

GRADE 12

GRADE 12: TERM 1

TERM 1 WORD	PART OF SPEECH	DEFINITION
vapid	adjective	lacking or having lost life, sharpness, or flavor; insipid; flat
apocryphal	adjective	of doubtful authorship or authenticity.
misanthropic	adjective	disliking humankind and avoiding human society
antiquate	verb	to make obsolete, old-fashioned, or out of date by replacing with something newer or better
obsequious	adjective	obedient; dutiful
incipient	adjective	beginning to exist or appear; in an initial stage: an incipient cold.
pragmatic	adjective	of or pertaining to a practical point of view or practical considerations
nonchalance	noun	cool indifference or lack of concern; casualness
aberration	noun	the act of departing from the right, normal, or usual course
volition	noun	the act of willing, choosing, or resolving
cryptic	adjective	secret, occult, mysterious
incongruous	adjective	lacking in harmony; incompatible
ephemeral	adjective	lasting a very short time; short-lived; transitory
repudiate	verb	to reject as having no authority or binding force: to repudiate a claim; to cast off or disown
dearth	noun	an inadequate supply; scarcity; lack
plethora	noun	overabundance; excess
rescind	verb	to annul, revoke, repeal; to invalidate
esoteric	adjective	understood by or meant for only the select few who have special knowledge or interest
venerate	verb	to regard or treat with reverence; revere
debacle	noun	a complete collapse or failure

GRADE 12: TERM 2

TERM 2 WORD	PART OF SPEECH	DEFINITION
unprecedented	adjective	without previous instance; never before known or experienced; unexampled or unparalleled
vacillate	verb	to waver in mind or opinion; be indecisive or irresolute
authoritarian	adjective	characterized by or favoring absolute obedience to authority, as against individual freedom
antithesis	noun	the direct opposite
ebb	verb	to flowing backward or away; to decline or decay
blithe	adjective	joyous, merry, or gay in disposition; glad; cheerful
egregious	adjective	extraordinary in some bad way; glaring; flagrant
callous	adjective	made hard; hardened; insensitive; indifferent; unsympathetic
evanescent	adjective	vanishing; fading away; fleeting
placate	verb	to appease or pacify, especially by concessions or conciliatory gestures
eclectic	adjective	selecting or employing individual elements from a variety of sources, systems, or styles
circumspect	adjective	watchful and discreet; cautious; prudent
debunk	verb	to expose or excoriate (a claim, assertion, etc.) as being pretentious, false, or exaggerated
deference	noun	respectful submission or yielding to the judgment, opinion, will, etc., of another
caustic	adjective	capable of burning, corroding; severely critical or sarcastic
paucity	noun	smallness of quantity; scarcity; scantiness
transient	adjective	not lasting, enduring, or permanent; transitory
exacerbate	verb	to increase the severity, bitterness, or violence of; to aggravate; to make worse
elucidate	verb	to make lucid or clear; throw light upon; explain
extol	verb	to praise highly; laud; eulogize

GRADE 12: TERM 3

TERM 3 WORD	PART OF SPEECH	DEFINITION
coalesce	verb	to grow together or into one body; to unite
meticulous	adjective	taking or showing extreme care about minute details; precise; thorough
residual	adjective	pertaining to or constituting a residue or remainder; remaining; leftover.
thwart	verb	to oppose successfully; prevent from accomplishing a purpose; to frustrate or baffle
embroil	verb	to bring into discord or conflict; involve in contention or strife.
trepidation	noun	tremulous fear, alarm, or agitation; perturbation
conciliatory	adjective	intended or likely to placate or pacify
inception	noun	beginning; start; commencement
innocuous	adjective	not harmful or injurious; harmless
indigent	adjective	lacking necessities of life because of poverty; needy; poor; impoverished
didactic	adjective	intended for instruction; instructive
reticent	adjective	disposed to be silent or not to speak freely; reserved; reluctant or restrained
disparity	noun	lack of similarity or equality; inequality; difference
profusion	noun	abundance; abundant quantity
ingratiate	verb	to establish (oneself) in the favor or good graces of others, esp. by deliberate effort
voracious	adjective	craving or consuming large quantities of food; exceedingly eager or avid
incorrigible	adjective	bad beyond correction or reform; impervious to constraints or punishment; willful; unruly
prudent	adjective	wise or judicious in practical affairs; sagacious; discreet or circumspect; sober
contentious	adjective	likely to cause quarrel: a contentious argument
insipid	adjective	without distinctive, interesting, or stimulating qualities; vapid

GRADE 12: TERM 4

TERM 4 WORD	PART OF SPEECH	DEFINITION
enervate	verb	to deprive of force or strength; destroy the vigor of; weaken
engender	verb	to produce, cause, or give rise to
zealous	adjective	full of, characterized by, or due to zeal; ardently active, devoted, or diligent
squalor	noun	a state of being extremely dirty and unpleasant, especially as a result of poverty or neglect
revere	verb	to regard with respect tinged with awe; venerate
abject	adjective	of the most contemptible kind; present to the maximum degree
debilitate	verb	to make weak or feeble; enfeeble
heedful	adjective	attentive; mindful; thoughtful; careful
efface	verb	to wipe out; do away with; expunge
fortuitous	adjective	happening by accident or chance rather than design
sedentary	adjective	characterized by or requiring a sitting posture
immutable	adjective	unchangeable
cognizant	adjective	having knowledge or being aware of
elusive	adjective	evading clear perception or complete mental grasp; hard to express or define
tirade	noun	a prolonged outburst of bitter, outspoken denunciation
ubiquitous	adjective	present, appearing, or found everywhere
lassitude	noun	weariness of body or mind from strain, oppressive climate, etc.
pretentious	adjective	claiming or demanding a position of distinction or merit, especially when unjustified
insuperable	adjective	incapable of being passed over, overcome, or surmounted
zenith	noun	a highest point or state; culmination