our new dining table is made from the wood of the beech tree.

befuddle
(say buh-fud-uhl)
verb to confuse, as with smooth-sounding argument:
The technical language in the instruction manual managed to befuddle me very quickly.

beige
(say bayzh)
adjective very light brown:
These beige curtains will go with most other colours.

belfry
(say bel-free)
noun a tower with a bell hanging in it:
He climbed to the top of the belfry to ring the bell.

benign
(say buh-nuyn)
adjective Someone or something is benign if they are kind and gentle:
Her benign smile put the nervous children at ease.

beret
(say be-ray)
noun a soft, round cap:
The French man at the cheese shop always wears a beret.

berserk
(say buh-zerk)
adjective uncontrollably crazy and wild:
The crowd went berserk when he kicked the winning goal.

betrayal
(say buh-tray-uhl)
noun the act of deceiving someone by doing something without their knowledge:
She was deeply hurt by her friend’s betrayal.

bettong
(say bet-ong)
noun a very small kangaroo that looks like a small wallaby with a short nose:
The bettong is one of Australia’s nocturnal marsupials.

billabong
(say bil-uh-bong)
noun a waterhole which used to be part of a river:
We pitched our tent beside the billabong. [from an Aboriginal language of New South Wales called Wiradjuri]

biscuit
(say biss-kuht)
noun a small, thin cake which has been baked until it is crisp:
I had a biscuit with my coffee.
bizarre
   *(say buh-zah)*
   *adjective* very strange or unusual:
   *The doctors were very worried by his bizarre behaviour.*

blizzard
   *(say bliz-uhd)*
   *noun* a violent storm with strong winds and driving snow:
   *We got caught in a blizzard on the way back from our skiing trip.*

blockade
   *(say blok-ayd)*
   *noun* the closing of a port by enemy ships or soldiers to stop supplies from going in or out:
   *The blockade prevented fresh supplies from reaching the soldiers.*

blurb
   *(say blerb)*
   *noun* information about a book or a recording, often printed on its cover:
   *I only read the book because the blurb made it sound really interesting.*

boobook
   *(say booh-book)*
   *noun* a small brownish owl with white-spotted back and wings:
   *A boobook landed on my windowsill last night.*

bottlebrush
   *(say bot-uhl-brush)*
   *noun* an Australian plant with red, pink or yellow brush-like flowers:
   *The parrots were attracted to the flowers of the bottlebrush.*

boundary
   *(say bown-dree)*
   *noun* a dividing line or limit:
   *The boundary of the farm was marked by a line of trees.*

bovine
   *(say boh-vuyn)*
   *adjective* having to do with the family of cud-chewing animals that includes cows, bulls and oxen:
   *Cattle, water buffalo and yaks are all part of the bovine family.*

boycott
   *(say boy-kot)*
   *verb* If you *boycott* something, you refuse to go to it:
   *She decided to boycott the meeting as a protest against the new policy.*

bravado
   *(say bruh-vah-doh)*
   *noun* bravery and confidence which is often pretended:
   *She was full of bravado until the time came for her to sing.*

brochure
   *(say broh-shuh or bruh-shoo-uh)*
   *noun* a small book with a paper cover, containing information or advertisements:
   *The travel agent offered me a brochure about the different resorts on the island.*

brumby
   *(say brum-bee)*
   *noun* a wild horse living freely in the bush:
   *The stockman's favourite horse was the brumby.*
brusque
(say brusk or brook)
adj. quick to say something and not very polite:
His brusque manner sometimes upsets people.

buffalo
(say buf-uh-loh)
n. a kind of ox sometimes used for pulling heavy loads:
The buffalo is often used for heavy farm work in India.

bungalow
(say bung-guh-loh)
n. a house with only one storey:
Their holiday house was a small bungalow across the road from the beach.

bunion
(say bun-yuhn)
n. a swelling of a joint on the foot, especially on the big toe:
The bunion on my foot makes walking very painful.

butcher
(say booch-uh)
n. someone who prepares and cuts up meat to sell:
Our local butcher is famous for his delicious sausages.

bystander
(say buy-stan-duh)
n. someone who is present when something happens, but does not take part in it:
Police are anxious to interview the bystander who witnessed the incident.

callous
(say kal-uhs)
adj. showing no concern for another person's feelings:
Ignoring his cry for help was both callous and cruel.

calorie
(say kal-uh-ree)
n. a measurement of the energy value of food:
Counting every calorie is a really boring way to diet.

camisole
(say kam-uh-sohl)
n. a woman's simple top with narrow shoulder straps:
The bride wore a simple camisole with a long white skirt.

candidate
(say kan-duh-dayt or kan-duh-duht)
n. someone who is applying for a job or an award, or is standing in an election:
It was difficult to decide which candidate to vote for in the election.

carafe
(say kuh-rahf)
n. a glass bottle used for serving water, wine or fruit juice at a meal table:
She poured some homemade lemonade from the carafe.

carnivore
(say kah-nuh-vaw)
n. an animal that eats mostly meat:
The lion is a carnivore that attacks its prey with ferocity.
cassata
(say kuh-sah-tuh)
noun a type of gelato containing chopped nuts and mixed fruit:
*Her two favourite types of gelato are lemon and cassata.*

casserole
(say kass-uh-rohl)
noun a dish, usually a mixture of meat and vegetables, cooked in a covered baking dish:
*A piping hot casserole is delicious on a freezing cold night.*

cavalry
(say kav-uhl-ree)
noun the group of soldiers within an army which used to ride horses:
*The cavalry was an important part of an army because it could move with great speed.*

cavernous
(say kav-uh-nuhs)
adjective like a huge deep cave:
*Our voices echoed in the empty, cavernous hall.*

celebrant
(say sel-uh-bruhn)
noun a special person who leads a ceremony, such as a wedding:
*They were married in their garden by a celebrant.*

cellular
(say sel-yuh-luh)
adjective relating to a cell:
*Using a microscope, we could see the cellular structure of the leaf.*

centipede
(say sen-tuh-peed)
noun a small, insect-like creature with a long, thin body and many pairs of legs:
*The centipede slowly crossed the kitchen floor.*

chaos
(say kay-oss)
noun total confusion:
*When the alarm rang there was chaos -- nobody knew what to do.*

chariot
(say cha-ree-uht)
noun a two-wheeled carriage used in ancient times:
*The actor had to learn to control a chariot for his role in the film about ancient Rome.*

chieftain
(say cheef-tuhn)
noun the leader of a tribe:
*Only the chieftain of each Scottish clan could attend the meeting.*

chowder
(say chow-duh)
noun a kind of soup or stew often containing fish:
*Seafood chowder and crusty bread is a delicious meal in winter.*

clairvoyant
(say klair-voy-uhnt)
noun someone who claims to be able to see into the future:
*My aunt visited a clairvoyant hoping to discover what her future held.*
cleanse
(say klenz)
verb When you cleanse something, you make it clean or pure:
The nurse started to cleanse the wound with a mild antiseptic.

clique
(say kleek or klik)
noun a small group of people who keep themselves apart from others:
The girls formed a tight little clique and would not let anybody else join them.

cockatoo
(say kok-uh-tooh)
noun a crested parrot:
He taught his pet cockatoo to whistle the national anthem.

coconut
(say koh-kuh-nut)
noun the large, hard nut of a kind of palm tree, which is lined with white flesh and contains a clear milk:
Be careful a coconut doesn't fall down from the tree and hit you!

coleslaw
(say kohl-slaw)
noun a salad made with sliced raw cabbage:
We always have coleslaw when we have a barbecue.

commandeer
(say kom-uhn-dear)
verb to take private property for official use:
The police decided to commandeer my vehicle so that they could chase the criminal.

commuter
(say kuh-myooh-tuh)
noun someone who regularly travels some distance between home and work, as from an outer suburb to the city:
She enjoyed being a commuter as it gave her a chance to relax and read a book.

complexity
(say kuhm-pleks-uh-tee)
noun the state or quality of being complex or intricate:
It took her some time to understand the complexity of running her own business.

complicity
(say kuhm-pliss-uh-tee)
noun the state of being a partner or taking part in doing something which is wrong:
He was accused of complicity in the bank robbery because he drove the getaway car.

component
(say kuhm-poh-nuhnt)
noun a part of a whole:
Fruit is an important component of our diet.

compulsory
(say kuhm-pul-suh-ree)
adjective relating to something that you must do:
In Australia, voting in elections is compulsory.

concession
(say kuhn-sesh-uhn)
noun something that you agree to do or to give, especially to end some disagreement:
I'm prepared to make a concession if you agree to change some of your demands.
condemn  
{(say kuhn-dem)}  
verb If you **condemn** someone or something, you strongly express your disapproval of them:  
The government moved quickly to **condemn** the actions of the vandals.

confetti  
{(say kuhn-fet-ee)}  
noun small bits of coloured paper, thrown at weddings or carnivals:  
Confetti rained down on the bridal couple after the ceremony.

conifer  
{(say kon-uh-fuh)}  
noun an evergreen tree which produces cones, like the pine or fir:  
The cedar, cypress and pine are examples of **conifer** trees.

constraint  
{(say kuhn-straynt)}  
noun something that restricts or controls the way you behave or what you can do at certain times:  
If it were not for the **constraint** of needing to earn a living, I would spend my time travelling the world.

contaminate  
{(say kuhn-tam-uh-nayt)}  
verb to make something dirty or impure:  
The chemicals from the factory began to **contaminate** the surrounding lake.

contingent  
{(say kuhn-tin-juhnt)}  
adjective depending on something that is not yet certain:  
The future of our company is contingent upon good sales this year.

corduroy  
{(say kaw-juh-roy or kaw-duh-roy)}  
noun a cotton material with a pattern of ridges:  
Jeans made of corduroy are good in winter.

coriander  
{(say ko-rec-an-duh)}  
noun a small plant with strong-smelling, seedlike fruit, used in cooking and medicine:  
Coriander is an essential ingredient for Thai cooking.

cornice  
{(say kawn-uhs)}  
noun a strip covering the joint between the walls and ceiling of a room:  
The cornice was a strip of bright red between the white wall and ceiling.

coronal  
{(say kuh-roh-nee-uhl)}  
adjective of or relating to a coroner:  
There will be a coronal inquiry into the fatal train crash.

corporal  
{(say kaw-puh-ruhl)}  
noun an army or air force officer ranking below a sergeant:  
My uncle was an infantry corporal stationed in New Guinea.
coyote  
(New York - u-uh-dee)  
noun a large tawny wild cat of North and South America:  
We saw a puma stalking its prey on our trip to South America.

counsel  
(New York kown-suhl)  
verb If you counsel someone, you advise them:  
At our school, there is always someone available to counsel students with problems.

coup  
(New York kook)  
noun a sudden, forceful move, especially to take over power:  
The army took control of the government in a coup.

crescent  
(New York krez-uhnt or kress-uhnt)  
noun a curved shape:  
The moon was full and round last week, but tonight it is a beautiful silver crescent.

crouton  
(New York krooh-ton)  
noun a small piece of fried or toasted bread served in soup, etc.:  
She picked the last crouton out of her soup.

crypt  
(New York kript)  
noun an underground room under a church, often used as a burial place:  
The tourists descended the stairs under the church so they could view the crypt.

cuckoo  
(New York kook-ooh)  
noun a bird which is known for its habit of laying its eggs in the nests of other birds:  
The name 'cuckoo' is an imitation of this bird's distinctive call.

currawong  
(New York ku-ruh-wong)  
noun a large, black-and-white or greyish Australian bird with a large pointed bill and  
a loud ringing call:  
Last spring, a baby currawong woke me every morning at six o'clock.

curtail  
(New York ker-tayl)  
verb to cut short:  
We had to curtail our holiday because of the floods.

cypress  
(New York suy-pruhs)  
noun an evergreen cone-bearing tree:  
The cypress in the backyard had grown too large and needed to be trimmed.

daffodil  
(New York daf-uh-dil)  
noun a yellow, bell-shaped flower:  
She had a daffodil in a vase on her desk.

deceit  
(New York duh-seet)  
noun the ability to trick or mislead someone:  
We were well aware of her deceit and no longer trusted her.
decipher
(say duh-suy-fuh)
verb When you decipher something, you solve or find the meaning of it:
After years of trying, they finally managed to decipher the code.

defraud
(say duh-frawd)
verb to cheat someone, especially out of their money:
He was fined for attempting to defraud the taxation department.
deign
(say dayn)
verb If you deign to do something, you lower yourself to do something you think is below you:
The queen would not deign to answer her servant.
deluge
(say del-yoohj or del-yoohzh)
noun a very heavy fall of rain:
We got soaked in the sudden deluge.
democracy
(say duh-mok-ruh-see)
noun the idea that everyone in a country has equal rights:
The right of free speech for all is essential in a democracy.
depot
(say dep-oh)
noun a place where buses or trams are kept:
By midnight all the buses were back at the depot.
desolate
(say dess-uh-luht or dez-uh-luht)
adjective If someone is desolate, they feel sad and hopeless:
They felt desolate after losing all their possessions.
destitute
(say des-tuh-tyooht)
adjective without money or the means of getting any:
The theft of his wallet and belongings left the traveller destitute.
deterrent
(say duh-te-ruhnt or duh-ter-ruhnt)
noun something that has a discouraging effect:
Photos of diseased people on cigarette packs are meant to be a deterrent to smokers.
detonator
(say det-uh-nay-tuh)
noun an explosive which is used to set off a larger explosion:
The bomb was equipped with a detonator and a timer.
dexterity
(say deks-te-ruh-tee)
noun skill or cleverness, especially in using your hands:
It takes great dexterity to juggle three balls.
diamond
(say duy-muhnd)
noun a very hard, clear, shining, precious stone which is used in jewellery:
The huge diamond on the movie star's finger sparkled as she walked down the red carpet.
diesel
(say dee-zuhl)
noun a type of fuel used in some cars, trucks, boats and other machines:
This truck runs on diesel, not petrol.
digress
(say duy-gress)
verb to wander away from the main subject you are writing or speaking about:
The lecturer decided to digress from the subject for a moment to tell us a funny joke.
dilemma
(say duh-lem-uh or duy-lem-uh)
noun a difficult situation in which you have to choose between two different things:
His dilemma was that if he went to the football game he would miss the party.
diligent
(say dil-uh-juhnt)
adjective A diligent person pays careful attention to their work:
She is a diligent student, but she always makes time for fun.
discern
(say duh-sern)
verb to see, recognise, or understand something clearly:
I was able to discern a slight accent when she spoke.
discipline
(say diss-uh-pluhn)
noun training given to teach good behaviour:
I took my dog to a training school to improve her discipline.
disembark
(say dis-uhm-bahk)
verb to leave a ship or plane:
We planned to disembark when the ship docked at the ancient port of Muscat.
dishearten
(say dis-hah-tuhn)
verb (t) to lower the spirits of; discourage:
We didn't like to dishearten her when she was so excited.
dispersal
(say dis-per-suhl)
noun the act of dispersing:
Mounted police supervised the dispersal of the crowd after the grand final.
dissatisfy
(say dis-sat-uhhs-fuy)
verb to make discontented:
The chef did not like to dissatisfy his customers.
diversity
(say duh-ver-suh-tee or duy-ver-suh-tee)
noun difference or variety within a group:
It is a good idea to have a diversity of plants in the garden to attract different types of birds.
dolphin
(say dol-fuhn)
noun an intelligent, playful sea animal with a long sharp nose:
As I stood up on my surfboard, I saw a dolphin surfing beside me.
dossier

(say doss-ce-uh)
noun a collection of information about a person or subject:
He kept a dossier on the number of times the train was late.

dough

(say doh)
noun a mixture of flour and water or milk which is baked to make bread or pastry:
When we were camping, we mixed up some dough and made a big damper over the camp fire.

drudgery

(say dru-j-uh-ree)
noun boring or hard work:
I'm sick of the drudgery of housework.

dugong

(say dyooh-gong)
noun a large marine mammal of northern Australia, having flipper-like forelimbs:
The dugong was hunted for its meat and oil by some Aboriginal peoples.

dunnart

(say dun-aht)
noun a type of native mouse found only in Australia. It is endangered:
The dunnart is a little native mouse that eats mostly insects.

dynamics

(say duy-nam-iks)
plural noun the forces that are at work in any situation:
It was the dynamics of the office that made it such a pleasant place to work.

economical

(say ek-uh-nom-i-kuhl or ee-kuh-nom-i-kuhl)
adjective not wasteful:
There is not a lot of money -- we will have to be economical.

eerie

(say ear-ree)
adjective strange and frightening:
There was an eerie feeling about the old deserted house.

eiderdown

(say uy-duh-down)
noun a quilt filled with duck feathers:
Suzy put an eiderdown on her bed for extra warmth in winter.

elitism

(say uh-leet-iz-uhm)
noun the idea that a certain group of people should have special advantages:
In a society free of elitism, everyone has the same opportunities.

emanate

(say em-uh-nayt)
verb to spread out from:
A terrible smell began to emanate from the plastics factory as the fire took hold.

embankment

(say em-bank-muhnt)
noun a pile of earth and stones to keep back water or to be the base for a road or railway:
The embankment was an essential defence against flooding.
emphatic
(say em-fat-ik)
*adjective* showing or highlighting the importance of something:
The manager's instruction to the staff was emphatic -- we should arrive at work on time.

epithet
(say ep-uh-thet)
noun an adjective or phrase used to describe a person or thing:
The ancient Macedonian king Alexander was given the epithet 'the Great' and is now known as 'Alexander the Great'.

escarpment
(say uhs-kahp-muhnt)
noun a long, cliff-like ridge of rock:
We could see the rugged mountain escarpment from the aeroplane.

estuary
(say es-chuh-ree)
noun the wide part of a river where it joins the sea:
It was dangerous to swim in the estuary because of the strong current.

exhibit
(say uhg-zib-uht)
verb To exhibit something is to put it on show:
My mother has been asked to exhibit her paintings at the art gallery.

expedite
(say eks-puh-duyt)
verb If you expedite something you are doing, you hurry it up or do it quickly:
Parliament tried to expedite the passing of several laws before the Christmas break.

extremity
(say uhk-strem-uh-tee or ek-strem-uh-tee)
noun one of the limbs of the body:
Every extremity of his body was tingling with cold in the bitter wind.

exultant
(say uhg-zul-tuhnt)
*adjective* If you are exultant, you show that you are happy because you have achieved or won something:
They were exultant that their team had got into the finals.

farrier
(say fa-ree-uh)
noun a blacksmith who shoes horses:
My horse had an infected foot and had to go to the farrier to have the shoe replaced.

fatigue
(say fuh-teeeg)
noun severe mental or physical tiredness:
The rescued bushwalkers were suffering from fatigue.

felony
(say fel-uh-nee)
noun a serious crime such as murder or burglary:
She was sentenced to jail for eight years for her felony.
feudal
(say fyooh-duhl)
*adjective* having to do with a way of life in which ordinary people lived on and used the land of a nobleman, giving him military and other service in return:
The feudal system lasted for centuries in Europe.

flamboyant
(say flam-boy-uhnt)
*adjective* dazzlingly bright and showy:
The peacock is known for its flamboyant display.

flippant
(say flip-uhnt)
*adjective* not suitably serious:
Please do not make flippant remarks about my singing.

foliage
(say foh-lee-ij)
*noun* the leaves of a plant:
In autumn, the foliage of some trees turns orange and red.

foreign
(say fo-ruhn)
*adjective* Someone or something **foreign** is from a country other than your own:
Can you speak any foreign languages?

fracas
(say frak-ah or frak-uhhs)
*noun* a noisy disturbance or fight:
The police were called to break up the fracas outside parliament.

frolic
(say frol-ik)
*noun* happy play:
The puppies were having a frolic on the grass.

gait
(say gayt)
*noun* a way of walking or moving:
After the accident, he walked with an uneven gait and sometimes used a walking stick.

galah
(say guh-lah)
*noun* an Australian cockatoo with pink and grey feathers:
We took the injured galah to the vet.

galleon
(say gal-ee-uhn)
*noun* a kind of large Spanish sailing ship:
The galleon sank in the violent storm.

gazelle
(say guh-zel)
*noun* a small, graceful antelope with large eyes:
Her movement was as fast and as graceful as that of a gazelle.

gelato
(say juh-lah-toh)
*noun* an iced sweet made from cream, milk or water:
Which flavour gelato will I have? Lemon, chocolate or strawberry?
genial
(say jee-nee-uhl)
*adjective* A **genial** person has a warm and friendly manner:
My aunt was a genial person and everybody loved her.

ghetto
(say get-oh)
noun the part of a city where a group of similar people, such as poor people or people from another country, live together:
The city's ghetto was very run-down.

gnarled
(say nahld)
adjective twisted and having many woody lumps:
She ran her hand over the gnarled bark of the old tree.

gourmet
(say gaw-may)
noun someone who knows a lot about good food and drink:
George thinks of himself as a gourmet and likes to talk at length about food.

heifer
(say hef-uh)
noun a young cow that has not had a calf:
There was only one heifer in the herd of cows.

hysteria
(say his-teer-ree-uh)
noun an uncontrollable emotional state:
She rang me in a state of hysteria after hearing about the accident.

impasse
(say im-pahs)
noun a situation from which there is no way out:
With mountains on three sides and the sea on the other, the escapees had reached an impasse.

implicit
(say im-pliss-uht)
adjective absolute and without doubts:
She has implicit faith in the ability of her coach.

impromptu
(say im-promp-tyooh)
adjective made or done on the spot, without any previous preparation:
At my friend's birthday party, they asked me to give an impromptu performance on the piano, so I played my favourite piece.

infamy
(say in-fuh-mee)
noun ill fame or public dishonour:
The infamy attached to his criminal father forced the young man to change his name and leave the area.

innuendo
(say in-yooh-en-doh)
noun a remark that suggests something unpleasant about someone without actually stating it:
The campaign was marked by innuendo designed to discredit the new candidate.
insipid
(say in-sip-uhd)
adjective not having much taste:
Mum said that her coffee was rather insipid and asked for it to be stronger next time.

insomnia
(say in-som-nee-uh)
noun a condition in which you have difficulty sleeping:
Insomnia can lead to lack of concentration and weariness.

iodine
(say uy-uh-deen)
noun a chemical element which can be used as an antiseptic to clean cuts or sores:
The nurse put iodine on my cut to kill the germs.

isle
(say uyl)
noun a small island:
We sailed towards a small coral isle.

jamboree
(say jam-buh-ree)
noun a large gathering of Scouts:
Over 8000 Scouts attended the jamboree last year.

jaundice
(say jawn-duhs)
noun a disease in which the skin and the whites of the eyes become yellow:
The jaundice was easy to diagnose because his skin was yellow.

legume
(say leg-yoohm)
noun any of a family of flowering plants which have pods as fruits, such as peas, beans, and so on:
The legume family includes vegetables such as peas and beans.

lethargy
(say leth-ub-jee)
noun a state of sleepy laziness:
We had to shake ourselves out of our lethargy and get moving.

linguistics
(say ling-gwis-tiks)
noun the study of language, including sounds, words and grammar:
My big brother is studying linguistics at university.

loch
(say lok)
noun a lake in Scotland:
The castle was built on the shore of a loch in the Scottish highlands.

lunacy
(say looh-nuh-see)
noun any form of insanity:
In the past, a person suffering from lunacy was simply locked up.

mantilla
(say man-ti-uh)
noun a silk or lace headscarf, worn in Spain:
The flamenco dancer wore a mantilla of black lace and a vivid red skirt.
marzipan
(say mah-zuh-pan)
noun a sweet made of crushed almonds and sugar:
The wedding cake was covered with a layer of marzipan.

matador
(say mat-uh-daw)
noun the bullfighter who kills the bull in a bullfight:
The crowd cheered as the matador arrived for the final bullfight.

measles
(say mee-zuhlz)
noun a type of infectious disease occurring mostly in children, with a fever and rash:
Many children are vaccinated against measles these days.

megabyte
(say meg-uh-buyt)
noun a unit of measurement of computer memory size equal to $2^{20}$ or 1 048 576 bytes:
If you use one more megabyte we will go over our monthly limit!

migraine
(say muy-grayn or mee-grayn)
noun a very bad headache which makes you feel ill:
When Dad gets a migraine he has to lie down in a dark room.

modular
(say mod-yuh-luh)
adjective composed of separate units for easy building or arrangement:
The library has modular furniture which can easily be moved around for different purposes.

mohair
(say moh-hair)
noun fabric made from the coat of an Angora goat:
I wear my mohair jumper when I'm really cold.

mollusc
(say mol-uh-sk)
noun an animal with a soft body in a hard shell:
A snail is a mollusc, and so is an oyster.

mulberry
(say mul-bree)
noun a sweet, dark-purple fruit like a blackberry:
Silkworms eat the leaves of the mulberry tree.

mutineer
(say myooh-tuh-near)
noun someone who revolts or mutinies:
Jess was born on Norfolk Island and is descended from a mutineer on the Bounty.

negligent
(say neg-luh-juhnt)
adjective If someone is negligent, they do not take enough care over what they are doing:
She was negligent in looking after the dog and he ran away.

notary
(say noh-tuh-ree)
noun an official, usually a solicitor, given the power to certify contracts, etc.:
For the contract to be binding, a notary had to witness their signatures.
obsolete
(say ob-suh-leet)
adjective no longer being used:
Some people think that posting letters will become obsolete as more and more people send emails and use social media.

octopus
(say ok-tuh-poos)
noun a soft-bodied sea animal which has eight tentacles:
Did you know that an octopus can grow another tentacle if one drops off?

offal
(say off-uhl)
noun animal intestines and other parts which are usually thrown away, or other organs such as the brain, liver and tripe which are used as food:
The butcher often has different types of offal for sale, such as lambs' brains and tripe.

onslaught
(say on-slawt)
noun a fierce rush or attack:
The troops could not advance against the onslaught of enemy fire.

oregano
(say o-ruh-gah-noh)
noun a herb of the mint family, used in cooking:
The pizza just needed a pinch of oregano added before going in the oven.

ottoman
(say ot-uh-muhn)
noun a low padded seat without a back or arms:
He chose to sit on the ottoman instead of the armchair.

pageant
(say paj-uhnt)
noun a colourful public show, often including a procession of people in costume:
The pageant had been held every year since medieval times.

palisade
(say pal-uh-sayd)
noun a fence of tall pointed sticks set firmly in the ground as a protection around a fort or camp:
The palisade around the fort was not strong enough to withstand the attack.

pamphlet
(say pam-fluht)
noun a very small paper-covered book:
The pamphlet explained what the exhibition was about.

paraffin
(say pa-ruh-fuhn)
noun in chemistry, any one of a series of saturated hydrocarbons:
We watched a video on how candles are made from paraffin.

parakeet
(say pa-ruh-keet)
noun a kind of small parrot, such as the budgerigar, usually with a long pointed tail:
We spent a long time trying to teach our parakeet to talk but it wouldn't.
paramount
(say pa-ruh-mownt)
 adjective above all others in rank, authority or importance:
 Installing a fire alarm was the paramount item on the agenda.

paraplegia
(say pa-ruh-plee-juh)
noun paralysis of the lower part of the body:
 My brother suffers from paraplegia and represents Australia in wheelchair basketball.

pastime
(say pahs-tuym)
noun something you do to make time pass pleasantly:
 The best pastime at the beach is exploring rock pools.

pauper
(say paw-puh)
noun a very poor person:
 The story was about a pauper who had to beg for food.

perimeter
(say puh-rim-uhtuh)
noun the outside edge of a shape or area:
 To walk around the perimeter of the lake takes about an hour.

pesticide
(say pest-uhs-youyd)
noun a chemical for killing animals that are dangerous or harmful:
 They had to use a pesticide to get rid of the termites.

petroleum
(say puh-troh-lee-uhm)
noun an oily liquid, usually obtained from under the ground, and used to make petrol and other fuels:
 The largest known reserves of petroleum are in the Middle East.

phantom
(say fan-tuhtm)
noun an image appearing in a dream or in the mind only:
 The diplodocus he saw walking down the street was really just a phantom.

phenomenal
(say fuh-nom-uh-nuhl)
adjective extraordinary or astonishing:
 The time in which he swam the 100 metres was phenomenal.

plankton
(say plangk-tuhn)
noun the mass of very tiny plants and animals which drift on or near the surface of water:
 She is a biologist and studies the life cycles of various kinds of plankton.

plummet
(say plum-uht)
verb To plummet is to fall straight and fast, as something heavy does:
 She dropped her camera from the tower and watched it plummet towards the ground.
porpoise
(say paw-puhs)
*noun* a sea animal with a rounded nose, usually blackish on top and paler beneath:
*A porpoise leapt out of the water right beside our boat.*

posterity
(say pos-te-ruh-tee)
*noun* the generations of people who will live in the future:
*Our duty to posterity is to care for the planet.*

precedence
(say pres-uh-duhns or prees-uh-duhns)
*noun* the right to go before, or to be considered more important than something or someone else:
*A visiting member of the royal family always takes precedence over the governor-general at public events.*

privet
(say priv-uht)
*noun* an evergreen tree or shrub introduced into Australia from Europe, which is now thought to be a pest because it grows over areas of native bush:
*Our local bush regeneration group is trying to get rid of the privet which is threatening to overtake the native flora.*

prodigy
(say prod-uh-je)  
*noun* someone, especially a child, who has talent far greater than is normal:
*At the age of five it was clear that he was a musical prodigy.*

prolific
(say pruh-lif-ik)
*adjective* producing plentifully:
*He is a prolific author, publishing a novel every year.*

propagate
(say prop-uh-gayt)
*verb* If you **propagate** plants, you grow many from the seeds or cuttings from one plant:
*Math grandfather is using the internet to learn how to propagate orchids.*

prophet
(say prof-uht)
*noun* someone who speaks on behalf of a god:
*The prophet travelled far spreading the teachings of his god.*

prosaic
(say proh-zay-ik)
*adjective* dull and unimaginative:
*She is too creative to have produced such a prosaic piece of writing.*

protocol
(say proh-tuh-kol)
*noun* the rules of behaviour and ceremony used on official occasions involving royalty, heads of state, diplomats, etc.:
*If you are going to attend the official banquet, you will have to follow the proper protocol.*
proviso
(say pruh-vuyz-oh)
noun a condition or stipulation:
His parents told him he could have a dog on the proviso that he looked after it.

pungent
(say pun-juhnt)
adjective having a sharp taste or smell:
The pungent odour of acid hurt my nostrils.

purport
(say per-pawt or per-pawt)
verb to claim:
These men purport to be from the local council, but check their identification to make sure.

putrid
(say pyooh-truhd)
adjective decaying or rotten, especially when having a horrible smell:
The food we left in the fridge was putrid when we got back from our holidays.

quaff
(say kwof)
verb If you quaff a drink, you drink it quickly:
When we get home from our bushwalk, we're going to quaff lots of cold water.

rabbi
(say rab-uy)
noun a Jewish priest or leader:
The rabbi welcomed his congregation into the synagogue.

rabies
(say ray-beez)
noun an infectious brain disease leading to death that is spread to people by the bite of a dog or of some other animal which has the disease:
Rabies is a terrible disease that can kill you.

ramshackle
(say ram-shak-uhl)
adjective shaky or likely to collapse:
We found the ramshackle ruins of an old goldmining site.

rancid
(say ran-suhd)
adjective having a sour, unpleasant smell or taste from lack of freshness:
We caught some yabbies using rancid meat as bait.

realm
(say relm)
noun a kingdom:
The realm of King John extended over most of England.

relapse
(say ree-laps or ruh-laps)
noun a return of a disease or illness after partial recovery:
The doctors warned him that he could suffer a relapse and end up in hospital again if he didn't get enough rest.
reprieve
(say ruh-preev)
noun a delay or cancellation, especially in carrying out a punishment:
She may be given a reprieve because of her remorse over the crime.

reprimand
(say rep-ruh-mand)
noun a scolding, especially from someone in charge:
She was expecting a reprimand for being late.

residual
(say ruh-zij-ooh-uhl)
 adjective left over:
The residual money was given to charity.

retrospect
(say ret-ruh-spekt)
noun If you look at past events in retrospect, you think about them with the knowledge you now have about them:
It is often easy to think of a clever thing to say in retrospect, when it's too late!

ricotta
(say ruh-kot-uh)
noun a soft fresh white cheese with a delicate flavour:
My father likes to eat ricotta with pears and apples.

rigmarole
(say rig-muh-rohl)
noun a long and complicated process:
I lost my wallet and now I have to go through the whole rigmarole of replacing everything.

rigorous
(say rig-uh-ruhs)
 adjective severe or harsh:
The children rebelled against her rigorous discipline.

rogue
(say rohg)
noun a dishonest person:
That rogue tricked me out of a hundred dollars.

roughage
(say ruf-ij)
noun the coarser kinds or parts of fodder or food, of less nutritive value, especially those which assist digestion:
The sheep did well because they had a balanced diet of roughage and palatable grasses.

rubella
(say rooh-bel-uh)
noun a contagious disease, usually mild, accompanied by fever, often some sore throat, and a rash resembling that of scarlet fever:
When I had rubella, I had a week off school.

salamander
(say sal-uh-man-duh)
noun a type of amphibian with a tail, which lives in the water when very young, but later lives on land:
A salamander looks like a lizard but it doesn't have scales.
salient
(say say-lee-uhmt)
*adjective* standing out or easily seen:
The engineer quickly pointed out the salient features of the design.

salivate
(say sal-uh-vayt)
*verb* *(i)* (-vated; -vating)
to produce saliva:
Just the thought of lobster mornay makes me salivate.

sarcasm
(say sah-kaz-uhm)
*noun* the saying of harsh and bitter things, especially by using the trick of saying the opposite of what you really mean, so as to hurt someone's feelings:
'I'm terribly sorry', I said in a cold and cutting voice, but my sarcasm was wasted on him.

sartorial
(say sah-taw-ree-uhl)
*adjective* having to do with clothes or dress, usually a man's:
The elderly actor took pride in his sartorial elegance and had his clothes made for him from the finest fabrics.

scarab
(say ska-ruhb)
*noun* a type of beetle, regarded as sacred by the ancient Egyptians:
The dung beetle is a type of scarab.

scrupulous
(say skroohp-yuh-luhs)
*adjective* careful or exact in every detail:
Doctors have to be scrupulous about cleanliness.

semaphore
(say sem-uh-faw)
*noun* a system for signalling messages using flags:
Before radio, semaphore was used to communicate between the ships in a fleet.

settee
(say set-ee)
*noun* a long, padded seat for two or more people, with a back and two sides:
Marissa and her dog cuddled up on the settee.

shrapnel
(say shrap-nuhl)
*noun* the small parts of an exploded cannon shell:
During the battle, a piece of shrapnel lodged in the soldier's leg.

shroud
(say shrowd)
*noun* something which covers and hides like a cloth:
A shroud of secrecy hung over the real facts of the story.

sinuous
(say sin-yoooh-uhhs)
*adjective* winding like a snake:
We followed the sinuous course of the old river bed.
sinusitis
(say suy-nuh-suy-tuhs)
noun an inflammation of a sinus or sinuses:
He would always come down with sinusitis just before exams.
skeleton
(say skel-uh-tuhn)
noun all the bones of a human or animal body, connected together:
The most interesting thing in the museum was the dinosaur skeleton.
sluice
(say sloohs)
noun a channel for water, fitted with a gate to control the water flow:
The miners washed the gravel in the sluice.
solemn
(say sol-uhm)
adjective A solemn promise or agreement is one that is very sincere, usually made
after serious thought:
The politician made a solemn promise that she would improve the transport system if
she was elected.
souvenir
(say sooh-vuh-near)
noun something you keep as a memory of a place or event:
I brought home a big shell as a souvenir of my holiday on the island.
spectre
(say spek-tuh)
noun a ghost:
They say a strange spectre appears in the garden every night at midnight.
splurge
(say splurj)
verb To splurge money is to spend it wastefully or on a luxury:
He would splurge all his money dining in expensive restaurants.
squalor
(say skwol-uh)
noun dirt and poverty:
In the slum, many families lived in crowded squalor.
squirrel
(say skwi-ruhl)
noun a bushy-tailed animal found in Europe, Asia, and North America, which lives in
trees and stores nuts:
The squirrel is regarded as a pest in many parts of the world.
stability
(say stuh-bil-uh-tee)
noun firmness in position:
I'm not sure about the stability of this ladder, so please hold it firm while I climb.
sternum
(say ster-nuhm)
noun a bone or series or bones extending along the midline of the front of the chest
and attached to the ribs:
In the accident, the seatbelt hurt his sternum, but it prevented serious injury.
stockade
(say stok-ayd)
noun a strong wooden fence built for defence against attack:
The miners stood behind the stockade and waited for the troopers to arrive.

stupor
(say styooh-puh)
noun a state in which the mind or senses are deadened or not working, as a result of illness or drugs:
She was walking around in a stupor because she was very tired and unwell.

stylus
(say stuy-luhs)
noun a pointed tool for drawing or writing:
He marked his initials in the clay with a stylus.

suave
(say swahv)
adj adjective Someone suave is charming and smooth in manner:
His suave manner made people think he was very sophisticated.

surreal
(say suh-reel)
adj adjective dreamlike:
Gliding over the city in the hot air balloon was a surreal, dreamlike experience.

swami
(say swah-mee)
noun a Hindu religious teacher:
The swami taught them about Ganesha, the Hindu elephant-headed god.

syrup
(say si-ruhp)
noun a thick, sweet, sticky liquid:
I love strawberry syrup on my ice-cream.

tambourine
(say tam-buh-reen)
noun a type of small drum which has small, round pieces of metal set into a frame, and is played by hitting or shaking it:
You have to have a good sense of rhythm to play the tambourine.

tarragon
(say ta-ruh-guhn)
noun a strong-smelling herb used in cooking and salads:
Roast chicken is delicious when flavoured with tarragon.

tattoo
(say tat-oooh)
noun an ink picture permanently printed into someone's skin with needles:
The tattoo on his back was of a vampire.

terrier
(say te-ree-uh)
noun A terrier is one of the small dogs that were once used for hunting:
A terrier is a very determined little dog.

terrine
(say tuh-reen)
noun pâté served in an earthenware cooking dish:
Mum made a chicken terrine for us to eat on our picnic.
tetanus
(say tet-nuhs or tet-uh-nuhs)
*noun* an infectious, often deadly disease, which causes extreme stiffness of the
muscles of the jaw and other parts of the body:
*These days, most people in Australia are immunised against tetanus, so it is not very
common.*

textile
(say teks-tuyl)
*noun* any woven material used for clothing, curtains and so on:
*The curtains in the music room were made of a heavy textile to improve the acoustics.*

theorem
(say thear-ruhm)
*noun* a statement containing something to be proved in mathematics:
*Our maths teacher showed us two different ways to prove the theorem.*

thesis
(say thee-suhs)
*noun* an idea, argument or explanation, especially one to be discussed and proved:
*His central thesis -- that the Earth was a cube -- was widely scorned.*

threshold
(say thresh-hohld)
*noun* the entrance to a house or building:
*He crossed the threshold and closed the door behind him.*

thyme
(say tuym)
*noun* a common garden herb that is used in cooking:
*In a small bowl combine shallots, thyme and bay leaves with salt and pepper.*

tinea
(say tin-ee-uh)
*noun* a skin disease which makes the skin between the toes red and sore:
*Tinea is a foot complaint which is easily spread from person to person.*

tiresome
(say tuy-uh-suhm)
*adjective* annoying:
*His constant complaining is getting very tiresome.*

tornado
(say taw-nay-doh)
*noun* a violent whirlwind:
*The tornado had completely flattened the mobile home park.*

trailblazer
(say trayl-blayz-uh)
*noun* someone who is the first to do something:
*Even if I say so myself, I think I'm a bit of a trailblazer in dreaming up the notion of
peanut butter ice-cream.*

trampoline
(say tram-puh-leen)
*noun* a frame with tightly stretched material attached to it by springs, on which you
can jump for exercise or fun:
*Only two children are allowed to jump on the trampoline at the one time.*
tranquil
(say trang-kwuhl)
*adjective* peaceful or quiet:
*It was a tranquil scene beside the river until the tractor arrived.*

treacle
(say tree-kuhl)
*noun* a dark, sticky liquid made from sugar:
*He added treacle instead of sugar to the biscuit mixture to sweeten it.*
tremendous
(say truh-men-duhs)
*adjective* very large or important:
*She was offered a tremendous opportunity to work overseas.*
tremulous
(say trem-yuh-uhns)
*adjective* shaky or uncertain:
*Her tremulous voice betrayed her nervousness.*

truant
(say trooh-uhnt)
*noun* If someone plays truant, they stay away from school without permission:
*She played truant and went to the beach instead.*
tuition
(say tyooh-ish-uhns)
*noun* teaching:
*He needs extra tuition in maths.*
turmoil
(say ter-moyl)
*noun* wild disorder:
*The school was in turmoil when the electricity failed.*
turnip
(say ter-nuhp)
*noun* a plant with a thick white or yellow root which is eaten as a vegetable:
*Some people believe that boiled turnip is good for colds.*
turret
(say tu-ruht)
*noun* a small tower at a corner of a building:
*The turret crumbled after a direct hit from a cannon.*
tuxedo
(say tuk-see-doh)
*noun* a man’s black jacket, worn on formal occasions:
*He was looking very smart in his new shoes and a hired tuxedo.*

uncharitable
(say un-cha-ruh-tuh-buhl)
*adjective* unforgiving and harsh:
*He admitted that his initially harsh view of the applicant might have been uncharitable and undeserved.*

uninspired
(say un-in-spuy-uhnd)
*adjective* lacking imagination or creative spirit; dull:
*It was an uninspired speech and the audience looked very weary.*
unspeakable
   (say un-speek-uh-buhl)
   adjective impossible to express in words:
   It gave the mother unspeakable joy to see her daughter finally able to walk again.

utensil
   (say yoo-ten-suhl)
   noun an implement, especially one of those used for cooking or eating:
   This grater is a very useful kitchen utensil.

utmost
   (say ut-mohst)
   noun the greatest amount possible:
   The festivities would strain the small town's resources to the utmost.

vacuum
   (say vak-yoohm)
   noun a space that has absolutely nothing in it:
   Because there was a vacuum in the bottle, the flame went out.

vague
   (say vayg)
   adjective If something is vague, it is not clear or certain:
   I had a vague feeling that something was missing, but I couldn't work out what it was.

variance
   (say vair-ree-uhns)
   noun the condition or fact of varying:
   There were a number of points of variance between his original story and what he later told the police.

vengeful
   (say venj-fuhl)
   adjective desiring, seeking, or taking revenge:
   He's not my favourite character -- he's bullying, greedy, self-centred and vengeful!

vertex
   (say ver-teks)
   noun the top or highest point of something:
   We had to mark the vertex of the triangle 'A' and the other two points 'B' and 'C'.

vertigo
   (say ver-tuh-goh)
   noun a feeling of dizziness, often experienced when looking down from a high place:
   People who suffer from vertigo shouldn't go mountain climbing.

veteran
   (say vet-uh-ruhn)
   noun someone who has worked for a long time in a particular job or in any position:
   Old Charlie is a veteran of about forty years in the office.

vineyard
   (say vin-yuhd or vin-yahd)
   noun a farm where grapes are grown for wine-making:
   The vineyard was pretty but the wine was undrinkable.

vinyl
   (say vuy-nuhl)
   noun a type of plastic:
   The couch was covered in brown vinyl that looked like leather.
viscount
(say vuy-kownt)
noun a British nobleman ranking below an earl and above a baron:
His uncle was a viscount and lived in a castle.

visor
(say vuy-zuh)
noun the movable part of a hard protective hat, which can be pulled down over your eyes:
The ball deflected off the visor of the helmet.

vitamin
(say vuy-tuh-muhn or vit-uh-muhn)
noun any of a number of substances present naturally in food, and necessary in small quantities for good health:
We need sunlight for vitamin D.

volcanic
(say vol-kan-ik)
adjective relating to volcanoes:
Volcanic soil is very fertile.

wallaroo
(say wol-uh-rooh)
noun a large kangaroo with shaggy, dark fur that lives in rocky or hilly land:
The wallaroo has shorter back legs than the kangaroo.

warmonger
(say waw-mung-guh)
noun someone who advises war as the best action to take:
The pacifist lobby accused the politician of being nothing more than a warmonger.

wastage
(say wayst-ij)
noun loss by use, wear, decay, wastefulness, and so on:
The state government has started a campaign to educate the public in minimising water wastage.

wheelbarrow
(say weel-ba-roh)
noun a small cart, usually with one wheel at the front and two legs, which you lift when you wheel it along:
We had great fun pushing our smallest cousin around in the wheelbarrow.

whirlpool
(say werl-poohl)
noun a circular current, as in a river or sea, which draws things into its centre:
There was a whirlpool at the bottom of the waterfall.

widower
(say wid-oh-uh)
noun a man whose wife has died and who has not married again:
Next door lived a widower with his two sons.

windcheater
(say wind-chee-tuh)
noun a close-fitting jacket or jumper worn for protection against the wind:
You'll need a windcheater out on the boat.
womb
(say woohm)
noun the uterus:
  Human babies take nine months to develop in the womb.

wondrous
(say wun-druhs)
adjective wonderful or marvellous:
  Greg saw many wondrous sights on his trip to South America.

wrath
(say roth)
noun anger:
  The warriors feared the wrath of their leader if they were unsuccessful in their mission.

wreath
(say reeth)
noun a decoration consisting of leaves and flowers tied together in the shape of a circle:
  We always hang a wreath on our door at Christmas time.
Junior General Level 4

**abundance**

*(say uh-bun-duhns)*  
*noun* a plentiful amount or supply:  
*Because of all the recent rain, there is an abundance of water in the reservoir.*

**accommodation**

*(say uh-kom-uh-day-shuhn)*  
*noun* somewhere to stay, as at a hotel:  
*It was very hard to find accommodation during the holidays.*

**acne**

*(say ak-nee)*  
*noun* a rash with a lot of pimples, especially on the face:  
*Alana was very self-conscious about the acne on her face.*

**acquaint**

*(say uh-kwaynt)*  
*verb* to tell, inform or make familiar:  
*You should acquaint the police with anything you know about the crime.*

**adhere**

*(say uhd-hear)*  
*verb* to stick to something:  
*You must adhere strictly to the rules.*

**admirable**

*(say ad-muh-ruh-buhl)*  
*adjective* so good that you admire it:  
*We thought that the marathon runner put in an admirable effort.*

**admonish**

*(say uhd-mon-ish)*  
*verb* to caution or warn someone:  
*I had to admonish the people in front of me for talking during the film.*

**advertisement**

*(say uhd-ver-tuhs-muhnt)*  
*noun* a notice telling you about an event that is coming, or about something lost or for sale:  
*We'll put an advertisement in the local paper to sell our old car.*

**affable**

*(say af-uh-buhl)*  
*adjective* friendly and approachable:  
*The guest speaker was both affable and entertaining.*

**aggregate**

*(say ag-ruh-guht)*  
*noun* the total or sum of a number of single things:  
*The aggregate of all their scores meant that their team won the carnival.*

**allege**

*(say uh-lej)*  
*verb* to say that something is true without being able to prove it:  
*Some people allege that you are responsible for the graffiti at the station.*
ambiguous
(say am-big-yooh-uhs)
adjective unclear, due to having more than one meaning:
As the question was quite ambiguous, we had to ask the teacher what she meant.
anonymous
(say uh-non-uh-muhs)
adjective If a piece of writing is anonymous, the writer does not want to tell people who they are:
The poem in the school magazine was anonymous, but we could guess who wrote it.
anxious
(say ang-shuhs)
adjective nervous or worried that something bad might happen:
She was very anxious about her sick friend.
aquamarine
(say ak-wuh-muh-reen)
noun a greenish-blue stone used in jewellery:
Most aquamarine is mined in Brazil.
arbitrate
(say ah-buh-trayt)
verb to decide or settle a matter for others, often a disagreement or a dispute:
They were forced to have a judge arbitrate the matter.
archives
(say ah-kuyvz)
plural noun a collection of historical documents about a family, business or country:
The university's archives are kept in the library.
arguable
(say ah-gyoo-uh-buhl)
adjective able to be proved by argument:
There is certainly an arguable case for wearing a crash helmet.
artery
(say ah-tuh-ree)
noun An artery is one of the small tubes inside your body that carry blood from your heart:
My grandmother has a blocked artery and she is having an operation.
aval
(say uh-vayl)
noun If something is to no avail, it is of no use:
All our preparations for the picnic were to no avail when it started to pour.
aviator
(say ay-vee-ay-tuh)
noun a pilot:
He was an aviator in the Second World War.
bacteria
(say bak-teer-ree-uh)
plural noun tiny living bodies with one cell, which multiply by dividing themselves in two and which can cause disease and decay:
We must make sure we wash our hands to stop the spread of harmful bacteria.

baleful
(say bayl-ful)
adjective full of hate:
The snarling dog watched through the fence with a baleful expression.

barrage
(say ba-razh or ba-rahj)
noun a long and strenuous verbal attack:
The premier faced a barrage of questions from the press.

besiege
(say buh-seej)
verb If a group of people, especially soldiers, besiege a place, they surround it:
The soldiers planned to besiege the castle.

brevity
(say brev-uh-tee)
noun shortness or briefness:
The brevity of the lecture surprised and pleased us.

bullion
(say bull-yuhn)
noun bars of gold or silver:
Millions of dollars of gold bullion went missing.

campaign
(say kam-payn)
noun any planned series of actions with a particular purpose:
She joined a campaign to stop whaling.

caramel
(say ka-ruh-muhl)
noun a type of sweet, or a colouring or flavouring made from burnt sugar:
The dentist told him that eating too much caramel wasn't good for his teeth.

carpentry
(say kah-puhn-tree)
noun the art of working with wood:
Susie hoped to do an apprenticeship in carpentry.

cartridge
(say kah-trij)
noun a container, such as that which holds ink for a pen or a printer:
I had to buy another black cartridge for our printer.

ceremonious
(say se-ruh-mohn-ee-uhhs)
adjective marked by formal ceremony:
The launching of the ship was a very ceremonious occasion.

charitable
(say char-uh-tuh-buhl)
adjective relating to charity:
The charitable organisation had raised thousands of dollars for the children's hospital.
chimpanzee
(say chim-pan-zee)
noun a large monkey from Africa which spends much of its life in the trees:
We saw a baby chimpanzee at the zoo.

cicada
(say suh-kah-duh or suh-kay-duh)
noun a large flying insect which is found in trees and which makes a loud noise in hot weather:
We found the shell of a cicada on a tree trunk.
cinnamon
(say sin-uh-muhn)
noun a spice made from the inner bark of certain trees and used in cooking:
The baker made a delicious bread roll flavoured with cinnamon.
civilian
(say suh-vil-yuhn)
noun someone who is not a member of the armed forces:
He was now a civilian after twenty years in the air force.
cocoa
(say koh-koh)
noun a drink made from the brown powder which is also used to make chocolate:
I like to have a nice hot cocoa on cold winter evenings.
collage
(say kol-ahzh or kol-ahzh)
noun a picture made from various materials, such as pieces of paper, cloth, and so on:
At school I made a collage with coloured paper and foil.
commercial
(say kuh-mer-shuhl)
adjective having to do with commerce:
The commercial part of town is down by the port.
concussion
(say kuhn-kush-uhn)
noun an injury of the brain or spine caused by a blow:
He suffered concussion from the fall.
congenital
(say kuhn-jen-uh-tuhl)
adjective a medical condition that has been there since the person was born:
The baby was born with congenital heart disease.
conjecture
(say kuhn-jek-chuh)
noun the making of an opinion without enough information:
This is only conjecture -- no-one knows what really happened.
conspiracy
(say kuhn-spi-ruh-see)
noun a secret plot planned by a number of people:
There was a conspiracy to give our teacher a surprise birthday party.
constellation
(say kon-stuh-lay-shuhn)
noun a group of stars:
The Southern Cross is the most widely known constellation in the southern hemisphere.
constitution
(say kon-stuh-tyooh-shuhn)
noun a set of basic rules for governing a state, society, or other organisation:
The Australian constitution can only be changed by a referendum of all voters.
controversial
(say kon-truh-ver-shuhl)
adjective subject to different points of view; debatable:
The political party was divided about the controversial issue.
conundrum
(say kuh-nun-druhm)
noun a riddle or puzzle:
The children had to solve a conundrum before the wizard would let them pass through the enchanted gate.
copious
(say koh-pee-uhs)
adjective plentiful:
We were lucky to have a copious supply of fresh vegetables.
copyright
(say kop-ee-ruyt)
noun the legal right you have to protect work that you write or compose, and to control who can copy it:
Copyright is essential for authors to protect their work.
corporation
(say kaw-puh-ray-shuhn)
noun a business or other united group of people:
My sister works for an international corporation.
corps
(say kaw)
noun a unit of soldiers:
My brother has joined the cadet corps at his school.
corral
(say ko-ral)
noun a pen or enclosure for horses, cattle, etc.:
We led the horses into the corral when we saw signs of bad weather approaching.
correspondence
(say ko-ruh-spun-duhns)
noun similarity:
There is a strong correspondence between the two stories.
corroborate
(say kuh-rob-uh-rayt)
verb to make something seem more certain because more evidence is given:
We can't find any evidence to corroborate his version of events.
criticism
(say krit-uh-siz-uhm)
noun an analysis and judging of the quality of something:
Sam wants to do a course in film criticism to help him appreciate what makes a good movie.
decrepit
(say duh-krep-uht)
descriptive made weak or broken down by age:
The old car was so decrepit that we could not get it registered.

deficit
(say def-uh-suht)
noun an amount of money lacking:
Unfortunately, there is a small deficit in the club's accounts.

defoliate
(say duh-foh-lee-ayt)
verb To defoliate a plant is to take off all its leaves:
The farmer had to spray his wheat fields to make sure the locusts would not defoliate the entire crop.

delineate
(say duh-lin-ee-ayt)
verb to describe or show in words:
She did her best to delineate the plan precisely.

descent
(say duh-sent)
noun the act of coming or going down:
He made a quick descent down the ladder.

diplomacy
(say duh-ploh-muh-see)
noun skill in managing relations between nations or people:
Joe's diplomacy made him an excellent mediator.

disenchanted
(say dis-uhn-chan-tuhd or dis-uhn-chahn-tuhd)
adjective disappointed:
She had become disenchanted with her new job.

disinfectant
(say dis-uhn-fek-tuhnt)
noun any chemical substance which kills germs:
The vet sprays the examining table with disinfectant after each patient.

dispensary
(say dis-pen-suh-ree or dis-pen-sree)
noun (plural dispensaries)
the part of a chemist's shop or hospital where medicines are made up and given out:
The chemist brought my prescription out of the dispensary.

dispersion
(say dis-per-shuhn)
noun the act of being dispersed:
The dispersion of seeds is important for the growth of new plants.

distraught
(say duhs-trawt)
adjective very worried or upset:
The lost toddler became more and more distraught as daylight faded.

dramatic
(say druhs-mat-ik)
adjective startling or striking:
The government is concerned about the dramatic rise in unemployment.
efficient
(say uh-\textipa{fish}-uhnt or ee-\textipa{fish}-uhnt)

adj. If something is efficient, it works well and is practical: 
This pump is very efficient -- it gives a strong flow of water.

effusive
(say uh-\textipa{fyoooh}-siv)

adj. showing too much feeling: 
Her effusive manner can be overwhelming and often makes people uncomfortable.

eloquent
(say el-uh-kwuhnt)

adj. able to speak in a flowing, expressive manner: 
Being naturally eloquent, Ann was chosen to give the opening speech.

embarrass
(say em-ba-ruhs)

verb To embarrass someone is to make them feel uncomfortable: 
My mother's old-fashioned ideas sometimes embarrass me in front of my friends.

epilepsy
(say ep-uh-lep-see)

noun an illness which produces fits of unconsciousness and uncontrollable movements of the body: 
She has a mild form of epilepsy which is controlled well with medication.

escalator
(say es-kuh-lay-tuh)

noun a continuously moving stairway that carries people upwards or downwards: 
They had to use the escalator to reach the higher level.

fastidious
(say fas-tid-ee-uhs)

adj. fussy or hard to please: 
If you are too fastidious, the job will take too long.

feign
(say fayn)

verb If you feign something, you pretend to have it: 
She tried to feign chickenpox by drawing red spots on her skin.

flannelette
(say flan-uh-let)

noun a cotton cloth treated on one side to look and feel like flannel: 
His checked flannelette shirt wasn't suitable for the formal wedding.

formidable
(say faw-muh-duh-buhl)

adj. frightening: 
Mum's visitor was a formidable woman and Dad stayed out in the shed.

franchise
(say fran-chuyz)

noun a citizen's right to vote: 
In Australia, the franchise was first extended to women in South Australia.

igneous
(say ig-nee-uhs)

adj. An igneous rock is formed from volcanic activity: 
Basalt is an igneous rock.
illicit
(say il-is-uht)
*adjective* forbidden or not legal:
The police have caught a major dealer in illicit drugs.

impervious
(say im-per-vee-uhs)
*phrase* If you are **impervious** to something, you are not moved or affected by it:
The judge was impervious to the pleas of the accused.

indispensable
(say in-duh-spens-uh-buhl)
*adjective* absolutely necessary:
Water is indispensable when travelling in the Australian outback.

indolent
(say in-duh-luhnt)
*adjective* tending to avoid work or effort:
Her indolent ways annoyed the firm so much that she was sacked.

installation
(say in-stuh-lay-shuhn)
*noun* the act of installing something:
The installation of the new computer system was delayed for a month.

intercede
(say in-tuh-seed)
*verb* to act on behalf of someone in trouble:
The lawyer will intercede with the government on behalf of the political prisoners.

intravenous
(say in-truh-vee-nuhs)
*adjective* An *intravenous* medicine is given directly into the blood, through a needle put in a vein:
The patient is being given an intravenous antibiotic.

limerick
(say lim-uh-rik)
*noun* a poem with five lines, intended to make you laugh:
The teacher recited a funny limerick about bees.

logistics
(say luh-jis-tiks)
*noun* the practical details of a project:
The logistics of moving so many people to a new area have to be worked out carefully.

macadamia
(say mak-uh-day-mee-uh)
*noun* an edible nut with a very hard shell, grown in eastern Australia and South-East Asia:
The shell of a macadamia is very hard, but the nut inside is delicious.

meteoroid
(say meet-ee-uh-royd)
*noun* any of the small bodies travelling through space:
A fast meteoroid can travel around the sun at more than 40 kilometres a second.
millionaire
(say mil-yuh-nair)
noun someone who has a million dollars or more:
Tom's mother believes his singing talent will make him a millionaire.

mischievous
(say mis-chuh-vuhs)
adjective You are mischievous if you like to do naughty things:
My little brother is very mischievous -- Mum and Dad have to watch what he is doing all the time.

morose
(say muh-rohs)
adjective bad-tempered or gloomy because of unhappiness:
He became very morose when he found out that dinner was to be lentil burgers.

municipality
(say myooh-nuh-suh-pal-uh-tee)
noun a district which has its own local government:
We have some good parks in our municipality.

napery
(say nay-puh-ree)
noun household linen, especially for the table:
My mother used an online site to buy curtains and napery for the new house.

nuisance
(say nyoooh-suhns)
noun someone or something that is very annoying:
It was a real nuisance that we couldn't turn on the tap.

oasis
(say oh-ay-suhs)
noun An oasis is a place in a desert where there is water and plants:
They were relieved to come across an oasis as they were running low on water.

obituary
(say uh-bich-uh-ree)
noun a notice, usually in a newspaper, saying that someone has died and often including a short account of their life and achievements:
I was sad when I saw an obituary in the paper for my old school principal.

officious
(say uh-fish-uhs)
adjective too eager to force your services upon others and to tell them what to do:
If there is one thing I don't like it is officious dog catchers.

ominous
(say om-uh-nuhs)
adjective threatening:
We thought we were safe in the deserted house until we heard an ominous creaking.

orphanage
(say aw-fuh-nij)
noun a place where children without parents live:
The film was about a boy who grew up in an orphanage.

perennial
(say puh-ren-ee-uhl)
adjective A perennial plant has a life cycle of more than two years:
She planted a row of perennial shrubs along the fence.
permeable
(say perm-ee-uh-buhl)
adjective able to be passed through, especially by liquids:
Unfortunately, our tent was made of permeable material, so when it rained the water passed straight through and drenched us.

perpendicular
(say per-puhn-dik-yuh-luh)
adjective meeting a line or surface at right angles:
This instrument will indicate if the wall is exactly perpendicular to the floor.

persimmon
(say per-suh-muhn)
noun a red or orange plum-like fruit:
The ancient Greeks used to call the persimmon the 'fruit of the gods'.

petticoat
(say pet-ee-koht)
noun a light, skirt-like piece of clothing sometimes worn under dresses by women and girls:
Women used to always wear a petticoat under their dress.

petulant
(say pech-uh-luhnt)
adjective showing or feeling impatient annoyance, especially over something unimportant:
'Well, I don't care anyway', she said in a petulant voice.

pillion
(say pil-yuhn)
noun the passenger seat behind the driver's seat on a motorcycle:
He rode as pillion behind his dad on the motorcycle -- it was great fun!

pinnacle
(say pin-uh-kuhl)
noun a high, pointed mountain top:
We cannot be sure if the missing climber ever reached the pinnacle of the Matterhorn.

plaintiff
(say playn-tuhf or playn-tif)
noun a person who brings a court case against someone else known as the defendant:
The plaintiff had brought the case against her landlord.

planetary
(say plan-uh-tuh-ree or plan-uh-tree)
adjective relating to a planet or the planets:
She loved learning about the planetary system and is now studying astronomy.

plaudit
(say plaw-duht)
noun applause, approval, etc., as for an admired performance:
The actor received plaudit after plaudit for his remarkable performance.

porcupine
(say pawk-yuh-puyn)
noun a small animal covered with stiff, sharp spines, found in Europe, Africa, and North America:
Falling onto the porcupine was a nasty experience -- for us both.
posterior
(say pos-teer-ree-uh)
adjective from or at the back:
The X-ray gave a posterior view of the lung.

precarious
(say pruh-kair-ree-uhhs)
adjective involving danger:
That plate is in a precarious position right on the edge of the table.

precipice
(say press-uh-puhs)
noun a steep cliff:
They stood at the top of the precipice and watched the waves crashing below.

prehistoric
(say pree-his-to-rik)
adjective belonging to the time before history was written or records were kept:
We can find out about prehistoric life by examining fossils.

preliminary
(say pruh-lim-uh-nuh-ree or pruh-lim-uhn-ree)
adjective Something that is preliminary comes before the main matter:
Before the conference began, there was a preliminary meeting for everyone to meet each other.

primitive
(say prim-uh-tiv)
adjective being the earliest in existence:
Primitive humans are believed to have lived in caves.

probability
(say prob-uh-bil-uh-tee)
noun likelihood or chance of something occurring
The data showed that the probability of another earthquake was high.

proliferate
(say pruh-lif-uh-rayt)
verb to grow by multiplying:
Swimming pools seem to proliferate in suburbs where there are lots of kids.

propaganda
(say prop-uh-gan-duh)
noun information which is used to try to make you believe a certain point of view:
My father said the TV report was anti-government propaganda.

propensity
(say pruh-pen-suh-tee)
noun a natural or habitual tendency:
She has a propensity for gossip that can get a bit irritating.

proprietor
(say pruh-pruy-uh-tuh)
noun the person who owns a business or a property:
The proprietor of the doughnut shop is a very good friend of mine.

prosecute
(say pros-uh-kyooht)
verb To prosecute someone is to accuse them before a court of law:
The police are going to prosecute the person who stole the money from my grandmother.
queue
(say kyooh)
*noun* a line or file of people, cars or animals waiting in turn for something:
The queue for the hamburgers was too long so we decided to make do with chips.

rapport
(say ruh-paw)
*noun* a friendly feeling between people:
Josie and I have a good rapport and can talk about anything.

rarity
(say rair-ruh-tee)
*noun* something interesting and uncommon:
A whale in the harbour is a great rarity these days.

raspberry
(say rahz-bree)
*noun* a soft, juicy, red berry:
The bowl of ice-cream had a raspberry on top.

ravenous
(say rav-uh-nuhs)
*adjective* extremely hungry:
We were so ravenous that we ate our dinner quickly and in total silence.

receipt
(say ruh-seet)
*noun* a signed piece of paper proving that you have received goods and paid money for them:
I always save the receipt when I buy something, in case I need to return it.

recipe
(say res-uh-pee)
*noun* instructions on how to cook something:
We followed the recipe exactly and made the best lamingtons ever.

recipient
(say ruh-sip-ee-uhnt)
*noun* someone or something that receives something:
He was the recipient of last year’s Nobel Peace Prize.

refugee
(say ref-yooh-jee)
*noun* someone who needs shelter or protection from danger or trouble:
He came to Australia as a refugee from the harsh regime in his country.

regalia
(say ruh-gay-lee-uh)
*plural noun* the emblems of royalty, such as the crown, sceptre, etc.:
The exhibition featured all the regalia of Louis XIV, including his royal crown.

reign
(say rayn)
*noun* the time during which a king or queen rules or holds the position of ruler:
During the reign of Queen Victoria, England ruled an empire.

reimburse
(say ree-im-bers)
*verb* If you *reimburse* someone, you pay them back:
The school will reimburse the teacher for the costs of the excursion.
remittance
(say ruh-mit-uhns)
noun the sending of money, etc., as payment:
From her wage, she managed to send home a remittance to her family each month.
renegade
(say ren-uh-gayd)
noun someone who deserts one party or cause for another:
It was clear from the voting papers that there was a renegade in our midst.
reprehensible
(say rep-ruh-hen-suh-buhl)
adjective very bad and deserving harsh criticism:
She was admonished for her reprehensible behaviour.
reprise
(say ruh-pruyz-uhl)
noun an act which causes hurt or damage to someone in retaliation for something they have done:
The raids on the government offices appeared to be a reprisal for the military attack.
repulsive
(say ruh-pul-siv)
adjective disgusting:
The smell of the garbage bin was repulsive.
requisite
(say rek-wuh-zuht)
adjective needed or demanded:
He has the requisite qualifications for the job.
resignation
(say re-zig-nay-shuhn)
noun a statement informing your employer that you are giving up a job:
She decided that she would hand in her resignation at the end of the week, and go and pick bananas in Darwin.
resourceful
(say ruh-zaws-fuhl or ruh-saws-fuhl)
adjective skilful in overcoming difficulties:
Her bush experience learned over many years made her a resourceful and capable leader.
ridiculous
(say ruh-dik-yuh-luhs)
adjective If something is ridiculous, it is very silly or foolish:
The idea may sound ridiculous, but I actually think it will work.
salinity
(say suh-lin-uh-tee)
noun the rising of salt from deep under the ground, making the water in rivers and lakes too salty to drink, and making the soil too salty for farming:
Salinity is a serious problem in many of our rivers at the moment.
samurai
(say sam-yuh-ruy)
noun (plural samurai)
a Japanese fighter who lived in medieval times:
A samurai was an expert swordsman.
sanitary
   (say san-uh-tree)
   adjective having to do with cleanliness or care in preventing disease:
   All procedures at the hospital must be sanitary, or germs will quickly spread.

sashimi
   (say suh-shee-mee)
   noun a Japanese dish of fresh seafood fillets cut into bite-sized, oblong strips, and eaten raw:
   Fiona had sashimi at the Japanese restaurant and I had teriyaki chicken.

sassafras
   (say sass-uh-frass)
   noun an Australian tree with sweet-smelling bark:
   Oak and cedar were used for cabinetwork and fittings -- and sassafras for flooring.

scaffolding
   (say skaf-uhl-ding)
   noun a system of scaffolds:
   Workers had to erect scaffolding around the outside of the building before restoration could begin.

scissors
   (say siz-uhz)
   plural noun a cutting instrument made of two blades joined together:
   My scissors have become too blunt to cut properly.

scoundrel
   (say skown-druhl)
   noun a wicked and immoral person:
   My grandmother called the thief a scoundrel.

scrumptious
   (say skrum-shuhs)
   adjective very tasty:
   It was such a scrumptious dessert that I had a second helping.

seethe
   (say seedh)
   verb If a person seethes, they are excited or disturbed:
   I know Mum will seethe with anger when she finds out what we've done.

seizure
   (say seezh-uh)
   noun a sudden attack of disease:
   She had a seizure while on holidays and was rushed to hospital.

sergeant
   (say sah-juhnt)
   noun a soldier or police officer with a high enough rank to be in charge of others:
   A police sergeant came to our school to talk about road safety.

sesame
   (say sess-uh-mee)
   noun a tropical plant, whose small seeds are used for food and oil:
   Oil made from the seeds of sesame is essential for Chinese cooking.

shrewd
   (say shroohd)
   adjective clever, and with good practical judgement:
   People often asked him for advice because they thought he was shrewd.
sienna  
(say see-en-uh)  
noun a yellowish brown or reddish brown:  
The artist had used sienna for the desert in his painting.

skillion  
(say skil-yuhn)  
noun an outer building sometimes leaning against a wall, with a roof sloping in one direction:  
The laundry was at the back of the old house, in a skillion, which was a kind of lean-to with a sloping roof.

smear  
(say smear)  
noun a dirty mark or stain:  
There was a smear of paint on the window pane.

solicit  
(say suh-lis-uht)  
verb to seek seriously and formally:  
The charity will solicit funds from local businesses.

soothe  
(say soo-hdh)  
verb If you soothe someone who is hurt or sad, you try to make them feel happy and calm again:  
The coach tried to soothe the team after they lost their final match.

spacious  
(say spay-shuhs)  
adjective having a lot of space or room:  
The kitchen was spacious enough to fit a table that seated six people.

spontaneous  
(say spon-tay-nee-uhs)  
adjective happening naturally and often unexpectedly:  
There was a spontaneous burst of applause when the great writer walked into the room.

squabble  
(say skwob-uhl)  
verb If you squabble, you fight or argue about little things that are not important:  
They always squabble about whose turn it is to set the table.

squadron  
(say skwod-ruhn)  
noun a fighting unit in the armed forces, especially in the air force or navy:  
The squadron provided aerial support to the fleet of supply ships.

squall  
(say skwawl)  
noun a sudden strong wind which dies away rapidly:  
The boat's mast snapped in half during the squall.

stampede  
(say stam-peed)  
noun a sudden rush of a group of animals or people, often in fright:  
The thirsty cattle smelt water and broke into a frenzied stampede.
stubborn
(say stub-uhn)

adjective You are stubborn if you will not change your mind about something, even though you might be wrong:
He was so stubborn that he refused to go with them despite wanting to join in.

submissive
(say sub-mis-iv)

adjective giving in obediently without asking questions or standing up for yourself:
She is too submissive and people tend to take advantage of her.

successive
(say suhk-ses-iv)

adjective coming one after the other:
Successive directors of the company have all failed to make a profit.

succulent
(say suk-yuh-luhnt)

adjective juicy:
A succulent mango is hard to eat without getting covered in juice.

suffice
(say suh-fuys)

verb to be enough:
For dessert, anything chocolate will suffice.

superstition
(say sooh-puh-stish-uhn)

noun a belief about the meaning of a thing or event that does not stem from reason or sensible thought:
She never steps on the lines of the footpath because of a silly superstition.

supplement
(say sup-luh-muhnt)

noun an extra part of a newspaper on a particular subject:
The newspaper has a supplement with photos of teams playing in the grand final.

surplus
(say ser-pluhs)

noun an amount that is more than what is needed or used:
There was a surplus of sausages at the barbecue.

suspicious
(say suh-spish-uhhs)

adjective feeling that someone is doing something dishonest or secretive:
We were suspicious when we heard a window shatter followed by footsteps running down the road.

sustenance
(say sus-tuh-nuhns)

noun nourishment gained from what you eat:
There's plenty of sustenance in my diet.

systematic
(say sis-tuh-mat-ik)

adjective having or using a system, method, or plan:
The teacher worked out a systematic course of reading for the boy who needed extra help.
teethe

(say teedh)

verb To **teethe** is to grow teeth:

*The baby cried more often when it started to teethe.*

territorial

(say te-ruh-taw-ree-uhl)

adjective of or relating to a territory:

*Dingoes are territorial animals, and rarely venture outside their own territory.*

traitor

(say tray-tuh)

noun A **traitor** is someone who tells an enemy secrets about their country:

*Nobody could believe that he was a traitor to his country.*

translucent

(say tranz-looh-suhnt)

adjective allowing some light to come through, so that you can see things, but not clearly:

*The curtain was made of translucent material.*

transparency

(say trans-pair-ruhn-see or trans-par-ruhn-see)

noun something which is transparent, especially a transparent photograph projected onto a screen or looked at by light shining through from behind:

*We needed an overhead projector to put the transparency on.*

trauma

(say traw-muh)

noun an emotional shock which has a lasting effect on the mind:

*The family never really got over the trauma of the accident.*

treasurer

(say trezh-uh-ruh)

noun someone in charge of the money belonging to a company, club or city:

*She was elected treasurer at the annual general meeting.*

tyrant

(say tuy-ruhnt)

noun anyone in a position of power who uses it cruelly and unjustly:

*They had only one thought -- to escape and get away from the tyrant.*

unassuming

(say un-uh-xyooh-ming)

adjective modest or not making any special claims about yourself:

*Her quiet unassuming manner won her many friends.*

unforeseen

(say un-faw-seen)

adjective not expected:

*Unless something unforeseen crops up, we should get there by 4 o'clock.*

unique

(say yoooh-neek)

adjective To be **unique** is to be different from all the others:

*The Sydney Opera House is unique -- there's nothing like it anywhere else.*

vegetation

(say vej-uh-tay-shuhn)

noun the whole plant life of a particular area:

*Much of the vegetation was cleared for grazing animals.*
victorious
(say vik-taw-ree-uhs)
*adjective* having won a contest or battle:
The victorious swimming team was cheered when they arrived home from the Olympics.

virtual
(say ver-chooh-uhhl)
*adjective* as if it were really so:
Her illness made her a virtual prisoner in her own home.

visibility
(say viz-uh-bil-uh-tee)
*noun* the distance you can see, given the weather conditions or time of day:
Drive slowly, because visibility is poor when it is raining so heavily.

warrant
(say wo-ruhnt)
*noun* a paper issued by a magistrate allowing a police officer to make an arrest or to carry out a search of a building:
Once the police produced the search warrant, the thieves realised they were in real trouble.

wheatgerm
(say weet-jerm)
*noun* a part of the wheat grain, rich in vitamins, which is removed when the wheat is ground:
You can buy wheatgerm at a health food store.

whiplash
(say wip-lash)
*noun* an injury to the spine, usually in the neck area, caused by sudden movement forwards or backwards, especially in a car accident:
A large number of people involved in car accidents suffer from whiplash.

wrinkle
(say ring-kuhl)
*noun* A **wrinkle** is a line or fold on something that is usually smooth:
When you frown, you get a wrinkle or two on your forehead.

xylophone
(say zuy-luh-fohn)
*noun* a musical instrument made of a row of wooden bars of different lengths which you hit with small hammers:
He already knew how to play the piano, so he learned the xylophone very quickly.
Junior General Level 5

acquittal
(say uh-kwit-uhl)
noun the state of being found innocent of a crime:
When it was clear there was an acquittal, the accused man's family cheered.

affidavit
(say af-uh-day-vuht)
noun in law, a written statement which may be used as a substitute for evidence in court:
She was asked to provide an affidavit describing the events leading up to the accident.

agapanthus
(say ag-uh-pan-thuhs)
noun a type of plant with big, round, blue or white flowers:
The agapanthus is often used as a border plant, along driveways and fences.

albeit
(say awl-bee-it)
conjunction although:
Corinne and Carla organised all the stalls at the school fete -- albeit with a little help from their parents.

amalgamate
(say uh-mal-guh-mayt)
verb to join together:
The two companies decided to amalgamate and move to a new location.

ambivalent
(say am-biv-uh-luhnt)
adjective unable to make up your mind due to conflicting feelings:
She felt ambivalent about going to the party -- it would be fun, but she was very tired.

amethyst
(say am-uh-thuhst)
noun a purple-coloured precious stone:
The purple amethyst in her ring flashed as she played the piano.

amphibious
(say am-fib-ee-uhs)
adjective able to live, move or operate both on land and in water:
A frog is an amphibious animal.

anecdote
(say an-uhk-doht)
noun a short story that tells about a funny or interesting person or event:
She kept us entertained with an anecdote about her family.

anomaly
(say uh-nom-uh-lee)
noun a variation from what is normal:
She never misses school so her absence from school was an anomaly.

arachnid
(say uh-rak-nid)
noun one of a group of animals that includes spiders and scorpions:
An arachnid has eight legs.
barnacle
(say bah-nuh-kuhl)
noun a crustacean that attaches itself to the bottom of ships, floating timber and marine rocks:
He cut his foot on a barnacle attached to a piece of driftwood on the beach.
cavalcade
(say kav-uhl-kayd)
noun a procession of people on horseback or in horse-drawn carriages:
An impressive cavalcade followed the queen's carriage.
cerebral
(say se-ruh-bruhl or suh-ree-bruhl)
adjective having to do with the brain:
The doctors said they could detect cerebral activity in the unconscious patient.
chagrin
(say shuh-grin or shag-ruhn)
noun a feeling of anger and disappointment:
I realised, to my chagrin, that my foolishness had cost our team the honour of winning the competition.
coherent
(say koh-hear-ruhnt)
adjective clear and well thought out:
She presented a coherent argument for building a new school hall.
convalesce
(say kon-vuh-less)
verb If someone is convalescing, they are growing stronger after an illness:
They took her to the mountains so she could convalesce in the cool, clean air.
crevasse
(say kruh-vass)
noun a deep crack in a glacier or river of ice:
The glacier was enormous and we could see a large vertical crevasse slicing it down the middle.
crustacean
(say kruss-tay-shuhn)
noun a type of animal with a hard shell instead of a skeleton, such as a crab, usually living in water:
Krill is a tiny shrimp-like crustacean vital in the food chain.
disciplinarian
(say diss-uh-pluh-nair-ree-uhn)
adjective believing in strict discipline:
Her disciplinarian boss would not allow her to leave a minute early.
gingivitis
(say jin-juh-vuy-tuhs)
noun inflammation of the gums around your teeth:
Gingivitis can make your gums red and sore.
gratuity
(say gruh-tyooh-uh-tee)
noun a gift, usually of money, for service given:
He was given a gratuity of $5 for carrying the luggage.
guarantor
(say ga-ruhn-taw)
noun someone who makes or gives a guarantee, such as promising they will pay someone's debt if that person can't:
He asked his parents to be a guarantor for his housing loan.

inauspicious
(say in-aw-spish-uhs)
adjective unfavourable:
The black clouds were inauspicious for the outdoor wedding.

irrelevant
(say i-rel-uh-vuhnt)
adjective not connected with the current topic or issue:
Try to stay on the subject and don't waste time on irrelevant details.

irreplaceable
(say i-ruh-plays-uh-buhl)
adjective not able to be replaced:
The broken souvenir is irreplaceable.

liaison
(say lee-ay-zuhn)
noun a connection or communication between people or groups:
The council works in liaison with local bush regeneration groups.

lineage
(say lin-ee-ij)
noun descent from a line of ancestors:
Tom's aunt thinks her family is of royal lineage.

magnanimous
(say mag-nan-uh-muhs)
adjective nobly unselfish and generous:
It's very magnanimous of you to give me your ticket to the concert.

malleable
(say mal-ee-uh-buhl)
adjective easily worked into a different shape:
Plasticine is easy to shape because it is malleable.

marshmallow
(say mahsh-mal-oh or mahsh-mel-oh)
noun a type of sweet with a spongy texture, usually containing gelatine, sugar, and flavouring:
I like to put a marshmallow in my hot chocolate.

masquerade
(say mas-kuh-rayd or mahs-kuh-rayd)
noun a party at which the guests wear fancy dress:
I wore a pirate costume to the masquerade.

melodramatic
(say mel-uh-druh-mat-ik)
adjective too emotional and dramatic:
We were surprised by her melodramatic reaction to the announcement.
milliner
(say mil-uh-nuh)
noun someone who makes or sells hats:
My grandmother is a milliner and is busy every year making hats for the Melbourne Cup.

monotonous
(say muh-not-uh-nuhs)
adjective tiresomely lacking in variety:
We almost fell asleep listening to the sound of the lecturer's monotonous voice.

neuralgia
(say nyooh-ral-juh)
noun a pain along a nerve:
The sharp pains from her neuralgia were getting worse.

nuance
(say nyoooh-ons)
noun a slight variation of colour, meaning, expression or feeling:
We knew every nuance of her voice and could tell that she was worried.

obnoxious
(say uhb-nok-shuhs)
adjective disagreeable or nasty:
His behaviour was so obnoxious that not even his friends thought he was funny.

oleander
(say ol-ee-an-duh)
noun a pink or white flowering shrub with dark green leaves:
The oleander is a pretty plant, but it is poisonous.

osteopath
(say oss-tee-uh-path)
noun a person who cures diseases by realigning bones in the body:
The osteopath examined the patient thoroughly before treating her.

pandemonium
(say pan-duh-moh-nee-uhm)
noun wild and noisy confusion:
There was absolute pandemonium when we heard that our team had made the finals.

paparazzi
(say pap-uh-raht-see)
plural noun news photographers who seek sensational but trivial material with great persistence:
Most celebrities hate their privacy being invaded by the paparazzi.

philanthropy
(say fuh-lan-thruh-pee)
noun love of humankind, especially shown in deeds of giving to charity, and so on:
His philanthropy had saved the lives of countless children.

predecessor
(say pree-duh-sess-uh)
noun someone who had the job before someone else:
Governor Macquarie arrived in New South Wales shortly after his predecessor had left.
prejudice
(say prej-uh-duhs)
noun an opinion unfairly formed beforehand, without reason or proof:
The decision didn't seem fair and showed a prejudice on the part of the judge.

presbytery
(say prez-buh-tree or press-puh-tree)
noun the house of a priest:
Our after-school care centre is in a presbytery once occupied by a priest.

reiterate
(say ree-it-uh-rayt)
verb to say or do again or repeatedly:
How many times do I have to reiterate that you are not to jump on the table?

repertoire
(say rep-uh-twah)
noun the plays, musical pieces or other items which an entertainer can perform:
The singer's repertoire is small but she claims that quality is more important than quantity.

secede
(say suh-seed)
verb to withdraw from an association:
The club threatened to secede from the federation.

sequester
(say suh-kwes-tuh)
verb to place in a position of solitude:
The movie star decided to sequester himself on an island, and lived alone for a year.

sojourn
(say soh-jern or soj-ern)
noun a temporary stay:
They had a pleasant sojourn in Tasmania after the conference.

solicitous
(say suh-lis-uh-tuhs)
adjective anxiously caring about something:
They were solicitous for the new girl's wellbeing.

statuesque
(say stach-ooh-esk)
adjective like or suggesting a statue, in dignity, grace or beauty:
She was statuesque in a long white satin gown.

successor
(say suhk-sess-uh)
noun someone or something that comes after and takes the place of:
I am leaving the job in the capable hands of my successor.

succinct
(say suhk-singkt)
adjective expressed in a few words:
Our teacher advised us to write succinct answers as we did not have a lot of time.

surreptitious
(say su-ruhp-tish-uhs)
adjective secret or stealthy:
She tried to sneak a surreptitious look at the answers, but was caught and punished for cheating.
swathe
(say swaydh)
verb to wrap something up with strips of material or other wrappings:
*She decided to swathe her neck with a scarf before going out into the cold night.*

tortilla
(say taw-tee-yuh)
noun a thin, round, unleavened cake made from cornmeal:
*We wrapped some chicken and salad in a tortilla for lunch.*

vestibule
(say vest-uh-byoohl)
noun an entrance hall:
*We waited in the church vestibule until the service was about to start.*

witticism
(say wit-uh-ziz-uhm)
noun a joke or witty remark:
*He often came out with a clever joke or witticism.*
Categorised Words:

Junior Arts Level 1

actor
(say ak-tuh)
_noun_ someone who acts the part of a character in a play or film, or on television:
The actor who played the killer was frightening.

clay
(say klay)
_noun_ a thick, sticky earth which is used in making pottery and bricks:
We made vases out of clay in our art class.

drum
(say drum)
_noun_ a musical instrument with a round hollow body often covered with a tightly stretched skin, which makes a deep sound when it is hit:
The beating of the drum indicated that the procession was about to start.

fair
(say fair)
_noun_ an event at which things are displayed or sold and games and rides are provided as entertainment:
We were in charge of selling tickets for rides on the Ferris wheel at the fair.

harp
(say hahp)
_noun_ a large musical instrument with a frame into which strings of different length are fixed. It is played by plucking the strings with your fingers:
The harp is a beautiful instrument, but not many people play it nowadays.

mime
(say muym)
_noun_ a form of acting in which the actors use movements of their body and face instead of words:
You have to train for years to perform mime well.

paint
(say paynt)
_noun_ a liquid colouring substance that you can put on a surface to give it colour:
We asked our teacher for more purple paint.

poem
(say poh-uhm)
_noun_ a piece of writing set out in a special way, often with lines that match in length, rhythm or rhyme:
The Man from Snowy River' is a famous Australian poem.

solo
(say soh-loh)
_noun_ a musical performance by one person:
I was nervous because I was singing a solo in the concert.

song
(say song)
_noun_ a short musical composition with words:
At the concert, Alex sang a song that she had written herself.
stage
(say stay)
noun a raised floor, usually in a theatre, on which public performances take place:
*Yellow tape was stuck on the stage where the actors were supposed to stand.*

story
(say staw-rec)
noun A *story* is something told or written which has either happened in real life or has been made up in someone's mind:
*We read a short story about pirates in class today.*

talent
(say tal-uhnt)
noun *Talent* is what you have if you can do something very well:
*The teacher said that my paintings show a talent for art.*

tone
(say tohn)
noun a musical sound:
*The audience admired the mellow tone of the cello.*

verse
(say vers)
noun a group of lines that go together in a song or poem:
*We usually only sing the first verse of the national anthem.*
Junior Arts Level 2

carol
(say ka-ruhl)
noun a joyful song, especially a Christmas song or hymn:
'Silent Night' is my favourite Christmas carol.

casting
(say kah-sting)
noun the selection of actors for a play, film, etc.:
The casting for the new film is being done entirely in Australia.

cello
(say chel-oh)
noun a stringed instrument which is held upright on the floor between the knees of the player:
The cello is an instrument with a lovely deep sound.

composer
(say kuhm-poh-zuh)
noun someone who writes music:
Beethoven was a famous German composer.

context
(say kon-tekst)
noun the circumstances or facts that surround a particular situation or event:
The novel was written in the context of the Vietnam War.

costume
(say koss-tyoohm)
noun a set of clothes, especially to make you look like someone else or for a particular purpose:
Luke wore a Batman costume to the party.

creative
(say kree-ay-tiv)
adjective good at making or inventing things:
She was very creative and often made her own clothes.

debut
(say day-byooh or day-booh or duh-booh)
noun a first appearance in public, on stage, etc.:
She made her debut in the chorus of 'Swan Lake'.

editor
(say ed-uh-tuh)
noun someone who prepares written material for publication:
Mum is the editor of a health magazine.

essay
(say ess-ay)
noun a short piece of writing about a particular subject:
We had to write a one-page essay about our favourite animal.

fable
(say fay-buhhl)
noun a short, made-up story, often about animals, that teaches a lesson about how to behave:
Have you heard the fable of the boy who cried wolf?
festival  
*(say fest-uh-vuhl)*  
**noun** a celebration with performances of music and dance and other displays:  
*Our town has an annual Christmas festival.*

foxtrot  
*(say foks-trot)*  
**noun** a ballroom dance which uses short, quick steps, and which was very popular in the past:  
*The dancers were exhausted after the energetic foxtrot.*

fresco  
*(say fress-koh)*  
**noun** a painting done on a wall or ceiling:  
*The council hired an artist to paint a fresco on the ceiling of our new town hall.*

harmony  
*(say hah-muh-nee)*  
**noun** a pleasant combination of musical notes sounding together:  
*The choir sang in perfect harmony.*

jazz  
*(say jaz)*  
**noun** a type of music, first played by African Americans, with complex melodies and rhythms, often with the performers making up or varying the music as they play:  
*My parents enjoy listening to jazz, in particular the cool grooves of Chet Baker.*

melodic  
*(say muh-loyd-ik)*  
**adjective** tuneful:  
*He played us a melodic tune on his clarinet.*

movie  
*(say mooh-vee)*  
**noun** a film:  
*Would you like to see a movie during the holidays?*

music  
*(say myooh-zik)*  
**noun** sounds combined together in a way that is nice to listen to, and expresses ideas or feelings:  
*I like listening to music on the radio.*

myth  
*(say mith)*  
**noun** an ancient traditional story, often about gods and supernatural events, that was used to explain natural events such as the weather:  
*Our teacher read us an ancient Greek myth about how the stars were formed.*

novel  
*(say nov-uhl)*  
**noun** a long written story about made-up people and events:  
*Her favourite novel was the seventh Harry Potter book.*

opera  
*(say op-ruh)*  
**noun** a play that is sung to music:  
*Luckily I know the story of this opera because it is sung in Italian and I can only speak English.*
pastel
(say pass-tuhl)
noun a soft pale colour:
The walls are painted in a pretty pastel.
pencil
(say pen-suhl)
noun a thin, pointed piece of wood with a stick of graphite or crayon in the middle, used for writing or drawing:
I need a red pencil for this drawing.
picture
(say pik-chuh)
noun a drawing, painting, photograph or something similar:
I gave my dad a birthday card with a picture of a boat on it.
pitch
(say pich)
noun (plural pitches)
the quality of a musical note thought of in terms of its highness or lowness:
The part was too high for the pitch of her voice.
scene
(say seen)
noun one of the divisions of a play:
The murder occurs in the first scene of the play.
script
(say skript)
noun the words written down for the actors to say in a play or film:
I practised my part for the play by reading the script in the bath.
tango
(say tang-goh)
noun a dramatic dance from South America, danced by couples:
We each found a partner and learned how to dance the tango.
tempo
(say tem-poh)
noun the speed of a piece of music:
The music had a very fast tempo.
tenor
(say ten-uh)
noun a man with a singing voice in the higher range:
There is a part for a tenor in the school musical.
theme
(say theem)
noun the main subject of a book, speech or piece of music:
The theme of his speech was the protection of the natural environment.
trio
(say tree-oh)
noun a group of three musicians:
My two brothers and I have formed a trio and we busk every weekend in the city.
trumpet
(say trum-puht)
noun a brass wind instrument with a flared end:
The trumpet players in the school band always played the loudest.
**tuba**  
(say tyoooh-buh)  
noun a big brass wind instrument with a very low pitch:  
*Carol didn't like carrying her tuba to and from band practice because it was so big and heavy.*

**tune**  
(say tyoohn)  
noun a series of musical notes, played or sung, that form a pattern that is nice to listen to:  
*Marco whistled the tune of his favourite song while he did the dishes.*

**tutu**  
(say tooh-tooh)  
noun a short ballet skirt, usually made out of layers of net-like material:  
*The ballerina leapt onto the stage in a tutu covered in sparkling crystals.*

**understudy**  
(say un-duh-stud-ee)  
noun an actor or singer who stands by to replace someone who is unable to perform, usually because of illness:  
*Luckily the understudy had trained well for the part and the show was a total success.*

**upstage**  
(say up-stayj)  
verb to steal attention from, by placing yourself in a more favourable position:  
*He thought he could upstage all the other singers if he practised really hard.*

**vocal**  
(say voh-kuhl)  
adjective Something that is **vocal** has to do with the human voice:  
*The singer has a broad vocal range.*
Junior Arts Level 3

acclaim
(say uh-klaym)
noun enthusiastic praise:
The new movie premiered to great acclaim.

accompany
(say uh-kum-puh-nee or uh-kump-nee)
verb to go in company with someone or something:
My Dad thought it was important to accompany me on my first day of school.

acoustics
(say uh-koo-sticks)
noun the properties of a room which affect the quality of the sounds produced in it:
We tested the acoustics of different-sized rooms to see which room would carry the sound the best.

alphabet
(say al-fuh-bet)
noun all the letters of a language arranged in their usual order:
My little sister has just learned to say the alphabet.

artisan
(say ah-tuh-zuhn)
noun a skilled worker who makes useful things like tools, cooking items, etc.:
The medieval town had an artisan who made fine silverware.

audition
(say aw-dish-uhn)
noun a test given to see how suitable an actor or performer is for a particular role:
Connie was very nervous about her audition for the school play.

ballad
(say bal-uhd)
noun a simple poem with short verses, which tells a story and is often turned into a song:
Most people find that a ballad is the easiest type of song to sing.

ballerina
(say bal-uh-ree-nuh)
noun a girl or woman who dances in a ballet:
Sonia goes to ballet lessons every week, and wants to be a ballerina when she grows up.

bassoon
(say buh-soohn)
noun a woodwind instrument with a low pitch:
He plays the bassoon in the school band.

castanets
(say kass-tuh-nets)
plural noun a pair of shell-shaped pieces of wood which you hold in your hand and click together in time to music and dancing:
The flamenco dancer played the castanets as she danced.

cellist
(say chel-uhst)
noun someone who plays the cello:
The solo was going to be performed by the lead cellist.
ceramics
(say suh-ram-iks)
noun the craft of making things out of clay:
When we do ceramics in art, the teacher always operates the kiln.

choral
(say ko-ruhl)
adjetive sung by a choir or a chorus:
The choral performance of the famous rock song was beautiful.

chord
(say kawd)
noun three or more musical notes played together:
When Jess first got her guitar, she could only play one chord, and now she's in a band.

cinema
(say sin-uh-muh)
noun a theatre where films are shown:
For my birthday, my friends took me to the cinema to see a movie.

circus
(say ser-kuhs)
noun a show in a big tent with clowns, acrobats and sometimes animals such as lions and elephants:
My brother loved going to the circus to see the acrobats.

classical
(say klas-i-kuhl)
adjetive Classical music is usually thought of as traditional and serious:
I had to learn two classical pieces as well as a jazz piece for my saxophone exam.

claves
(say klayvz or klah-vayz)
plural noun a simple musical instrument which consists of two wooden sticks which are hit together:
I didn't know how to play an instrument so the teacher got me to play the claves.

composition
(say kom-puh-zish-uhn)
noun a short piece of writing which you do as part of school work:
We had to write a composition about what we would do with a million dollars.

concert
(say kon-suht)
noun a public performance by one or more musicians or other performers:
At the end of each year my ballet school puts on a concert.

conversation
(say kon-vuh-say-shuhn)
noun talk among people:
My little sister got upset when my friends and I didn't include her in our conversation.

curator
(say kyooh-ray-tuh)
noun someone who looks after a museum, art gallery or similar kind of collection:
The curator was congratulated on the latest exhibition of the museum.
descant
(say des-kant)
noun a tune played or sung above the main tune:
The girls in the choir sang the descant part of the song.

design
(say duh-zuyn)
noun the combination of lines, colours and other parts of a work of art into a pleasing whole:
Alisha sketched the design for her poster before starting to paint it.
dirge
(say derj)
noun a funeral song or tune, or one expressing grief:
The dirge played at the funeral was very long.
dramatist
(say dram-uh-tuhst)
noun a writer of plays:
The actor was overwhelmed to be chosen by the dramatist to perform in his new play.
duet
(say dyooh-et)
noun a musical piece for two performers:
She and her sister played a duet together on the piano.
dye
(say duy)
noun a liquid that is used to colour cloth, hair, and other things:
The fashion designer ordered a special dye to colour the fabric for his new collection.
easel
(say eez-uhl)
noun a stand for holding a painting or drawing while the artist is working on it:
We each set up an easel under the trees and began to paint the landscape.
encore
(say on-kaw)
noun an extra song or piece of music performed at the end of a concert, in response to the audience's applause:
The band came back on stage and played an encore, much to the delight of the crowd.
etching
(say ech-ing)
noun a process of making designs or pictures on metal, glass, etc., using acid:
Etching is a difficult process and should be undertaken with care.
fiction
(say fik-shuhn)
noun stories that are made up from the imagination:
Jessie liked reading fiction, because it was usually more exciting than non-fiction.
guitar
(say guh-tah)
noun a musical instrument with a long neck and strings which you play by plucking or strumming:
Shane wanted to learn how to play the guitar so he could play in a band with his friends.
handicraft  
(say han-dee-krahft)  
noun an occupation or art in which you use your hands:  
Pottery is a popular handicraft.

harmonica  
(say hah-mon-ik-uh)  
noun a small wind instrument with metal reeds, which you play by blowing:  
He pulled the harmonica from his pocket and played a tune while he waited for the bus.

illustrator  
(say il-uh-stray-tuh)  
noun an artist who makes illustrations:  
This illustrator uses lots of bright colours.

intonation  
(say in-tuh-nay-shuhn)  
noun the pattern of changes of pitch in speech or music:  
The actor changed the intonation of his voice to give his words added menace.

melody  
(say mel-uh-dee)  
noun a tune:  
That new advertising jingle has a catchy melody.

minim  
(say min-uhm)  
noun a note in music equal to half a semibreve in length:  
My music teacher gets cross because I always forget how long a minim is.

minstrel  
(say min-struhl)  
noun a musician in the Middle Ages who sang or recited poetry while playing an instrument:  
The minstrel wandered around the tavern, singing songs of brave knights.

museum  
(say myooh-zee-uhm)  
noun a place where rare and interesting things are displayed:  
Our class visited the museum to see the exhibition of dinosaur bones.

octave  
(say ok-tiv)  
noun a series of eight notes between two musical notes of the same name but different pitch:  
Chan played an octave on the clarinet to warm up.

orator  
(say o-ruh-tuh)  
noun a public speaker, especially a skilful one:  
The audience was captivated by speech the orator gave.

origami  
(say o-ruh-gah-mee)  
noun the art of folding paper into interesting shapes, first developed in Japan:  
We learned how to make boxes using origami.
performance
(say puh-faw-muhns)
noun a show of singing, music, acting or other entertainment:
*The Year Six students put on a great performance at the end of the year.*

pianola
(say pee-uh-noh-luh)
noun a type of mechanical piano that plays predetermined music when the pedals are pressed:
*She didn't know how to play the piano but she could play the pianola simply by pressing the pedals.*

playwright
(say play-ruyt)
noun someone who writes plays:
*Shakespeare is the most famous English playwright.*

portrait
(say paw-truht or paw-trayt)
noun a painting, drawing or photograph of someone, especially of their face:
*My mother was asked to paint a portrait of the mayor of our town.*

prologue
(say proh-log)
noun a speech at the beginning of a play:
*The prologue to 'The Tempest' provides some good clues as to the themes of the play.*

quotation
(say kwoh-tay-shuhn)
noun a part of a piece of writing that someone copies and repeats somewhere else:
*Dad's speech at the wedding had lots of good quotations about love in it.*

rehearse
(say ruh-herce)
verb To rehearse is to practise in private before giving a public performance:
*Our school choir has to rehearse for the concert every afternoon.*

satire
(say sat-uy-uh)
noun a literary composition in which someone's failings are ridiculed:
*The play was a satire that poked fun at the government.*

soprano
(say suh-prah-noh)
noun (plural sopranos)
a woman or boy who sings with a high voice:
*Her voice is too low to sing the part of soprano.*

tambourine
(say tam-buh-reen)
noun a type of small drum which has small, round pieces of metal set into a frame, and is played by hitting or shaking it:
*You have to have a good sense of rhythm to play the tambourine.*

tapestry
(say tap-uhs-tree)
noun (plural tapestries)
a piece of cloth with a design which has been woven or embroidered, usually by hand:
*The tapestry was in exquisitely rich colours of red and burgundy.*
textile
(say teks-tuyl)
noun any woven material used for clothing, curtains and so on:
The curtains in the music room were made of a heavy textile to improve the acoustics.

theatrical
(say thee-at-rik-uhl)
adjective in or belonging to a theatre:
My uncle loves the stage and often works in theatrical productions.

trombone
(say trom-bohn)
noun a brass wind instrument, on which you play different notes by sliding a tube in and out:
Joe gets very annoyed when his sister practises her trombone while he is trying to watch television.

vibrato
(say vuh-brah-toh)
noun a pulsating effect produced in the singing voice or in an instrumental tone:
The flautist used vibrato on the final note.

weave
(say weev)
verb If you weave, you make things like wool or cotton into material by passing the threads under and over each other:
It took the family three weeks to weave the rug.
Junior Arts Level 4

alabaster  
*say* al-uh-bas-tuh
*noun* a fine white stone used for carving:  
Alabaster is often carved into ornaments.

allegro  
*say* uh-lay-groh or uh-leg-roh
*adverb* a direction indicating that music should be played or sung at a fast speed:  
The most difficult passage to play was the one marked `allegro'.

anthology  
*say* an-thol-uh-jee
*noun* a collection of poems, short stories or songs, each by a different author or songwriter:  
I bought my mother an anthology of Australian poetry for her birthday.

cameo  
*say* kam-ee-oh
*noun* a short appearance in a film by a celebrity:  
The Prime Minister agreed to do a cameo in the new film about politics.

chorister  
*say* ko-ruhs-tuh
*noun* someone who sings in a choir:  
She loved singing and wanted to be a chorister in the cathedral choir.

concerto  
*say* kuhn-cher-toh
*noun* a piece of music for one or more solo instruments, such as a piano or violin, and an orchestra:  
The concerto was performed by a famous orchestra.

critique  
*say* kruh-teek
*noun* an article or essay reviewing something:  
The newspaper featured a critique of the new film.

crotchet  
*say* kroch-uht
*noun* a musical note equal to the time of one beat:  
A minim is twice as long as a crotchet, and a crotchet is twice as long as a quaver.

cymbal  
*say* sim-buhl
*noun* one of a pair of curved brass plates which are hit together to make a sharp, musical, ringing sound:  
The percussionist dropped a cymbal during a very quiet passage, and we all jumped.

decibel  
*say* dess-uh-bel
*noun* a measure of loudness used to show how much louder one sound is than another:  
If the music got one decibel louder we were sure our ears would explode!

documentary  
*say* dok-yooh-men-tuh-ree or dok-yooh-men-tree
*noun* a film, television or radio program about a real event or someone's life:  
We watched a documentary about World War II on television last night.
exhibition
(say eks-uh-bish-uhn)
noun a show or display of something that a lot of people can go and see:
All their parents and friends came to see the students' art exhibition.

instrumentalist
(say in-struh-men-tuhl-uhst)
noun a person who performs on a musical instrument:
She worked as an instrumentalist accompanying different singers.

musician
(say myooh-zish-uhn)
noun someone who plays or composes music:
Becky practises the piano every day because she wants to have a career as a musician.

photography
(say fuh-tog-ruh-fee)
noun the act of producing images with a camera:
The skill involved in photography is often underestimated.

premiere
(say prem-ee-air)
noun A premiere is the first time something is shown or done:
There were lots of famous people at the premiere of the film.

quadrille
(say kwuh-dril)
noun a dance where four couples dance in a square pattern:
The dancing class was divided into groups of eight to learn the steps of the quadrille.

simile
(say sim-uh-lee)
noun a figure of speech which points out a likeness between two generally unlike things, usually using the words 'like' or 'as':
An example of a simile is 'She sings like a bird'.

staccato
(say stuh-kah-toh)
adverb in music, played with the notes very short and detached from each other:
This piece should be played staccato, to sound like high-heeled shoes on the pavement.

symphony
(say sim-fuh-nee)
noun a musical composition for a full orchestra, usually with four movements or parts:
Mozart was very young when he composed his first symphony.
Junior Arts Level 5

adagio
(say uh-dah-zhee-oh or uh-dah-jee-oh)
*adverb* a direction indicating that music should be played or sung slowly and calmly:
The conductor made the violins slow down during the passage marked ‘adagio’.

articulation
(say ah-tik-yuh-lay-shuhn)
*noun* the degree of clearness of speech:
The newsreader had impeccable articulation.

bouzouki
(say buh-zoo-kee)
*noun* a stringed instrument from Greece, related to a mandolin, played by plucking:
The music of the bouzouki immediately transported us to a sparkling Greek island.

cerise
(say suh-reez or suh-reez)
*adjective* red like the colour of a cherry:
His favourite shade of red is cerise.

decrescendo
(say dee-kruh-shen-doh)
*noun* in music, a gradual reduction in loudness:
The piece of music ended with a decrescendo that faded away to silence.

elocution
(say el-uh-kyooh-shuhn)
*noun* the way you speak:
Newsreaders have to have very clear elocution.

glockenspiel
(say glok-uhn-speel or glok-uhn-shpeel)
*noun* a musical instrument with steel bars set in a frame, which you hit with hammers:
He enjoyed playing the glockenspiel in the band.

harpsichord
(say hahp-suh-kawd)
*noun* an old-fashioned musical instrument like a piano:
We listened to the sound of the harpsichord echoing through the old castle.

manuscript
(say man-yuh-skript)
*noun* a book, letter, or piece of music, written by hand or typed:
The manuscript of my unfinished novel is in the bottom drawer.

pastiche
(say pas-teesh)
*noun* a work of art which consists of parts borrowed from the work or style of other artists:
The film was a pastiche of scenes from twelve different directors.

rhapsody
(say rap-suh-dee)
*noun* a type of musical composition:
The first track on this CD is a famous rhapsody.
saxophone
(say sak-suh-fohn)
noun a wind instrument with a curved brass body:
Lisa is my favourite Simpsons character because she plays the saxophone.

synopsis
(say suh-nop-suhs)
noun a short version or summary:
I will give you a synopsis of what we have done so far.

timbre
(say tim-buh or tam-buh)
noun the particular sound an instrument makes:
His voice has a rich, warm timbre which is perfect for this particular role.

waltz
(say wawlts or wolts)
noun a type of dance in which you and your partner move in circles:
The bride and groom danced a waltz.
Junior Science & Maths Level 1

cube
(say kyoohb)
noun a solid shape with six equal square sides:
Most dice are in the shape of a cube.

flask
(say flahsk)
noun a small, often flat bottle:
Our science teacher warned us to be very careful when we poured the acid solution into the flask.

heat
(say heet)
noun warmth or the quality of being hot:
We came inside to escape the heat.

number
(say num-buh)
noun the particular numeral or figure given to something to fix its place in a list or series:
I am always number 38 on the class roll because my surname starts with `Z'.

odd
(say od)
adjective An odd number is one which cannot be divided evenly by two:
One, three, five and seven are all odd numbers.

oval
(say oh-vuhl)
noun a field for playing sport on:
We kicked the ball around the oval for a few hours.

plus
(say plus)
preposition Plus is used to show that one number or quantity is added to something else:
Two plus three equals five.

round
(say round)
adjective If something is round, it is shaped like a circle:
I like the round mirror better than the square one.

ruler
(say roohl-uh)
noun a strip of wood or plastic with a straight edge, used for measuring and drawing straight lines:
She needed her ruler to measure the diameter of the circle.

space
(say spayce)
noun the continuous openness which exists outside the earth's atmosphere:
A rocket was used to launch a satellite into space.

speed
(say speed)
noun quickness in moving, going, or doing something:
He started running at a slow speed and then got faster.
unit
(say yooh-nuht)
noun an amount used in measurement:
The gram is the basic unit of weight.

value
(say val-yooh)
noun the amount of money something is worth:
She asked the jeweller to tell her the value of the ring.

volt
(say vohlt)
noun a measurement of electric force:
The remote-controlled car needs a 9-volt battery.

wide
(say wuyd)
adjecive If something is wide, it measures a lot from one side to the other:
The river is so wide that I wouldn't try to swim across it.
Junior Science & Maths Level 2

acid
(say ass-uhd)
noun a chemical substance which can eat away metals:
The spilt acid began to eat away the steel surface.

area
(say air-ree-uh)
noun the size of a flat or curved surface:
The national park has an area of 9500 hectares.

atom
(say at-uhm)
noun the smallest part that an element can be divided into and still keep its special qualities or take part in a chemical reaction:
An atom is made up of protons, neutrons and electrons.

balance
(say bal-uhns)
verb If you balance something, you keep it in a steady position so that it doesn't fall or tip over:
I tried to balance a plate on my head while walking.

billion
(say bil-yuhn)
noun, adjective a thousand times a million:
There are over six billion people in the world.

breadth
(say bredth)
noun the distance from one side of something to the other:
The breadth of the lake is about 100 metres.

capsule
(say kap-shoohl)
noun a very small container that has powdered medicine inside it:
Mum prefers to take medication in the form of a capsule rather than a tablet.

carbon
(say kah-buhn)
noun a common element found in all living things:
Diamond is a form of carbon.

deduce
(say duh-dyoohs)
verb to reach a decision by reasoning and considering all the facts known to you:
The police were able to deduce the identity of the thief.

digit
(say dij-uhht)
noun any of the numerals from 0 to 9:
He misread the third digit as a three instead of a five.

dissolve
(say duh-zolv)
verb A solid substance dissolves when it is mixed into a liquid and it disappears:
These tablets dissolve quickly in water.
distance
(say dis-tuhns)
noun the length of a space:
She trained for the cross-country event by running a distance of five kilometres every day.

eighteen
(say ay-teen)
noun, adjective Eighteen is a number, two less than twenty:
Eighteen people came to my party and it was very noisy.

explode
(say uhk-splohd)
verb to blow up or burst into pieces with a loud noise:
We watched the fireworks explode over the water and make a beautiful display of colours.

fathom
(say fadh-uhm)
noun an old-fashioned measure of the depth of water equal to 6 feet, or nearly 2 metres in the metric system

friction
(say frik-shuhn)
noun the rubbing of two surfaces against each other:
The friction of two stones being rubbed together can produce a spark.

funnel
(say fun-uhl)
noun an open-ended cone used for pouring liquid into a container with a narrow opening:
We didn't want to spill any water so we used a funnel to pour it into the bottle.

germ
(say jerm)
noun a very tiny living thing which causes disease:
If you really want to see a germ, you will have to look through a microscope.

gravity
(say grav-uh-tee)
noun Gravity is the strong force that pulls things or that makes them fall towards the earth:
If it wasn't for gravity, we would all be floating around.

hundredth
(say hun-druhdth)
adjective next after the 99th:
My great-grandmother celebrated her hundredth birthday last week.

length
(say length)
noun the measure of something from one end to the other:
The length of the pool is 50 metres.

litre
(say lee-tuh)
noun a measure of liquid in the metric system:
The container holds one litre of milk.
maximum
(say maks-uh-muhm)
noun The **maximum** is the most you can have:
The maximum who can come on the excursion is 20.

measure
(say mezh-uh)
verb to find out the size or quantity of something, usually by using a special instrument such as a ruler or scales:
*We need to measure the window before we buy blinds.*

minus
(say muy-nuhs)
preposition **Minus** is used to show that one number is being taken away from another:
*Four minus one equals three.*

oblong
(say ob-long)
noun a four-sided shape which is longer than it is wide, and which has four right angles:
*The swimming pool was in the shape of an oblong.*

particle
(say pah-tik-uhl)
noun a very tiny piece or amount:
*A particle of dust flew into her eye.*

predict
(say pruh-dikt)
verb If you **predict** the future, you tell what is going to happen:
*The weather bureau tries to predict when it will rain, but it's not always right.*

prove
(say proohv)
verb If you **prove** something, you show that it is true by presenting convincing facts:
*The scientist could prove his theory -- he had all of the facts.*

quart
(say kwawt)
noun a liquid measure in the imperial system, equal to ¼ gallon, or 1.136 litres:
*One quart is equal to a bit more than one litre.*

question
(say kwes-chuhn)
noun a request for information:
*Could you please answer a question about the new timetable?*

solar
(say soh-luh)
adjective to do with the sun:
*We have a solar hot water system on our roof, to heat our water using the rays from the sun.*

solution
(say suh-looh-shuhn)
noun a substance which is made up of one chemical, usually a solid, mixed throughout another chemical, usually a liquid:
*Salt can be dissolved in water to make a saline solution.*
strength

*(say strength)*  
*noun* the quality of being strong:  
*He did a lot of exercises to increase the strength of his muscles.*

theory

*(say theər-ree)*  
*noun* a suggested explanation with little or no basis in fact:  
*They had to undertake a lot of research before their theory could be proved.*

thermal

*(say ther-muhl)*  
*adjective* having to do with heat:  
*Thermal energy was used to power the machine.*

valve

*(say valv)*  
*noun* the part of a pipe or other passage that opens and shuts to control the flow of liquid or gas:  
*Because of a broken valve, the machine had been losing oil.*

volume

*(say vol-yoohm)*  
*noun* the size, measure, or amount of anything in three dimensions:  
*We had to calculate the volume of the parcel before we could send it.*

width

*(say width)*  
*noun* The *width* of something is how wide it is from one side to the other:  
*The river reaches its greatest width right here -- it takes a strong swimmer to reach the other side.*

zinc

*(say zingk)*  
*noun* a bluish-white type of metal:  
*Zinc is used in making galvanised iron.*
Junior Science & Maths Level 3

abacus
(say ab-uh-kuhs)
*noun* a frame with rods through it which hold beads used for counting:
The abacus was used as a calculation tool in ancient times.

accounting
(say uh-kown-ting)
*noun* the theory and system of setting up and looking after the books of a business, so that its financial position can be examined and the owners can find out how well it is doing:
*It is important that every business has someone to look after the accounting so that they can keep track of their money.*

addition
(say uh-dish-uhn)
*noun* the act of adding numbers together:
*I think addition is much easier than division.*

altitude
(say al-tuh-tyoohd)
*noun* height above sea level:
The top of the mountain is at such a high altitude that it is above the clouds.

answer
(say an-suh)
*noun* a solution to a problem:
*He had trouble working out the answer to the problem.*

atmosphere
(say at-muhs-fear)
*noun* the air that surrounds the earth:
The burning of some fuels can result in the pollution of the atmosphere.

audiology
(say aw-dee-ol-uh-jee)
*noun* the study of the process of hearing, especially diagnosis and measurement:
*Audiology is the branch of science that deals with hearing.*

average
(say av-rij)
*noun* the result you get if you add two or more amounts together, and then divide the total by the number of amounts:
*In the last three games our team scored 7, 12 and 20, so our average was 13.*

botany
(say bot-uh-nee)
*noun* the study of plants:
*He loves plants and is going to study botany at university.*

calcium
(say kal-see-uhm)
*noun* a soft, silvery-white type of metal which is found in limestone and chalk, as well as in teeth and bones:
*If you have enough calcium in your diet you will have strong bones and teeth.*
calculator
(say kal-kyuh-lay-tuh)
noun a small machine that you can use to do sums:
I would rather use a calculator than work out problems in my head.

capacity
(say kuh-pas-uh-tee)
noun the quantity or amount which can be held or contained:
The fuel tank has a capacity of fifty litres.

centimetre
(say sen-tuh-mee-tuh)
noun a unit of length equal to one hundredth of a metre:
The dress needs to be one centimetre longer.

chlorine
(say klaw-ren)
noun a greenish-yellow gas which is dissolved in water and used to keep swimming pools clean:
After I've been swimming in the pool, my hair smells of chlorine.

correlate
(say ko-ruh-layt)
verb to match, usually one thing against another:
We had to correlate one set of figures with another.

corrosive
(say kuh-roh-siv)
adjective having the quality of corroding or eating away:
If you spill that corrosive acid on the metal, it will eat away the surface.

decimal
(say dess-uh-muhl)
adjective relating to a number system based on the number ten:
Australia uses decimal currency.

diagonal
(say duy-ag-uh-nuhl)
adjective a diagonal line is a sloping line that joins two opposite corners of a square or rectangle:
If you draw a diagonal line from one corner of a square to another, you will make two triangles.

dilution
(say duy-looh-shuhn)
noun the act of diluting:
Some people thought that dilution would be the solution to pollution.

dissect
(say duh-sekt or duy-sekt)
verb to cut something up carefully to examine it:
In our science class we watched the teacher dissect a sheep's heart to show us how it worked.

divisible
(say duh-viz-uh-buhl)
adjective able to be divided:
Twenty is divisible by ten.
em**pir**ical  
*(say em-*pir*-i-kuhl)*  
*adjective* taken from or guided by experience or experiment

en**zym**e  
*(say en-zuym)*  
*noun* a protein in the body which produces a chemical change:  
*Each enzyme aids the digestion of food in the stomach.*

fl**uo**ride  
*(say flooh-ruyd)*  
*noun* a chemical which protects your teeth from decay:  
*The toothpaste I use contains fluoride to keep my teeth strong.*

form**u**la  
*(say faw-myuh-luh)*  
*noun* in chemistry, the representation of the atoms in a molecule by symbols:  
*The formula for ordinary salt is NaCl.*

frac**tion**  
*(say frak-shuhn)*  
*noun* a part of a whole number:  
*At school, we are learning how to multiply a number by a fraction.*

gene  
*(say jeen)*  
*noun* one of the units in the body which is responsible for passing on characteristics, like eye colour, from parents to their children:  
*I have inherited the gene for red hair from my mother.*

geology  
*(say jee-ol-uh-jee)*  
*noun* the study of the rocks which form the earth:  
*I would like to study geology to know more about rocks.*

hy**dro**ponics  
*(say huy-druh-pon-iks)*  
*noun* the growing of plants with their roots in water rather than soil:  
*With a system of hydroponics you need only a small area to grow food that is both tasty and nutritious.*

inertia  
*(say in-er-shuh)*  
*noun* the tendency of something to continue to stay still or keep moving in the same direction:  
*In our physics class we learnt that inertia is the force that makes an object stay still until it is moved or keep moving until it is stopped.*

in**sol**vent  
*(say in-sol-vuhnt)*  
*adjective* not able to pay your debts

int**e**ger  
*(say in-tuh-juh)*  
*noun* any whole number:  
*Two is an integer, and so is zero.*
isobar
(say uy-suh-bah)
noun a line drawn on a weather map, connecting all the places that have the same air pressure:
The weather presenter pointed out each isobar on the map.

kilowatt
(say kil-uh-wot)
noun 1000 watts:
The power company charges us for each kilowatt we use.

kinetic
(say kuh-net-ik)
adjective having to do with movement

latitude
(say lat-uh-tyoohd)
noun the distance, measured in degrees, by which a point on the earth is north or south of the equator:
The equator is at zero degrees latitude.

magnitude
(say mag-nuh-tyood)
noun size:
What is the magnitude of the angle?

methodology
(say meth-uh-dol-uh-jee)
noun (plural -gies)
the science of method, especially a branch of logic dealing with the logical principles underlying the organisation of the various special sciences, and the conduct of scientific enquiry:
The success of the experiment was helped by a sound methodology.

microscope
(say muy-kruh-skohp)
noun an instrument used for looking at extremely tiny things that you normally cannot see:
We examined a mosquito under the microscope.

millilitre
(say mil-uh-lee-tuh)
noun a unit of measurement in the metric system equal to one thousandth of a litre:
The baby needs only one millilitre of this medicine because she is so small.

molecule
(say mol-uh-kyooohl)
noun the smallest unit or particle into which something can be divided without changing its features:
A molecule of water is made up of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen.

momentum
(say muff-men-tuhm)
noun the force with which something is moving:
It was hard to stop the billycart once it had picked up momentum.
multiply
(say mul-tuh-pluy)
verb When you multiply one number by another, you add up as many lots of the first number as there are of the second number:
If you multiply six by three you get eighteen.

nucleus
(say nyoooh-klee-uhhs)
noun in biology, the central part of a living cell:
When the doctor examined the blood under the microscope he found that the nucleus of each cell was damaged.

numeracy
(say nyoooh-muh-ruh-see)
noun basic skills in mathematics:
Her numeracy skills are not as well developed as her basketball skills!

ounce
(say ownc)
noun a measure of weight in the imperial system, equal to about 29 grams:
The recipe said to add one ounce of butter, but I had none left.

percentage
(say puh-sen-tij)
noun a number which shows the rate in every hundred:
I got seven out of ten -- or, as a percentage, seventy.

prism
(say priz-uhm)
noun a transparent object, usually of glass and with triangular ends, used for breaking light down into the colours of the rainbow:
We used a prism to break up light into the colours of the rainbow.

procedure
(say pruh-see-juh)
noun writing or speaking which tells how to do or make something step by step:
The procedure for our science experiment was written clearly on the whiteboard.

propulsion
(say pruh-pul-shuhn)
noun a force which moves something forward:
The missile was under rocket propulsion.

pyramid
(say pi-ruh-mid)
noun a structure with a square base and with sides sloping to a point:
In ancient Egypt, a pyramid was used as a tomb for a king or queen.

quantitative
(say kwon-tuh-tay-tiv or kwon-tuh-tuh-tiv)
adjective measured or able to be measured

quarter
(say kwaw-tuh)
noun one of the four equal parts into which something can be divided:
My four brothers each ate a quarter of the cake for afternoon tea, and now there is none left.
quotient  
(say kwoh-shuht)  
noun the number or result you get when one number is divided by another:
In the expression $15 \div 3$, the quotient is 5.

ratio  
(say ray-shuht-oh)  
noun the relationship between two amounts or quantities expressed in the lowest possible whole numbers:
The male--female ratio of kids in our school is about 4 to 3.

rhombus  
(say rom-buhs)  
noun a shape with four equal sides, and angles that are not right angles:
I have a kite that is in the shape of a rhombus.

scientist  
(say suy-uht-tuhest)  
noun A scientist is someone who studies science or whose job is to do work using science:
The scientist was very disappointed when her experiments did not produce the desired results.

specimen  
(say spess-uhtm)  
noun a single thing or part taken as being typical of a whole group or mass:
We found a very good starfish specimen in a shallow rock pool.

sphere  
(say sfear)  
noun something completely round in shape, such as a ball or a planet:
A marble is a good example of a sphere.
Junior Science & Maths Level 4

ampere

(say am-pair)

noun a unit of electric current:

Electricians usually shorten the word `ampere' to `amp'.

anatomy

(say uh-nat-uh-mee)

noun the structure of the body of a human, animal or plant:

The anatomy of a human is very similar to that of an ape.

apparatus

(say ap-uh-rah-tuhs)

noun a collection of tools or machines used for a particular purpose:

We set up the apparatus for the experiment.

astronomy

(say uh stron-uh-mee)

noun the scientific study of the sun, moon, stars and planets:

When you study astronomy, you learn things like how long it takes light from the sun to reach different planets.

barometer

(say buh-rom-uh-tuh)

noun an instrument that measures air pressure, used to help work out what changes in the weather can be expected:

The barometer is falling which means we are in for bad weather.

calculus

(say kal-kyuh-luhs)

noun a method of calculation which uses a special system of algebra:

Calculus is a branch of maths which is used a lot in science and engineering.

caustic

(say koss-tek)

adjective capable of burning or eating away living cells in the body:

We handled the caustic cleaning substance with great care.

chemistry

(say kem-uh-stree)

noun the science of what substances are made of and the ways they react with each other:

My father studied chemistry and physics at university.

circumference

(say suh-kum-fuh-ruhns)

noun the distance around something, especially around a circle or circular object:

The good thing about knowing the circumference of a circle is that you can then work out its diameter.

conductivity

(say kon-dukt-ee-tee)

noun the ability of a substance to conduct heat, electricity or sound:

Copper is commonly used for electrical wiring because it has a high conductivity.
cylinder
(say sil-uhn-duh)
noun a tube-shaped object, either hollow or solid, with circular ends:
A toilet roll is a good example of a cylinder.

denominator
(say duh-nom-uh-nay-tuh)
noun the number under the line in a fraction which shows how many equal parts it may be divided into:
In the fraction \( \frac{1}{4} \) is the denominator.

diameter
(say duy-am-uh-tuh)
noun the straight line which goes through the centre of a circle from one side to the other:
The part of a circle on one side of the diameter is always exactly half the whole circle.

frequency
(say free-kwuhn-see)
noun the rate of movements in a sound wave:
What is the frequency of your favourite radio station?

hypothesis
(say huy-poth-uh-suhs)
noun an idea put forward as a useful starting point for a discussion or scientific investigation:
The scientist proposed the hypothesis that the earth was much older than commonly thought.

longitude
(say long-guh-tyood)
noun the distance, measured in degrees, by which a point on the earth is east or west of Greenwich in England:
We had to find the longitude and latitude of each of the capital cities in Australia.

magnetism
(say mag-nuh-tiz-uhm)
noun typical qualities of magnets:
We learned lots about magnetism by moving the poles of the magnets around.

observation
(say ob-zuh-vay-shuhn)
noun When you make an observation, you watch something or someone carefully:
The researcher’s observation of the koalas' habitat produced a lot of information about how endangered they are.

protractor
(say pruh-trak-tuh)
noun an instrument used to measure or mark off angles:
He needed a protractor to measure the angles accurately.

statistics
(say stuh-tis-tiks)
plural noun the science which deals with the collection, ordering, and use of information in the form of numbers and amounts:
Statistics show that more boys are born than girls.
2012 Premier’s Spelling Bee: Junior Wordlist Annotated

Junior Science & Maths Level 5

algebra
(say al-juh-bruh)
noun the branch of mathematics which uses letters to stand for numbers:
We have just started to learn about algebra in maths.

alphanumeric
(say al-fuh-nyooh-me-rik)
adjective consisting of both letters and numerals:
My password is alphanumeric: ABC986.

chromosome
(say kroh-muh-sohn or kroh-muh-zoahm)
noun a tiny threadlike body found in the nucleus of all living cells, which carries the
genetic codes for the characteristics of the organism:
Down syndrome occurs when a person has an extra chromosome or one chromosome
has an extra part.

equitatera
(say eek-wuh-lat-ruhl)
adjective having equal sides:
It is easy to draw an equilateral triangle if you have a compass.

horizontal
(say ho-ruh-zon-tuhl)
adjective parallel, or in line, with the horizon, as opposed to vertical:
He had to leap over a horizontal bar a metre from the ground.

hypothetical
(say huy-puh-thet-i-kuhl)
adjective assumed by hypothesis; supposed:
The medical student was asked how he would treat a hypothetical case of pneumonia.

mathematician
(say math-uh-muh-tish-uhn)
noun an expert in mathematics:
Grace was good with numbers and wanted to be a mathematician.

percentile
(say puh-sen-tuell)
noun a group equalling one hundredth of a set of statistics:
It was her dream to be in the top percentile in maths.

quadrilateral
(say kwod-ruh-lat-ruhl)
noun a closed, plane figure with four sides:
A parallelogram is an example of a quadrilateral.

rhomboid
(say rom-boyd)
noun a four-sided shape like a diamond:
Each tile had four sides and was in the shape of a rhomboid.

spherical
(say sfe-ruh-kuhl)
adjective having the shape of a sphere or ball:
Soccer is played with a spherical ball, unlike Rugby.
symmetry
   (say sim-uh-tree)
   noun the arrangement of the parts of something so that they are all balanced in size and shape:
   We marvelled at the perfect symmetry of the butterfly's wings.

temperature
   (say tem-pruh-chuh)
   noun a measure of the degree of heat or cold of something or someone:
   She agreed to go to the doctor if her temperature rose any further.

thermodynamics
   (say ther-moh-duy-iks)
   noun the science concerned with the relationship between heat and mechanical energy:
   Thermodynamics is a branch of science studied at university.

veterinary
   (say vet-uh-ruhn-ree or vet-uhn-ree)
   adjective relating to the study, prevention and treatment of animal diseases and injuries:
   She wants to study veterinary science so she can treat sick animals.
Junior Sports Level 1

bowl
(say bohl)
noun a deep round dish, usually used for holding food:
Dom ate a big bowl of spaghetti.

catch
(say kach)
verb If you catch a ball or something similar, you take hold of it as it moves through the air:
I'll throw the ball to you so you can catch it.

field
(say feeld)
noun a piece of open ground or space:
Every Saturday we play football at our local sports field.

goal
(say gohl)
noun an area, basket or something similar at which you aim the ball in sports such as football, basketball and so on:
Dad put a ring up on a tree for us to use as a goal so we could practise our netball.

golf
(say golf)
noun an outdoor game in which a small ball is hit with special clubs around a set course:
Playing golf is good exercise because it involves a lot of walking.

jog
(say jog)
verb To jog is to run or go along at a slow regular speed:
Mum tries to jog every morning to keep fit.

lap
(say lap)
noun a single round of a racing track or a single length of a swimming pool:
By the second lap, he had passed all the other swimmers.

match
(say mach)
noun a game between two or more people or teams:
Today's football match has been cancelled because of the rain.

netball
(say net-bawl)
noun a game played by two teams of seven players, in which the players must try to throw the ball through a hoop on a pole at the opponents' end of the court:
We play netball every Saturday.

player
(say play-uh)
noun A player is someone who plays a game or sport:
Ivan is a good tennis player.

race
(say rayce)
noun a contest of speed:
It was an exciting race, and Tom was the first to reach the finish line.
saddle
   (say sad-uhl)
   noun a seat for the rider of a horse:
   She leapt into the saddle and galloped away.

score
   (say skaw)
   noun the number of points gained in a game, competition or test:
   Our team's score was three goals, and the other team's score was one, so we won!

softball
   (say soft-bawl)
   noun a form of baseball played with a larger, softer ball which is pitched underarm:
   We can choose between softball and cricket for sport.

team
   (say teem)
   noun a group of people who do an activity together, such as a game or sport:
   My best friend and I are in the same hockey team.
Junior Sports Level 2

ace
(say ayce)
noun a serve in tennis which the other player cannot return at all:
He served his fifth ace of the match and won the set.

archer
(say ah-chuh)
noun someone who shoots with a bow and arrows:
Robin Hood was a magnificent archer.

arrow
(say a-roh)
noun a thin pointed piece of wood shot from a bow:
The arrow hit a tree, just inches from his head.

athlete
(say ath-leet)
noun someone who trains and competes in some kind of sport, especially running or jumping events:
Paul is an excellent athlete and wants to compete in the Olympic Games.

backspin
(say bak-spin)
noun the reverse spinning of a ball causing it to bounce backwards or stop in the shortest possible time:
It's really hard to hit a ball with backspin on it.

baseball
(say bays-bawl)
noun a game played by two teams with a bat and a ball, on a field with four bases which the batter must pass to score a run:
Baseball is probably the favourite sport of Americans.

boxing
(say boks-ing)
noun the sport of fighting with your fists, especially with boxing gloves:
Anthony Mundine is a famous name in Australian boxing.

canoe
(say kuh-nooh)
noun a light, narrow boat that you move by using paddles:
We paddled across the lake in a canoe.

capsize
(say kap-suzy)
verb to turn over:
Look out! The boat is going to capsize.

catcher
(say kach-uh)
noun in baseball, the player who stands behind the batter or home base to catch the pitched ball:
I was nervous when it was my turn to be catcher.

champion
(say cham-pee-uhn)
noun someone who holds first place in a sport or contest:
Ian Thorpe is an Australian swimming champion who won five Olympic gold medals.
compete
(say kuhm-peet)
verb To compete is to set yourself against another person or other people to win something:
Our school team will compete in the district cross-country competition -- I hope we win.
court
(say kawt)
noun the hard ground where games such as tennis and basketball are played:
We arrived at the basketball court in time for a warm-up before the game.
cricket
(say krik-uht)
noun a game for two teams where players have to run between two points after hitting the ball with a bat:
We play cricket on the beach every summer.
cyclist
(say suy-kluhst)
noun someone who rides a bicycle:
When he got his first bike, he didn't imagine that he would become an Olympic cyclist.
dartboard
(say daht-bawd)
noun the target in the game of darts, marked with circles, with a bullseye at the centre:
I'll never get a bullseye -- I can't even hit the dartboard.
defeat
(say duh-feet)
verb If you defeat someone in a game or contest, you win a victory over them:
We knew we could easily defeat the visiting netball team.
duel
(say dyooh-uhl)
noun in past times, an arranged fight between two people with weapons such as guns or swords:
The two soldiers used pistols in their duel. They each fired in turn but they both missed.
fencing
(say fen-sing)
noun the sport of sword fighting:
When you are learning fencing, you don't use a real sword.
finalist
(say fuy-nuh-luhst)
noun A finalist is a person who is in the last part of a competition:
You have be a placegetter in the heats to qualify to be a finalist.
gallop
(say gal-uhp)
noun the fastest pace a horse can run at:
The horse broke into a gallop and raced across the paddock.
gymnast
(say jim-nuhst)
noun someone specially trained and skilled in gymnastics:
She is the first Australian gymnast to win an Olympic medal.
judo
(say joo-h-doh)
noun a Japanese art of self-defence which is practised as a sport:
When you fall in judo, you roll to avoid being hurt.

polo
(say poh-loh)
noun a ball game played on horseback, between two teams using long wooden mallets and a wooden ball:
You need to be very good at horseriding to play polo.

relay
(say ree-lay)
noun a team race in which each member runs or swims a part of the distance:
The last runner in the relay took the baton and ran towards the finish line.

rodeo
(say roh-dee-oh or roh-day-oh)
noun an event in which people compete or display skills in riding horses, lassoing cattle, and so on:
When the rodeo is in town, everyone comes to watch.

rugby
(say rug-bee)
noun a type of football:
There are two types of rugby -- league and union.

sail
(say sayl)
verb If you sail a boat, you cause it to move over water, using sails:
They sail their yacht every weekend and have won several yachting races.

scrum
(say skrum)
noun a way of restarting the play in a game of Rugby football:
The team's weak point was the poorly formed scrum.

snooker
(say snooh-kuh)
noun a game like billiards or pool, played on a table with a cue and different-coloured balls:
In snooker, you use a cue to try to shoot a ball into one of the pockets around the table.

sprint
(say sprint)
verb To sprint is to race at top speed, especially over a short distance:
He can sprint really quickly, but he gets tired over longer distances.

squash
(say skwosh)
noun a game for two players with racquets and a small rubber ball, played in a small court with four walls:
Squash is very energetic game.

stadium
(say stay-dee-uhtm)
noun a large sports ground, designed to hold many people:
We are going to the stadium to watch the tennis.
surfboard
(say serf-bawd)
noun a long, narrow board used to ride waves towards the shore:
The waves looked great so I carried my surfboard down to the beach.


tackle
(say tak-uhl)
verb In sports such as football and hockey, if you tackle your opponent, you try to get the ball from them:
At soccer training we are being taught how to tackle.

trainer
(say tray-nuh)
noun someone who trains athletes in a sport:
Our trainer makes us run for an hour every day.

umpire
(say um-puy-uh)
noun someone who makes sure a game is played according to the rules:
The umpire sent the player off the field because she had broken the rules.

wicket
(say wik-ght)
noun the set of three pieces of wood with two bails on top at which the bowler aims the ball in cricket:
The ball hit the wicket and I was out.

windsurf
(say wind-erf)
verb to ride on a windsurfer:
The resort has facilities to play golf, tennis, catch reef fish, windsurf or just laze by the pool.

yoga
(say yoh-guh)
noun a set of exercises which involve deep breathing and holding unusual body positions, in order to reach a calm, peaceful state of mind:
My mother does yoga to relax.
Junior Sports Level 3

ache
(say ayk)
noun An ache is a pain that goes on for a long time. It is usually not a strong pain:
Helen has an ache across her shoulders from playing too much tennis yesterday.

acrobat
(say ak-ruh-bat)
noun someone who performs gymnastic tricks:
The best act at the circus was the acrobat on the tightrope.

agility
(say uh-jil-uh-tee)
noun the ability to move quickly and easily:
The gymnast showed great agility in her performance on the bar.

aquatic
(say uh-kwot-ik)
adjective living or growing in water:
The aquatic plants growing in the pond have beautiful flowers.

archery
(say ah-chuh-ree)
noun the sport of shooting with a bow and arrows:
We tried archery on our school camp, and I shot an arrow into the bullseye.

arena
(say uh-ree-nuh)
noun an enclosed space for sports events:
The team were greeted by loud cheers as they ran into the arena.

athletics
(say ath-let-iks)
noun events that take place on a track, such as running and hurdling, javelin throwing and the high jump:
The athletics at the Olympic Games are exciting to watch, particularly the running and hurdling.

backstroke
(say bak-strohk)
noun a stroke in swimming in which you lie on your back in the water and move your arms backwards in turn:
Our school sports team won the backstroke swimming championship.

badminton
(say bad-min-tuhn)
noun a game in which two or four players use racquets to hit a feathered ball called a shuttlecock over a high net:
It's hard to play badminton in the wind, because the shuttlecock keeps blowing away.

basketball
(say bah-skuht-bawl)
noun a game played by two teams of five players, who try to score points by shooting a ball through a metal hoop at the top of the other team's goalpost:
We play basketball every Saturday morning -- our team hasn't lost a game all year.
baton
(say bat-uhn or buh-ton)
noun a short stick, especially one handed by one runner to the next in a relay race:
I reached out to grab the baton from the first runner in the relay, but disaster struck and I dropped it.

biceps
(say buy-seps)
noun a large muscle at the top of the arm or the back of the leg:
The weightlifter worked on developing his biceps.

bicycle
(say buy-sik-uhl)
noun a two-wheeled machine for riding on, which you steer by a bar shaped for the rider to hold on to and drive by pushing pedals:
I rode my bicycle to school this morning.

bobsleigh
(say bob-slay)
noun a racing sledge with two sets of runners, one behind the other:
Bobsleigh racing has been a part of the Winter Olympic Games since 1924.

bodysurf
(say bod-ee-serf)
verb to ride waves in the surf, by holding your body stiff, usually with outstretched arms:
We’re going to bodysurf all day when we go to the beach for our holiday.

cheerleader
(say cheer-leed-uh)
noun a person who leads cheering, especially at sports matches:
I don’t want to be a cheerleader -- I want to play!

competitor
(say kuhm-pet-uh-tuh)
noun someone who competes:
He was the only competitor not to fall down in the skating race, so he won!

deuce
(say dyooohs)
noun a stage in a game of tennis when both players have a score of 40:
The scoreboard showed that they were exactly even -- one game each and at deuce in the current game.

discus
(say dis-kuhs)
noun a circular plate for throwing in athletic contests:
He won because he threw the discus the furthest.

doubles
(say dub-uhlz)
noun a game, especially tennis, played by teams of two players:
The two sisters won the doubles competition.

dumbbell
(say dum-bel)
noun a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a short bar with weights attached to either end:
Exercising by lifting a dumbbell will strengthen your arm muscles.
exercise
(say eks-uh-suyz)
noun an activity of the body or mind to train or improve it:
Walking is good exercise.

fielder
(say feel-duh)
noun in cricket, etc., any member of the team which is fielding, as opposed to the one which is batting:
The fielder ran towards the ball, arms outstretched.

goalkeeper
(say gohl-kee-puh)
noun in soccer or hockey, a player whose special duty is to prevent the ball from going through, into, or over the goal:
In hockey practice, we all take turns at being goalkeeper.

gridiron
(say grid-uy-uhn)
noun the field that American football is played on:
In Australia, American football is sometimes called gridiron.

groundsman
(say growndz-muhn)
noun a man responsible for the care and maintenance of a sports field:
Marco's dad is a groundsman at the cricket ground and he sometimes lets us practise there.

gymnastics
(say jim-nass-tiks)
noun the performance of exercises to develop muscle strength and tone up your body:
We do gymnastics every week to strengthen our muscles.

hockey
(say hok-ee)
noun a game played on a field or on ice in which two teams compete to hit a ball or disc into a goal using a stick with a curved end:
Ice hockey is an extremely fast game.

hurdle
(say her-duhl)
noun a small fence over which people jump in a race:
The crowd cheered as she jumped over the last hurdle in the race.

javelin
(say jav-uh-luhn or jav-luhn)
noun a spear which is thrown in sporting contests:
He could throw the javelin further than anyone else.

jockey
(say jock-ee)
noun someone who professionally rides horses in races:
He loved horses and thought that one day he might become a jockey.

karate
(say kuh-rah-tee)
noun a Japanese form of self-defence which uses only hands, elbows, feet and knees as weapons:
Amy wants to do karate so she can learn to smash bricks with her hands.
marathon
(say ma-ruh-thon)
noun a long-distance race:
He loved long-distance running and it was his dream to compete in the Olympic marathon.

mountaineer
(say mown-tuh-near)
noun a climber of mountains:
Sir Edmund Hillary was a famous mountaineer.

muscular
(say muss-kyuh-luh)
adjective having to do with muscles:
After a day of heavy training, he had an intense muscular pain across his back.

nutrition
(say nyoooh-trish-uhn)
noun eating or eating habits:
Good nutrition is vital to athletes.

opponent
(say uh-poh-nuhnt)
noun someone who is on the opposite side to you in a competition or fight:
My opponent was much taller than me, so I was very nervous.

pentathlon
(say pen-tath-lon)
noun an athletic contest made up of five different events:
The pentathlon will include running, swimming, riding, fencing and shooting, so you must be extremely fit to compete.

perspiration
(say pers-puh-ray-shuhn)
noun sweat:
She used the towel to wipe the perspiration from her forehead.

quoits
(say koyts)
plural noun a game played by throwing rings made of stiff rope over a peg on the ground:
We like to play quoits in the backyard in summer.

referee
(say ref-uh-ree)
noun someone who makes sure that the rules in a sporting match are followed:
He is a very good referee -- everybody thinks he is fair.

regatta
(say ruh-gat-uh)
noun a meeting for boat races:
Our school won the rowing regatta last year.

skiing
(say skee-ing)
noun the sport of travelling down slopes on skis:
We like skiing so it is lucky we live near the mountains.
skittle
(say skit-uhl)
*noun* a bottle-shaped piece of wood, that people try and knock down with a ball as part of a game:
The dog had buried a skittle somewhere in the garden so we couldn't play.

skydiving
(say skuy-duyv-ing)
*noun* the sport of falling from an aircraft for some distance before opening a parachute:
Bianca thought it would be exciting to learn skydiving.

slalom
(say sley-luhm or slah-luhm)
*noun* a skiing race with a winding course:
Skiing in the slalom puts a lot of pressure on your knees.

soccer
(say sok-uh)
*noun* a form of football played with a round ball which the players kick but in general are not allowed to touch with their hands or arms:
Andrew is very keen to play soccer this season.

sportswoman
(say spawts-woom-uhn)
*noun* (plural -women)
a woman who engages in sport, usually with a degree of expertise:
She was a great sportswoman and a credit to our town.

stamina
(say stam-uh-nuh)
*noun* physical power or strength, especially to fight off tiredness or sickness:
She will need enormous stamina to keep up the burning pace of the marathon.

steeplechase
(say steep-uhl-chays)
*noun* a horserace over a course which has obstacles such as jumps and ditches:
The horse managed to jump all the obstacles in the steeplechase.

stirrup
(say sti-ruhp)
*noun* a loop or ring of metal hung from the saddle of a horse to support the rider's foot:
The horserider's foot caught in the stirrup and she was in real trouble!

tournament
(say taw-nuh-muhnt)
*noun* a meeting for contests in sport or other games:
Clare played in a tennis tournament last weekend.

trapeze
(say truh-peeze)
*noun* a short bar joined to the ends of two hanging ropes, on which gymnasts and acrobats perform:
When I grow up, I want to be an acrobat and swing from a trapeze.

treadmill
(say tred-mil)
*noun* a exercise machine for walking, jogging or running:
I can think of better places to walk than the treadmill at the gym.
triathlete

(say truy-ath-leet)

noun an athlete who takes part in a triathlon, which consists of three events, usually swimming, cycling, and running:
A triathlete needs to be very fit.

triathlon

(say truy-ath-lon)

noun an athletic contest made up of three events straight after each other -- usually running, swimming and cycling:
I'll be competing in my first triathlon this weekend -- I've been practising all three sports.

volleyball

(say vol-ee-bawl)

noun a team game in which a large ball is volleyed by hand or arm over a net:
We like playing volleyball on the beach.

weightlifting

(say wayt-lift-ing)

noun the sport of lifting weights, in competition or for exercise:
Our PE teacher won a medal in weightlifting at the Commonwealth Games.

wetsuit

(say wet-sooht)

noun a tight rubber piece of clothing worn by divers and surfers to keep in body heat:
She decided to pack her wetsuit as well as her snorkel in case the water was too cold.

wrestle

(say ress-uhl)

verb to fight with someone and try to throw them to the ground without using any weapons:
Our coach taught us how to wrestle without injuring each other.
Junior Sports Level 4

adversary
(say ad-vuh-suh-ree)
noun someone you compete against or fight with:
My old adversary beat me in the fencing tournament.

aerobics
(say air-roh-biks)
plural noun exercises done to improve your physical fitness by stimulating your heart and lungs:
My mother likes to keep fit and does aerobics during her lunch hour.

billiards
(say bil-yuhdz)
noun a game played on a long table, with hard balls hit by a long stick called a cue:
We can have a game of billiards after dinner because we have just bought a billiards table and some cues.

breaststroke
(say brest-strohk)
noun a way of swimming in which your arms move in a circle in front of your chest and your legs kick in a frog-like manner:
Swimming breaststroke always exhausts me.

catamaran
(say kat-uh-muh-ran)
noun a boat with two hulls:
We spent a fantastic week sailing a catamaran around the islands.

croquet
(say kroh-kay)
noun a game played by hitting wooden balls with mallets through metal arches set in a lawn:
Croquet is a sport that requires accuracy more than strength.

dais
(say day-uhhs)
noun a raised platform at the end of a hall:
The football trophies were lined up on a table on the dais.

decathlon
(say duh-kath-lon)
noun a contest in which athletes compete for the highest score in ten different events:
The decathlon is an exhausting contest because it has ten different events in it.

disqualify
(say dis-kwol-uh-fuy)
verb If you disqualify someone from doing something, you do not allow them to do it, often because they have broken some rule:
The judges will disqualify you if you start running before the whistle blows.

equestrian
(say uh-kwess-tree-uhn)
adjective having to do with horseriding:
Jane and her horse showed great skill and stamina to win the equestrian event.
gymnasium
   (say jim-nay-zee-uhm)
   noun a building or room specially equipped for gymnastics and sport:
   The gymnasium has a lot of different equipment such as running machines and
climbing ropes.

lacrosse
   (say luh-kross)
   noun a ball game played by two teams, who use long-handled racquets to try to send
the ball through a goal:
   Lacrosse is a team sport that was first played by Native American people.

liniment
   (say lin-uh-muhnt)
   noun an oily liquid for rubbing on bruises, sprains or sore muscles:
   After tennis practice my shoulder was sore, so I rubbed some liniment onto it.

parasailing
   (say pa-ruh-say-ling)
   noun the sport of soaring in the air with the aid of a parachute while being towed by a
motorboat:
   Yan loved parasailing -- she felt like she was flying.

qualifier
   (say kwol-uh-fuy-uh)
   noun someone or something that qualifies:
   Excitement overwhelmed him when he found out he was a qualifier for the finals.

shuttlecock
   (say shut-uhl-kok)
   noun a thin rounded piece of plastic with feathers attached to it, which is hit from one
player to another over a net as a game:
   The game was declared a draw when the shuttlecock got stuck in a tree.

spinnaker
   (say spin-uh-kuh)
   noun a large triangular sail:
   As soon as the spinnaker was raised, the yacht sped to the lead.

toboggan
   (say tuh-bog-uhhn)
   noun a light kind of sled used for sliding over snow or ice:
   My little sister is too young to ski but she loves sliding down the slopes on a
toboggan.

tricycle
   (say truy-sik-uhl)
   noun a cycle with three wheels, one at the front and two at the back:
   My little sister rides a tricycle because she doesn't have very good balance yet.

velodrome
   (say vel-uh-drohm)
   noun an arena with sloping sides used for cycling races:
   We all crowded into the velodrome to watch the Olympic cycling final.
Junior Sports Level 5

**abseiling**
(say ab-say-ling)
noun the sport of lowering yourself down a cliff or wall, using a rope attached to a harness:
*They found a low cliff that would be suitable for beginners to try abseiling.*

**acrobatically**
(say ak-ruh-bat-ik-lee)
adverb in an acrobatic manner:
*The fullback scored a try by leaping acrobatically over his opponent and rolling into a somersault over the line.*

**bantamweight**
(say ban-tuhm-wayt)
noun a boxer weighing between 51 and 54 kg (amateur):
*The boxer had lost weight and was now classified as a bantamweight.*

**carbohydrate**
(say kah-buh-huy-drayt)
noun a chemical compound containing oxygen, hydrogen and carbon:
*Foods high in carbohydrate include fruits, sweets, soft drinks, breads, pastas, and cereals.*

**catapult**
(say kat-uh-pult)
noun a Y-shaped stick with a length of elastic joined to the prongs, used for shooting stones at things:
*In some shooting competitions, a small catapult is used to launch targets into the air.*

**chiropractor**
(say kuy-ruh-prak-tuh)
noun someone trained to treat back pain and other types of illness by massaging and adjusting the spine:
*The footballer's back felt much better after a few sessions with the chiropractor.*

**circumnavigate**
(say ser-kuhm-nav-uh-gayt)
verb to sail round something:
*The contestants in the sailing race had to circumnavigate the island.*

**guernsey**
(say gern-zee)
noun a close-fitting knitted jumper, often worn by sailors, footballers, and so on:
*Each member of the team wore a red and white guernsey.*

**gymkhana**
(say jim-kah-nuh)
noun horseriding events with games and contests:
*Sam rode her horse every day, practising for the gymkhana.*

**jodhpurs**
(say jod-puhz)
plural noun riding trousers which are close-fitting below the knee:
*She pulled on her jodhpurs and walked to the stables.*
muscly
(say muss-uh-lee)
*adjective* If someone is **muscly**, they have big muscles, and are usually very strong:
*My brother became very muscley after several months of weight training at the gym.*

**physiology**
(say fiz-ee-oh-uh-jee)
*noun* the science concerned with the bodies of living things and how they work:
*An important part of sports medicine is a thorough knowledge of anatomy and physiology.*

**quadriceps**
(say kwod-ruh-seps)
*noun* the great muscle of the front of the thigh, which stretches the leg and is considered as having four heads or origins:
*He strained his quadriceps during the football game.*

**somersault**
(say sum-uh-solt)
*noun* A **somersault** is a way of putting your head down and rolling your body forward over your head:
*She could do a triple somersault off the diving board.*

**trifecta**
(say tryu-fek-tuh)
*noun* a form of betting in which the first three placegetters in a particular race must be selected in the correct order:
*My uncle picked the first three placegetters in the Melbourne Cup and won the trifecta.*
Junior Technology Level 1

**control**
(say kuhn-trohl)
noun a device that allows you to change something such as temperature or speed:
She used the control to turn the temperature up.

**data**
(say day-tuh or dah-tuh)
noun information collected for analysis or reference:
We collected data on the number of insects we found in the school playground and then entered it into the computer.

**invent**
(say in-vent)
verb To **invent** something is to make it up:
For our project, we had to invent a new method of transport.

**plastic**
(say plass-tik)
noun a substance which can be shaped when soft and then hardened:
My drink bottle is made of plastic.

**power**
(say pow-uh)
noun energy or force that can be used for doing work:
We lost all electrical power in the blackout.

**radio**
(say ray-dee-oh)
noun the sending of electrical signals through the air to a set which receives them:
Radio was a sensation when it was first invented.

**record**
(say rek-awd)
noun a self-contained piece of data on a computer database:
Each record had to be entered into the spreadsheet separately.

**steel**
(say steel)
noun iron mixed with carbon and other metals so that it is very hard and strong:
The frame of our house is made of steel.

**user**
(say yoooh-zuh)
noun someone who uses a computer:
The needs of the user have to be taken into account when writing software.

**weld**
(say weld)
verb If you **weld** two pieces of metal, you join them together by applying intense heat:
You use a special torch to weld pieces of metal together.

**wire**
(say wuy-uh)
noun a long wire or cable used in a telegraph, telephone, or cable system:
The telephone repairer found that a wire under the house had become dislodged.
zip

(say zip)

To zip computer data is to put it into a form that uses less storage:
*The files were so big that he had to zip them before they could be emailed.*
Junior Technology Level 2

airboat
(say air-boht)
noun a flat-bottomed boat propelled by means of an engine-driven propeller:
The new ferry is an airboat.

battery
(say bat-uh-ree or bat-ree)
noun a container which stores electricity:
I couldn't find the right battery for the torch.

binary
(say buy-nuh-ree)
adjective consisting of, or involving two numbers, usually 0 and 1:
A simple binary system is at the basis of how most modern computers work.

broadcast
(say brawd-kahst)
verb To broadcast a program or message is to send it out by radio or television:
The news is broadcast at 7 p.m. each evening.

channel
(say chan-uhl)
noun a frequency band for radio or television:
We watched a movie on our favourite television channel.

compress
(say kuhm-press)
verb Computers to encode data into a form that uses less storage:
She put the data into a zip file in order to compress it.

computer
(say kuhm-pyooh-tuh)
noun an electronic machine which stores and gives out information, and does
calculations very quickly, according to a set of instructions called a program:
Our new computer allows us to access the internet very quickly.

current
(say ku-ruhnt)
noun a movement or flow of electric charges:
The electrician used a special meter to measure the current.

cycle
(say suy-kuhl)
noun any round of operations or events:
In our experiment we measured how long each wave cycle took.

engine
(say en-juhn)
noun a machine that changes energy from something like petrol or steam into
movement:
Our car's engine stopped because we had run out of petrol.

internet
(say in-tuh-net)
noun the connection of computers all around the world so that you can share
information:
We used many sites on the internet to get information for our project.
keyboard
(say ki-bcd)
noun a row or set of keys such as on a piano or computer:
The statistician's fingers flew over the keyboard as he entered the data.

metal
(say met-uhl)
noun a type of material which is shiny, able to be shaped or worked, and is often a good conductor of electricity:
Iron is a kind of metal, and so is gold.

model
(say mod-uhl)
noun a copy of something, usually in a smaller size, to show what the real thing looks like or how it works:
My brother has made a beautiful model of a ship.

modem
(say moh-dem or moh-duhm)
noun an electronic device that allows one computer to link to others through the telephone system:
We turned on the modem so we could send an email to our grandmother.

mouse
(say mows)
noun a small object which you hold and move to position the cursor on a computer screen:
The position of the cursor on the screen is controlled by the mouse.

router
(say rowt-uh)
noun a device which provides connection between computers in a network and controls the network areas that each can access:
We had to follow the instructions to set up the router.

sensor
(say sen-suh)
noun any device that can detect something and respond to it, usually by setting off a signal:
The sensor detected smoke, and set off the fire alarm.

server
(say serv-uh)
noun a computer or program which provides services to another computer by a network:
A hacker managed to bring down the company server.

tablet
(say tab-luht)
noun a type of portable computer of a size and shape comparable to a tablet notebook with a touch screen and an onscreen virtual keyboard:
A portable computer such as a tablet is very convenient on a plane flight for watching movies and playing video games.

toggle
(say tog-uhl)
verb in computers, to switch backwards and forwards from one state to another using a key to do so:
You can toggle between having the function on and off by pressing the tab key.
transformer
(say trans-fawm-uh)
noun an electrical device used for changing one voltage to another:
The power plant's main transformer buckled under the force of the explosion.

transmit
(say trans-mit)
verb (transmits; transmitting; transmitted; has transmitted)
To transmit a signal or message to a place, is to send it there by means of electronic equipment:
They plan to transmit the game live from the playing ground.

upload
(say up-lohd)
verb To upload data is to transfer or copy it from a computer to a larger system, such as from a personal computer to a network:
After you upload the material from your computer, the rest of the class will be able to use it.

video
(say vid-ee-oh)
noun (plural videos)
A video is a film, television show or event which has been recorded on a special tape, and which you can watch on television:
My aunt said she will keep the video we made of her wedding for ever and ever.

viewer
(say vyooh-uh)
noun someone who watches television or a television program:
One angry viewer reported that they had switched off the program as soon as it started.

wavelength
(say wayv-length)
noun the length of the radio wave used by a particular radio station for broadcasting:
I couldn't tune in the station because I didn't know what wavelength it was on.

wireless
(say wuy-uh-luhs)
adjective not using telephone lines, cables, etc.:
Wireless technology allows people to access the internet even when they are outside.

worm
(say werm)
noun a rogue computer program which, once it is loaded on a computer, replicates itself until it takes up all the available memory, bringing the whole system to a standstill:
We lost all the data on our computer because it had become infected with a worm.
Junior Technology Level 3

amplify
(say am-pluh-fuy)

to make larger or greater:
*We used a microphone to amplify our voices so that we could be heard at the back of the hall.*

animation
(say an-uh-may-shuhn)
noun the process of preparing animated cartoons:
*The computer animation in the cartoon film was amazing.*

astronaut
(say ass-truh-nawt)
noun someone specially trained to travel in a spaceship:
*The astronaut tried to repair the space shuttle's damaged landing gear.*

audiovisual
(say aw-dee-ooh-vizh-yooh-uhl)
adjective relating to recording or reproducing both sound and pictures:
*William was required to do an audiovisual presentation for his history class.*

avatar
(say av-uh-tah)
noun the representation of a person in virtual reality on a computer screen:
*In some video games each player is represented on the screen by an avatar.*

biofuel
(say buy-oh-fyooh-uhl)
noun any type of fuel that is made from renewable sources such as plants:
*Ethanol is a type of biofuel that is made from sugar cane or grains.*

browser
(say brow-zuh)
noun a computer program that allows you to access web pages:
*This new browser is much faster than the previous version.*

byte
(say buyt)
noun a unit of information stored by a computer:
*A byte is a small unit of information -- this DVD holds 700 million bytes!* 

cache
(say kaysh)
noun a section of a computer's memory which can be accessed very quickly:
*Sometimes you need to clear out the cache to make your computer work more quickly.*

communication
(say kuh-myoo-nuh-kay-shuhn)
noun the act or fact of communicating; transmission:
*Communication of the event came across clearly despite a short power outage.*

compressor
(say kuhm-press-uh)
noun any machine, as a pump, in which a gas is forced into a small space so that its expansion may be used as a source of power:
*They used a compressor to reduce the volume of the gas.*
cosmonaut
(say koz-muh-nawt)
noun a person trained as a pilot, to take part in the flight of a spacecraft:
The cosmonaut prepared the spacecraft for its return to Earth.

cursor
(say ker-suh)
noun the small moving sign which shows you where the writing will start when you type on a computer screen:
Can you see the cursor? There it is, blinking at you!

deactivate
(say dec-ak-tuh-vayt)
verb (t) (-vated; -vating)
to treat a bomb, shell, etc., so that it cannot explode:
The soldiers were able to deactivate the bomb quickly.

device
(say duh-vice)
noun something which has been invented for a particular purpose:
This device counts each step you take.

digital
(say dij-uh-tuhl)
adjective having to do with a device that works by storing information in a similar way to a computer:
Many people have a digital television these days.

dynamite
(say duy-nuh-muyt)
noun a substance that makes a powerful explosion when set off:
Dynamite is a dangerous substance made up from nitroglycerine and other materials.

emission
(say uh-mish-uhn or ee-mish-uhn)
noun that which is emitted; discharge; emanation:
The emission of chemicals from the factory caused a lot of pollution.

engineer
(say en-juh-near)
noun someone who is trained to design and build things and to use machinery:
His father is an engineer who designs roads and bridges.

equipment
(say uh-kwip-muhnt)
noun anything used in doing a job, especially tools, machines, materials, and so on:
All of the laboratory equipment was stored in the locked cupboard.

function
(say funk-shuhn)
noun any basic computer operation:
Each of the keys along the top of a computer keyboard is used to operate a particular function.

futuristic
(say fyooh-chuh-ris-tik)
adjective in a style thought likely to be in fashion at some future time:
The design of the car was very futuristic -- it could hover in the air.
hyperlink  
(say huy-puh-lingk)  
noun (in computers) a link from one document to another:  
I clicked on the hyperlink to get to the next page.

typography  
(say kil-uh-buyt)  
noun a unit of information stored by a computer:  
We couldn't complete the download because the file measured too many kilobytes.

locomotive  
(say loh-kuh-moh-tiv)  
noun the engine which pulls railway carriages or trucks:  
The railway guard waved a flag to signal that the locomotive was ready to depart.

machinery  
(say muh-sheen-uh-ree)  
noun machines in general:  
Machinery has made our lives easier.

microphone  
(say muy-kruh-fohn)  
noun an instrument which changes sound waves into electrical waves, often used in equipment that makes sounds louder or records them:  
Hold the microphone fairly close to your mouth so it can pick up the sound of your voice.

monitor  
(say mon-uh-tuh)  
noun the part of a computer which contains the screen:  
Your eyes will get tired if you stare at the monitor for too long.

narrowcast  
(say na-roh-kahst)  

to transmit (data) to a limited number of recipients as in cable television where only subscribers' receivers can take the signal:  
We didn't see the program because it was narrowcast on a pay-TV station only.

nuclear  
(say nyoooh-klee-uh)  
adjective A nuclear weapon produces an explosion created by a process involving the nucleus of an atom:  
The atomic bomb was the first nuclear weapon.

operator  
(say op-uh-ray-tuh)  
noun someone who works a machine:  
He is training to be a computer operator.

piracy  
(say puy-ruh-see)  
noun the making and selling of illegal copies of CDs, DVDs, videos, computer programs, books, etc.:  
The DVD cover displayed a warning that piracy is a crime.

process  
(say proh-ses)  
verb to treat a substance with chemicals or machines:  
Scientists are developing a new way to process nuclear fuel.
prototype
(say proh-tuh-tuyp)
noun the original or the model of something which is later copied:
The prototype of this racing car is in a motor museum.

radiotherapy
(say ray-dee-oh-ther-uh-pee)
noun the treatment of disease by X-rays or radioactive substances:
She had radiotherapy every day for a month to cure her cancer.

recycle
(say ree-suy-kuhl)
verb To recycle things that have already been used is to process them or change them
in some way so that they can be used again:
Our council now has a scheme to recycle most glass and plastic bottles.

refrigeration
(say ruh-frij-uh-ray-shuhn)
noun the process of producing low temperatures, usually so as to keep food and drink
cold and fresh:
We had no refrigeration for several days when the electricity failed and all our food
grew bad.

research
(say ruh-serch or ree-serch)
noun the process of studying something deeply and doing tests to find out more about
it:
One day, medical research might discover a cure for colds.

resolution
(say rez-uh-looh-shuhn)
noun the degree of fineness in the reproduction of an image, as by a photograph,
television screen, etc.:
The high resolution of the photograph allowed us to see the insect's wings in great
detail.

supersonic
(say sooh-puh-son-ik)
adjective If an aircraft is supersonic, it travels faster than sound travels:
Jeff would like to be a pilot and fly supersonic jets.

tabulate
(say tab-yuh-layt)
verb to put or form into a table, plan, and so on:
We had to tabulate the amount of rain that fell each day over the whole month.

technical
(say tek-nik-uhl)
adjective having to do with machines and the way that things like industry and
communications work:
We have technical problems with the lines at the moment so you can't make any phone
calls.

telecast
(say tel-uh-kahst)
noun the showing of a program or event on television:
The telecast was to be screened at eight o'clock that night so we made sure we got
home in time.
telephone
(say tel-uh-fohn)
noun a piece of equipment which lets you talk over long distances by sending electrical signals over wires:
She ran to the telephone and called the police.

telescope
(say tel-uh-skohp)
noun a tube-shaped device you look through, which makes things that are far away seem closer and bigger:
The stars looked much brighter through the telescope.

television
(say tel-uh-vizh-uhn)
noun a piece of equipment which receives pictures and sounds sent by waves through the air:
Let's turn on the television and watch the race.

template
(say tem-pluht or tem-playt)
noun a computer file from which copies are made in order to use the basic form of the file again and again:
She uses a template on her computer for all of her letters.

turbine
(say ter-buyn)
noun a turning motor in which a wheel with blades is driven by a liquid or gas passing through it:
The turbine was propelled by water.

ultrasound
(say ul-truh-sownd)
noun an image obtained by ultrasound waves (similar to sound waves) of an internal organ of the body or of a foetus in the uterus:
The ultrasound showed a very clear image of the unborn baby.

workstation
(say werk-stay-shuhn)
noun an area in an office which is assigned to a user of electronic equipment such as a computer terminal, etc.:
Each employee has their own computer workstation.
Junior Technology Level 4

aluminium
(say al-yuh-min-ee-uhm)
noun a light, silvery-grey type of metal:
Aluminium is used to make cans, and can be rolled into thin sheets to make aluminium foil.

antenna
(say an-ten-uh)
a wire or rod that you put up to receive radio or television signals:
I had to adjust the antenna on the radio to receive a good signal.

appliance
(say uh-pluy-uhns)
noun a tool which has a motor worked by electricity:
The best appliance in the kitchen is the dishwasher.

aviation
(say ay-vee-ay-shuhn)
noun the science or act of flying in an aircraft:
The air force had an exhibition on the history of aviation.

circuitry
(say ser-kuh-tree)
noun a system of electrical circuits:
The toaster stopped working because of a problem in the circuitry.

contraption
(say kuhn-trap-shuhn)
noun a complicated device or piece of machinery:
They pulled the contraption apart to try and see how it worked.

cyberspace
(say suy-buh-space)
noun the internet:
She spent hours at the computer lost in cyberspace.

electricity
(say uh-lek-triss-uh-tee)
noun a form of energy which can be used for heating, lighting, driving a motor, and other things:
We had no electricity in our house because a tree fell across the wires.

generator
(say jen-uh-ray-tuh)
noun a machine for producing electricity:
The hospital was able to depend on the generator when power cuts occurred.

microprocessor
(say muy-kroh-proh-ses-uh)
noun the most important electronic chip in a computer:
A computer would not be able to work without a microprocessor.

programming
(say proh-gram-ing)
noun the writing of instructions in a computer language which will cause a computer to perform a particular operation:
My sister is studying programming because she loves working with computers.
prosthesis
(say pros-thee-suhs or pruhs-thee-suhs)
noun an artificial body part:
No-one could tell that part of his leg was a prosthesis.

receptor
(say ruh-sep-tuh)
noun one of or a group of the end organs of sensory or afferent neurons, specialised to be sensitive to stimulating agents:
The first level of feeling in the body starts at the receptor -- and there are many of these in the skin to feel things like heat, cold, pain and pressure.

satellite
(say sat-uh-luyt)
noun an object sent into orbit around the earth or around another planet to send information back to earth:
The satellite transmitted images of Mercury's surface back to Earth.

simulator
(say sim-yuh-lay-tuh)
noun a device used in training or experiments that simulates movement or flight:
Pilots begin their training on a simulator before actually flying a plane.

simulcast
(say sim-uhl-kahst)
noun a program broadcast on both television and radio at the same time:
The concert was to be presented as a simulcast on television and radio before the end of the year.

telecommunication
(say tel-uh-myooh-nuh-kay-shuhn)
noun the sending of information by line or radio waves:
An air strike had destroyed sites necessary for telecommunication.

transmitter
(say trans-mit-uh)
noun the part of a radio system which produces and changes the radio waves and sends them out to the aerial:
The radio transmitter was out of order.

vehicle
(say vee-ik-uhl)
noun a form of transport, such as a car or bicycle:
My brother's favourite type of vehicle is a racing car.
**Junior Technology Level 5**

**analgesic**
*(say an-uhl-jee-zik)*
_noun_ a medicine that removes or lessens pain:
_She took an analgesic and soon her headache improved._

**antibiotic**
*(say an-tee-buy-ot-ik)*
_noun_ a drug capable of killing bacteria and other germs:
_The doctor prescribed an antibiotic for my chest infection._

**centrifugal**
*(say sen-trif-uh-guhl or sen-truh-fyooh-guhl)*
_adjective_ moving outwards from the centre:
_Centrifugal force is what keeps water in a bucket when you swing it over your head._

**chemotherapy**
*(say kee-moh-ther-uh-pee)*
_noun_ the treatment of disease using chemicals as drugs, especially in treating cancer:
_Different kinds of chemotherapy are used in treating cancer._

**gasification**
*(say gas-uh-fuh-kay-shuhn)*
_noun_ the process of converting a substance into gas:
_Coal gasification is a way of reducing the pollution caused by the burning of coal._

**gelignite**
*(say jel-uhg-nyut)*
_noun_ an explosive substance used in mining:
_The miners kept their store of gelignite locked away safely._

**interstellar**
*(say in-tuh-stel-uh)*
_adjective_ between the stars:
_The science fiction novel was about interstellar travel._

**pharmaceutical**
*(say fahm-uh-syooht-i-kuhl)*
_adjective_ relating to the preparation of drugs used in medicine:
_The pharmaceutical company is about to release a new asthma medication._

**seismograph**
*(say suyz-muh-graf)*
_noun_ an instrument for measuring and recording vibrations within the earth, such as earthquakes:
_At the museum, we were shown how a seismograph measures the strength of an earthquake._

**stereophonic**
*(say ste-rec-uh-fon-ik)*
_adjective_ using two channels and two speakers to transmit and broadcast sound:
_Joshua listened to his MP3 player with stereophonic headphones._

**telespopmter**
*(say tel-uh-promp-tuh)*
_noun_ a device used especially by television performers, on which words to be spoken appear while the speaker reads them:
_When the teleprompter broke down, the TV host didn't know what to say._
titanium
   (say tuy-tay-nee-uhm)
  noun a dark grey metal used to remove oxygen and nitrogen from steel and to toughen it:
   *Titanium can make steel extremely strong.*

vaccinate
   (say vak-suh-nayt)
  verb to give a vaccine to in order to prevent illness:
   *We had to vaccinate against hepatitis before travelling overseas.*