

Word List III—Low Frequency Words

Three chapter

In this chapter, we will discuss, "low-frequency" words—in other words, words that are not regularly appearing in the vocabulary part of the CAT. Here even, the treatment has been done in such a manner, the meaning is given first, followed by the synonym (noted by the letter S) and antonym (noted by the letter A).

No.	Word	Definition
		A
1.	accolade	honor, award
2.	accoutrement	equipment
3.	acephalous	headless, having no leader
4.	acolyte	assistant, beginner
5.	adscititious	supplemental, adopted form
6.	afflatus	inspiration, divine revelation
7.	affusion	pouring on (Particularly of water)
8.	aficionado	devotee or fanatic of any sport / past time
9.	agnate	(One who is) descended by male links from same male ancestor
10.	ala-mode	Fashionable (of clothes and ideas)
11.	allegro	rapid, Quick
12.	altruism	unselfish concern for the welfare of others S: Unselfishness A: Egocentricity, Selfishness
13.	amanuensis	A secretary, Literary assistant

14.	amazon	A female warrior, tall, strong or athletic women
15.	anagnorisis	recognition
16.	animadvert	to comment adversely S: Criticise, Censure A: Praise, Eulogise, Approbate
17.	antebellum	existing before a war
18.	antediluvian	made a long time ago
19.	anthropomorphic	having human characteristics
20.	antiquary	student or collector of antiques
21.	aperitif	an alcoholic drink taken before a meal
22.	aphorism	concise statement of a principle
23.	apocalypse	revelation of the future
24.	apocryphal	of doubtful authenticity S: Spurious, counterfeit, A: Authentic, Original
25.	apologist	one who defends or attempts to justify a doctrine, faith, action, etc.
26.	apostasy	Abandoning of what one believed in
27.	apostasy	renunciation of a religion
28.	apothecary	A person who prepares and sells medicines
29.	apotheosis	most perfect development of something, A declaration that a person has become a god S: Consecration, Glorification, Deification A: Desecration

30. **apotheosis** *deification; glorification to godliness*
31. **appellation** *identifying name or title*
32. **apposite** *appropriate, fitting*
A: Irrelevant
33. **arabesque** *a complex ornate design*
34. **arboreal** *of or connected with trees*
35. **arraign** *to bring before a law court to answer charges, to call to account*
S: Accuse, Charge
A: Excuse, Condone, Acquit
to clinch or seize without right
A: Abdicate, Surrender
36. **arrogate** *a gully*
37. **arroyo** *slander*
38. **aspersion** *diligent; hard-working; sedulous*
39. **assiduous** *resemblance to remote ancestors*
40. **atavism** *artist's workroom*
41. **atelier** *ill-tempered*
A: Happy, Good-tempered
42. **atrabillious** *extreme elegance of speech*
43. **atticism**

B

44. **bacchanalian** *drunken revelry*
45. **bailliff** *A law officer who collects property of those who cannot pay debts; A person employed as the manager of an estate, An official who keeps order in a court*
46. **bairn** *a child*
47. **banns** *Proclamation made in church of an intended marriage*
48. **barmecide** *giver of benefits that are imaginary, Illusory*
49. **baroque** *having elaborate style, fashionable in architecture*
50. **behemoth** *any huge or powerful animal*
51. **betrothed** *engaged, Pledged to marry*
52. **bibulous** *addicted to or fond of alcoholic liquor*
53. **billingsgate** *foul, vulgar, abusive talk*
54. **bionic** *very strong, skilful*
A: Weak, imbecile
55. **bivouac** *a temporary encampment in the open*
56. **blandishment** *flattery, coaxing*
57. **bludgeon** *(N) A short club with a heavy end (V) To bully or coerce*
58. **bluestocking** *a woman pretending to have literary taste*

59. **bodkin** *a thick, blunt needle*
60. **bonmot** *a clever or witty remark*
61. **buccaneer** *Pirate*
62. **bugbear** *Source of annoyance or fear*
S: Bugaboo
63. **bumptious** *disagreeably conceited*
A: Humble, Polite, Modest
64. **burgeon** *grow forth; send out buds*
65. **burgess** *citizen broadly comic*
66. **burlesque** *any satirical invitation*
S: Parody

C

67. **caboodle** *whole group*
68. **cachet** *respect or admiration, prestige, Seat of approval, complete acceptance*
69. **cadge** *to beg; to get by begging*
70. **callisthenics** *athletic exercises*
71. **canaille** *mob, Multitude*
72. **cantankerous** *bad-tempered; quarrelsome*
73. **carapace** *Protective covering*
74. **carousal** *A noisy drinking party*
S: Revelry, Saturnalia, Debauchery
A: Austerity, Sobriety
75. **carouse** *to drink alcohol freely*
76. **carteblanche** *full discretionary power*
77. **castigation** *severe punishment*
78. **casuistry** *Subtle but false reasoning especially, about moral issues*
S: Evasion, Sophistry
79. **cataclysm** *Any sudden, violent, change*
S: Catastrophe, Upheaval, Calamity
A: Blessing
80. **caveat** *Warning, Proviso*
81. **certitude** *Sureness*
S: Certainty, Inevitability
A: Uncertain, Unsure
82. **chagrin** *Embarrassment due to disappointment*
S: Failure, Annoyance, Shame
A: Delight, Glorification
83. **chicanery** *legal trickery; false argument*
84. **chimera** *illusion or fabrication of the mind*
85. **chutzpah** *nerve; gall*
86. **coda** *passage that completes a piece of music*

87. **cogitate** *think deeply; mediate*
 88. **comestibles** *food*
 89. **commiserate** *to feel or show pity for*
S: Condole, Sympathise
 90. **compunction** *feeling of regret for one's action*
 91. **concatenate** *Link together*
 92. **concussion** *Impaired functioning especially of brain caused by a violent blow*
 93. **conjoin** *to join together*
 94. **conscript** *to enroll for compulsory service in armed forces*
 95. **consecrate** *to bring something into religious use by a special ceremony*
 96. **contretemps** *Confusing, Embarrassing or awkward occurrence*
A: Good fortune, Good luck
 97. **contrite** *filled with deep sorrow for wrongdoing*
 98. **contumacious** *insubordinate; rebellious*
 99. **conundrum** *a riddle; dilemma; enigma*
 100. **convalesce** *to recover health gradually after sickness*
 101. **convoke** *call together; summon*
 102. **cornucopia** *abundant supply*
 103. **curmudgeon** *bad-tempered person*

D

104. **dastardly** *mean, cowardly*
 105. **decapitate** *to behead*
 106. **declivity** *downward inclination*
 107. **decrepit** *Broken down or worn out by old age or long use*
S: Weak, Aged
A: Robust, Agile
 108. **delectation** *delight, enjoyment*
 109. **deleterious** *harmful*
 110. **delinquent** *said of young people showing a tendency to commit crimes*
 111. **delirium** *A temporary mental disturbance as during a fever; marked by confused speech and hallucination*
S: Mania, Frenzy, Insanity
A: Sanity, Normality
 112. **demagogue** *person appealing not to reasons*
 113. **denouement** *an outcome or solution; the unraveling of a plot*
 114. **dereliction** *deserting and leaving; to fall into ruins*
 115. **dereliction** *forsaking of*
S: Neglect (of duty)
A: Restoration

116. **descant** *a tune usually sung or played at the same time as the main tune*
 117. **desideratum** *something needed and wanted*
 118. **desuetude** *cessation of use; disuse*
 119. **détente** *lessening of tension, especially between nations*
 120. **detumescence** *diminishing or lessening of swelling*
 121. **didactic** *intended to teach; preachy*
 122. **dilettante** *one who is not an expert*
 123. **discountenance** *refuse to approve of*
 124. **dissimulate** *to hide one's feelings*
 125. **dissonance** *discord*
 126. **ecclesiastical** *of the church or the clergy*
 127. **echelon** *a level of authority or responsibility; A formation of troops or ships*

E

128. **ecumenical** *representing the whole Christian world*
 129. **edacious** *voracious; devouring*
 130. **effluvia** *outflow in a stream of particles; a noxious odor or vapor*
 131. **egocentric** *selfish*
S: Self centred
A: Altruistic
 132. **elysian** *Blissful, Heavenly*
 133. **emeritus** *having retired but keeping title as an honour*
 134. **emetic** *causing Vomiting*
 135. **empyrean** *the highest heaven*
 136. **encomium** *high praise*
S: Praise, Laudatory, Glorification
A: Denunciation, Blame, Censure
 137. **entente** *an understanding or agreement as between nations*
S: Cordiality, Amiability
A: Enmity, Hatred
 138. **entree** *right to enter*
 139. **ephemeral** *short-lived*
S: Fleeting, Momentary
A: Lasting
 140. **epithet** *adjective*
 141. **ersatz** *substitute or synthetic and inferior*
 142. **escutcheon** *a shield on which a coat of arms is displayed; reputation*
 143. **ethereal** *spiritual*

144. **etymology** study of the origin and development of words
 145. **eugenics** the movement devoted to improving the human species by controlling heredity
 146. **evanescent** tending to fade from sight
 S: Transient, Fleeting, Ephemeral
 A: Immortal, Eternal
 147. **eviscerate** to remove the internal organs of a body
 148. **excoriate** to take out harshly
 S: Flay, Abrade, Chafe
 A: Laud, Eulogise
 149. **excoriation** severe criticism
 150. **exculpate** to clear from a charge of guilt
 151. **excursive** digressive
 S: Rambling, Diverse
 A: Similar, Uniform
 152. **execrate** to denounce; to detest utterly
 153. **exordium** introductory part
 S: Beginning, Preface, Prologue
 A: Epilogue
 154. **excind** to cut out; cut away

F

155. **felicitous** apt; suitably expressed; well chosen
 156. **filibuster** time consuming legislative tactics, long speeches
 157. **fracas** noisy quarrel
 158. **fractious** quarrelsome; irritable
 159. **froward** intractable; not willing to yield or comply; stubborn
 160. **frowzy** Dirty and Untidy
 S: Ill-smelling, Musty, Dingy
 A: Natty, Sweet-smelling, pleasant
 161. **fulmination** bitter protest
 162. **furbish** To renovate

G

163. **gamin** a homeless child who roams the streets
 164. **gangling** tall and awkward
 165. **garble** make unfair selection from facts
 166. **gargantuan** Colossal, huge, very big, enormous, prodigious
 167. **gasconade** boastful behaviour
 A: Reticence, Taciturnity
 168. **gastalt** Pattern, form, shape

169. **gauche**

170. **gaucherie**

171. **gauntlet**

172. **gelid**

173. **gendarme**

174. **geodesy**

175. **germane**

176. **gerrymander**

177. **gewgaw**

178. **ghetto**

179. **gormandize**

180. **gossamer**

181. **gourmand**

182. **grandiloquent**

183. **gratis**

184. **gratuitous**

185. **grotesque**

186. **gubernatorial**

187. **gung-ho**

lacking social grace

S: Inept, Awkward, Clumsy

A: Adroit, Skillful, Dexterous
 socially awkward, tactless behavior

a knight's arm glove (A challenge)
 extremely cold

A policeman

S: police, authorities, bobbies,
 cops, troopers

Earth measurement on a large scale

relevant, pertinent to

To rearrange voting districts to suit the interests of a party; to manipulate facts

a toy, a bauble, knickknack

Residential area inhabited by a poor, racial group

To eat like a glutton

S: Devour

A: Starve

soft light; delicate material

One who likes good food and drink, often to excess

using pompous words

Free of charge

given free of charge, of no use and given in excess, not necessary

distorted in appearance, shape etc.

S: Bizarre

A: Normal, Usual, Customary

pertaining to the governor

enthusiastic, eager, zealous

H

188. **habiliment** clothing, attire

- S: Garb, Dress, Apparel

189. **halcyon** calm and peaceful

190. **hallucination** the apparent perception of sights, sounds etc. that are not actually present

- S: Delusion, Illusion, Mirage

191. **harlequin** A clown

192. **harridan** A disreputable able shrewish old woman

193. **hauteur** disdainful pride

- S: Snobbishness, Haughtiness

- A: Meekness, Modesty

194. **hebdomadal** weekly

195. **hector** to bully
 196. **hieroglyphic** a picture or symbol representing a word sound, etc.
 197. **highfalutin** Pompous
 198. **hoi polloi** the common people
 S: Masses, Crowd, Riffraff
 A: Elite, Society
 199. **holocaust** great destruction of life, especially by fire
 S: Conflagration, Devastation, Ruin
 200. **homiletics** act of preaching
 201. **hors d'oeuvre** an appetizer, as Olives, canapes etc. served before a meal
 202. **hors-de-combat** unable to take part in activity
 S: sport due to injury
 203. **hortatory** Exhorting, Advising
 S: Inciting, Urging
 204. **hubris** arrogant pride

I

205. **ignominious** shameful; dishonorable; undignified; disgraceful
 206. **immure** To shut oneself in a place alone
 S: Imprison
 A: Wander, Loiter
 207. **impecunious** having little or no money
 208. **importune** beg urgently; solicit (of a prostitute)
 209. **imprecation** an invocation of evil; a curse
 210. **inadvertent** not paying proper attention
 211. **incertitude** Doubt
 S: Uncertainty
 A: Certainty
 212. **inchoate** Just begun, Rudimentary
 S: Elementary, Incipient, Undeveloped
 A: Mature
 213. **incinerate** to burn to ashes
 214. **inclement** Stormy, Unfavourable
 A: Mild, Fair
 215. **indefatigability** not easily exhaustible; tirelessness
 216. **indelible** that cannot be erased, blotted out, etc.
 A: Erasable
 217. **indelible** that cannot be rubbed out
 218. **indemnify** To insure against damage etc.
 S: Recompense, Repay, Compensate
 219. **indigence** poverty

220. **ineluctable** certain; inevitable
 221. **ingrate** an ungrateful person
 222. **innuendo** a hint or indirect reference, usually derogatory
 S: Insinuation, Intimation, Allusion
 223. **insidious** characterized by treachery or slyness
 S: Crafty, Treacherous, Tricky
 A: Open, Fair, Candid
 224. **insinuate** suggest unpleasantly; make a way for something gently
 225. **insuperable** incapable of being surmounted or solved
 226. **inter** to entomb or bury
 227. **interdict** prohibit; forbid
 228. **interloper** to encroach; to intrude
 229. **interregnum** lapse in a continuous series
 230. **invective** abusive language; curses
 231. **inveterate** deep-rooted; long-established
 232. **invidious** of an unpleasant or objectionable nature

J

233. **jackanapes** impertinent fellow, mischievous child
 234. **jamboree** A boisterous frolic, a spree
 235. **janus faced** Deceitful
 236. **jape** Joke played on somebody
 237. **jeune** lacking nutritive value; dull; juvenile
 238. **jeremiad** A tale of woe: in allusions to the lamentations of Jeremiad
 S: Grief
 A: Happiness
 239. **jingoist** a person boasting and demanding an aggressive foreign policy
 240. **joie de vivre** the joy of living
 241. **juggernaut** a massive object, a belief
 242. **jung** Swiss psychologist Kari Gustav Jung
 243. **juxtaposition** placing close together

K

244. **kangaroo court** An improperly constituted court with no legal standing
 245. **ken** (i) (Out of or beyond) Range of sight or knowledge
 (ii) Recognise at sight, Know -
 S: Knowledge, Range, Purview
 246. **kerfuffle** fuss; noise; excitement

247. **ketch** *small sailing-boat with two masts*
 248. **keystone** *Essential Part*
 249. **khmer** *a member of a people inhabiting Cambodia*
 250. **kitsch** *Pretentious (especially in art, design etc.)*
 251. **knoll** *A small hillock, top of a hill*
 252. **kow-tow** *To act in an obsequious way, bow, kneel, genuflect*

L

253. **lacerate** *to tear roughly*
S: Mangle
A: Restore, Placate, Sympathize
 254. **lachrymose** *causing tears; tearful*
 255. **lackadaisical** *showing lack of interest or spirit*
S: Languishing, Indolent, Apathetic
A: Energetic, Lively
 256. **laconic** *terse in expression, using few words, concise*
S: Brief, Pithy
A: Profuse, Wordy, Discursive
 257. **lagniappe** *a present given to a customer with a purchase*
S: Gratuity, Bonus, Tip
 258. **laissez-faire** *Policy of non interference, absence of government control over industry and business*
 259. **lambent** *playing lightly over a surface; often said of aflame*
S: Radiant, Brilliant
A: Dull, lackluster
 260. **larceny** *the unlawful taking of another's property*
S: Theft, Robbery, Plunder
A: Restoration, Compensation, Atonement
 261. **largess** *generous giving*
 262. **lenitive** *lessening pain or distress, Merciful*
 263. **leviathan** *a sea monster; Any huge thing*
 264. **lexicon** *Dictionary (Esp. of Greek, Latin or Hebrew)*
 265. **libel** *statement that damages reputation*
 266. **libidinous** *lascivious, lustful*
S: Lewd
A: Pure, Chaste
 267. **illicitious** *lacking legal or moral restraints*
 268. **limn** *paint; portray*

269. **lucubrate**
 270. **luculent**
 271. **lugubrious**
 272. **lummox**

write in scholarly fashion easily understood; lucid; clear
mournful; excessively sad
a clumsy, stupid person

M

273. **ma'jor-do'mo** *a man in charge of a great household*
 274. **macerate** *make or become soft by soaking in water*
 275. **machiavellian** *crafty, deceitful*
S: intriguing, Cunning, Unscrupulous
A: Honest, Straightforward, Open
 276. **macrocosm** *the universe*
 277. **maelstrom** *powerful, violent whirlpool*
 278. **malapropism** *misuse of a word (for one that resembles it)*
 279. **manacle** *chains for the hands or feet*
 280. **mandarin** *An influential person*
 281. **misanthrope** *person who hates mankind*
 282. **mulish** *unreasonably and inflexibly obstinate*

N

283. **nabob** *a wealthy and powerful person*
 284. **nacrolepsy** *short attacks of drowsiness*
 285. **namby-pamby** *sentimentally childish in behaviour*
 286. **napalm** *Highly inflammable material*
 287. **neurasthenia** *debility or weakness of the nerves*
 288. **nihilism** *The general rejection of customary beliefs in morality religion, etc.*
 289. **nom de plume** *A writer's assumed name, pseudonym*
 290. **non sequitur** *An irrelevant conclusion*
 291. **nostrum** *a quack, remedy; an untested cure*
 292. **nota bene** *Take notice*
 293. **numismatics** *The study or collection of coins, medals, paper money, etc.*

O

294. **obfuscate** *to darken; make obscure; muddle*
 295. **obsequious** *too eager to obey or serve*
 296. **obstreperous** *noisy; loud*

297. **occident** *West-Europe and countries of the American Continents*
S: West
A: Orient, East
298. **oenophile** *connoisseur of wines*
299. **opprobrious** *showing scorn or reproach*
300. **orotund** *sonorous; bombastic*
301. **osculate** *to kiss*
302. **ostentation** *display to obtain admiration or envy*

P

303. **paeon** *song of praise or triumph*
304. **panoply** *Something forming a protective covering; impressive array*
305. **paroxysm** *sudden outburst*
306. **peccadillo** *small sin; small weakness in one's character*
307. **pedagogue** *a teacher*
308. **pedant** *a person concerned with minor detail*
309. **pejorative** *expressing contempt*
310. **penitentiary** *a prison*
311. **peregrination** *traveling about; wandering*
312. **peremptory** *urgent; imperative*
313. **perfidious** *treacherous; faithless*
314. **perfunctory** *done as a duty, without care*
315. **persona non grata** *a person who is not acceptable*
316. **pertinacious** *stubbornly unyielding or tenacious*
317. **petulant** *unreasonably impatient*
318. **philistine** *a smug, ignorant person; one who lacks knowledge*
319. **phlegmatic** *calm sluggish temperament; unemotional*
320. **picaresque** *involving clever rogues or adventurers*
321. **piccaninny** *a small black child*
322. **pince-nez** *a pair of glasses with nose clips*
323. **pique** *hurt the pride or self-respect; stir (curiosity)*
324. **pluperfect** *referring to an action that was completed in the past*
325. **poisoned chalice** *something which seems attractive but may be harmful to the person receiving it*
326. **polemic** *aggressive attack on opinions of another; disputant*
327. **prevaricate** *to equivocate; to stray from the truth*

328. **prima donna** *the chief female singer in an opera*
329. **pro tem** *for the time being*
330. **proclivity** *inclination*
331. **profundity** *depth*
332. **proliferate** *grow, reproduce by rapid multiplication*
333. **propinquity** *nearness in time or place; affinity of nature*
334. **propitiatory** *conciliatory; appeasing; mitigating*
335. **propitious** *auspicious; presenting favorable circumstances*
336. **protean** *displaying great diversity or variety; versatile*
337. **pulchritude** *physical beauty*
338. **punctilious** *precise; paying attention to trivialities*
339. **pusillanimous** *cowardly; craven*
340. **putative** *commonly accepted or supposed*
341. **putrefaction** *becoming rotten*

Q

342. **quadraphonic** *sound which is reproduced through four loudspeakers*
343. **quadrennial** *happening every four years*
344. **quagmire** *Swamp, area of dangerous marsh*
345. **quandary** *Dilemma, enigma, puzzle, predicament*
346. **quarantine** *period of time when patients are kept secluded to prevent spread of infection*
S: exile, isolation
347. **quatrain** *Stanza of poetry with four lines*
348. **quibble** *try to avoid by sophistication*
349. **quid pro quo** *Thing given in return for something else*
350. **quiescence** *state of being passive, motionless*
351. **quiescent** *at rest; dormant; torpid*
352. **quietude** *a state of being quiet*
S: Repose, tranquility
353. **quietus** *Finishing strike, Any thing that ends an activity*
354. **quinquennial** *happening every five years*
355. **quinsy** *inflammation of the throat due to abscess on the tonsils*
356. **quintessence** *the pure essence or perfect*
357. **quitsling** *person who betrays his country*
358. **quiver** *Watching for something to happen, alert, watchful*
359. **quod** *prison*

360. **quoit** ring made of metal, rubber that is thrown on an upright peg as a game
 361. **quotidian** banal; everyday

R

362. **raconteur** a person skilled at telling stories or anecdotes
 363. **ragamuffin** a dirty, ragged person especially a child
 364. **rambunctious** disorderly, boisterous, unruly
 365. **ramification** A result, Consequence
 A: branch
 S: Subdivisions
 366. **rankle** To fester, To cause irritation
 367. **recalcitrant** disobedient
 368. **recension** a revision of the text based on a study of sources
 369. **rechercht** too unusual or obscure to be easily understood
 370. **recidivism** relapse into antisocial or criminal behavior
 371. **reconnoiter** to survey a region especially for obtaining military information of the enemy
 S: Survey
 372. **recreancy** cowardice; cowardly giving up
 373. **recreant** coward; apostate or deserter
 374. **recrimination** to answer an accuser by accusing him in return, counter charge
 375. **recrudescence** the appearance of something unpleasant
 376. **rectitude** the quality of being straight; righteousness
 377. **redact** to edit
 378. **redound** to contribute to somebody's reputation
 S: Promote
 379. **refection** A light meal
 380. **refectory** dining hall as in a monastery
 381. **refulgent** shining; brilliant
 382. **regicide** crime of killing a king
 383. **regnant** Ruling, Predominant, Prevalent
 S: Reigning
 384. **renascent** rising again into being or vigor
 385. **renegade** deserter; unconventional or unlawful person
 386. **renege** to deny; to renounce; to go back on a promise

387. **requiem** mass for the dead; solemn chant for the dead
 388. **requite** repay; give in return
 389. **rescind** repeal; annul; cancel
 390. **retrograde** tending toward a worse or previous state

S

391. **sable** (i) Small animal valued for its black fur (ii) Dark, African antelope (iii) Black, Gloomy
 392. **sacerdotal** (i) Of priests or office of priest, S: Priestly (ii) System of government in which priests dominate
 393. **salacious** obscene
 394. **sanctimony** self-righteousness; hypocritical
 395. **sanguinary** bloody
 396. **sartorial** concerned with clothes and tailoring
 397. **saturnine** gloomy; dark; morose
 398. **savant** person of great learning
 399. **scabbard** sheath for the blade
 400. **scepter** a staff held by a ruler as a symbol of sovereignty
 401. **schism** A split (esp. in a church) because of difference of opinion, doctrine, etc.
 402. **scintilla** a speck, a tiny amount
 403. **sclerosis** an abnormal hardening of soft body tissues
 404. **scrimmage** a confused struggle
 S: Tussle
 405. **scurrilous** given to coarse language
 406. **sententious** short and pithy; full of maxims, proverbs
 407. **sentient** of or capable of feeling, conscious
 408. **serendipity** phenomenon of finding valuable things not sought for
 409. **serried** placed close together
 410. **sesquicentennial** a period of 150 years
 411. **shilly-shally** to be irresolute, vacillate especially over trifles
 S: Vacillation, Irresolution, Indecision
 412. **sibylline** A: Determination. Obstnacy
 a prophetess of ancient Greece or Rome
 413. **sinecure** any position that brings profit without involving much work

414. **slattern** a slovenly or sluttish women
415. **smithereens** fragments
S: Pieces
A: Whole
416. **sodality** a society of Roman Catholic church members for religious or charitable purposes
417. **solecism** a violation in the conventional usage, grammar, etc. of a language
418. **somnolent** likely to induce sleep; inclined to sleep
419. **sophistry** fallacious reasoning; faulty logic
420. **sophomoric** self-assured though immature
421. **specious** illogical or questionable truth or merit
422. **splenetic** bad-tempered; irritable
423. **splice** join (two ends)
424. **spoonerism** the accidental interchange of the initial sound of words
425. **staccato** Music with distinct breaks between successive tones
426. **stanch** to stop the flow of a fluid
427. **stertorous** characterised by raspy, laboured breathing
428. **stevedore** A person employed for loading and unloading ships
429. **stipple** paint with dots
430. **strident** characterised by harsh and discordant sound
431. **stultify** to cause to appear or be foolish
432. **stygian** dark, gloomy
433. **stymie** to hinder, obstruct or block
434. **subliminal** below the threshold of conscious awareness
435. **subrosa** secretly, privately
436. **substantiation** giving facts to support (statement)
437. **subsume** include under a rule
438. **subterfuge** deception
439. **supererogation** doing more than is needed
440. **surrealism** modern movement in arts trying to depict the workings of the subconscious mind
441. **surreptitious** done, got, acting, etc. in a stealthy way
S: Clandestine
A: Open, Frank
442. **suture** the stitching together of the two edges of a wound
S: Stitch
443. **suzerain** A state in relation to another over which it has some political control
444. **sybarite** voluptuary
445. **sycophant** person who flatters the rich and powerful
446. **syncopated** abbreviated; stressing the weak beat
- T**
447. **tatterdemalion** a person in ragged clothing
448. **tautology** needless repetition of an idea, using a redundant word, phrase, etc.
S: Redundancy
449. **tenterhooks** anxious suspense
450. **tenuous** insubstantial, flimsy, weak
451. **termagant** shrew
452. **testiness** witness; evidence
453. **theocracy** a government by priests claiming to rule with divine authority
454. **threadbare** exhausted of interest or freshness; trite
455. **threnody** a song of lamentation, Dirge
456. **tintinnabulation** the ringing sound of bells
S: Tinkling
457. **tracery** ornamental work of interlacing or branching lines
458. **traduce** to malign; to violate
459. **trammel** something that confines or restrains
S: Hinder, Hamper
A: Encourage, Help
460. **transcendental** (i) Supernatural, Not based on human experience or reason
A: Natural (ii) Vague, Not clear to ordinary minds
461. **transgress** break; go beyond (a limit)
462. **tremulous** characterised by trembling; affected with timidity
463. **trenchant** forceful; effective; vigorous
464. **trepidation** alarm; excited state of mind
465. **tribulation** Great misery or distress
S: Trouble, Grief, Trail
466. **troglydite** any of the prehistoric people who lived in caves
467. **trojan** a strong, hard-working, determined person
S: Brave
A: Coward
468. **trollop** A prostitute
469. **truckle** to act in a subservient manner
470. **truculence** aggressiveness; ferocity
471. **trumpery** Something which is showy but worthless

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472. **turpitude** wickedness; shameful
 473. **twaddle** foolish empty talk or writing, nonsense
 474. **tyrannicide** slaying of a tyrant

U

475. **ukase** an official decree, Arbitrary order
 476. **unbosom** to tell or reveal (feelings or secrets)
 477. **unconscionable** not guided or restrained by conscience; excessive
 S: Inordinate, Unreasonable
 A: Conscientious
 478. **unction** flattery, Pretended and insincere smoothness in speech, Insincerity
 S: Flattery
 479. **unctuous** Characterised by smooth pretence of fervour or earnestness, Too suave or oily
 S: Flattering
 A: Blunt, Straightforward, Frank
 480. **unflappable** imperturbable; never upset in a crisis
 S: Calm, Composed
 A: Agitated, Excited
 481. **unguent** A salve or ointment
 S: Ointment, Lubricant

V

482. **vagabond** who has no home and wanders about

483. **valedictory** of an act of bidding farewell
 484. **valetudinarian** person who likes to feel he is an invalid
 485. **ventriloquist** person who can make his voice appear to come from a different source
 486. **verisimilitude** appearing true or real
 487. **vicissitude** variation in luck
 488. **vignette** Small sketch, headline, article, story
 489. **vituperate** curse; abuse in words

W

490. **wangle** to get or cause by persuasion, manipulation
 491. **warren** any crowded building or buildings
 492. **wassail** festive occasion of drinking and merry making
 493. **welter** a confused mixture of things or people
 494. **wharf** a structure on a shore, at which ships are moored for loading or unloading
 495. **wheedle** to influence or entice by soft words or flattery

X

496. **xanthippe** shrewish woman

Z

497. **zymurgy** the chemistry of fermentation as applied in brewing