

Word list 13

| Group 1 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|------------|--|--------------|
| Alleviated | made less severe [<i>alleviation (n)</i> ; <i>alleviate (v)</i>] | ..... |
| Apostrophe | 1. punctuation mark; 2. appeal to someone not present (a figure of speech) | ..... |
| Centurion | roman soldier (commander of a company of 100 soldiers) | ..... |
| Emollient | softening (<i>a</i>); something which softens (<i>n</i>) | ..... |
| Fusillade | long burst of gunfire | ..... |
| Inerrancy | infallibility; inability to make mistakes [<i>inerrant (a)</i>] | ..... |
| Mince | 1. chop into small pieces; 2. walk with tiny steps, 3. speak in an affected manner | ..... |
| Palpate | medical term meaning to examine with the hands | ..... |
| Platitude | unoriginal, obvious saying | ..... |
| Quibble | 1. (<i>v</i>) to argue about minor matters; to play on words when finding fault; 2. (<i>n</i>) a minor verbal point in an argument | ..... |

| Group 2 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|---------------|---|--------------|
| Apprehension | slight fear; sense of something unfavorable | ..... |
| Conniving | cunning; scheming [<i>connive (v)</i>] | ..... |
| Derision | mockery [<i>deride (v)</i>] | ..... |
| Epigram | short, witty saying | ..... |
| Lassitude | lack of energy; weariness | ..... |
| Pedantic | over-insistent on matters of book-learning [<i>pedant (n)</i>] | ..... |
| Phenomenology | branch of science concerned with things as they are perceived; not directly derived from theory | ..... |
| Precipitate | 1. hurried (<i>a</i>); 2. insoluble product of a reaction in chemistry (<i>n</i>), 3. to instigate or speed up an action (<i>v</i>) | ..... |
| Renege | go back on promise or retract statement | ..... |
| Apprehension | slight fear; sense of something unfavorable | ..... |

| Group 3 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|------------|---|--------------|
| Armada | fleet of ships | ..... |
| Dawdler | slow person who falls behind others [<i>dawdle (v)</i>] | ..... |
| Dross | something worthless; impurities left after refining | ..... |
| Expiate | atone; make amends for | ..... |
| Hack | 1. chop roughly; 2. person who writes to earn money, 3. hired horse | ..... |
| Prone | 1. vulnerable to; 2. horizontal | ..... |
| Propensity | tendency; inclination | ..... |
| Scabbard | cover for a sword | ..... |
| Skiff | small boat | ..... |
| Umbrage | 1. shadow; 2. offence; sense of injury | ..... |

| Group 4 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Dilettantism | dabbling esp. in the arts [<i>dilettante (n)</i> = person who dabbles] | ..... |
| Enervate | weaken | ..... |
| Malevolent | having evil intentions [<i>malevolence (n)</i>] | ..... |
| Neophyte | new convert; tyro | ..... |
| Panegyric | speech praising someone; laudatory words | ..... |
| Presage | forewarn of; indicate | ..... |
| Serration | jagged edge | ..... |
| Slight | 1. minor (<i>a</i>); 2. perceived insult (<i>v</i>) and (<i>n</i>) | ..... |
| Tare | 1. weed; 2. allowance made for container when weighing | ..... |
| Unprepossessing | unattractive | ..... |

| Group 5 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|------------|---|--------------|
| Aberration | deviation from the normal | ..... |
| Cant | insincere talk | ..... |
| Disinter | dig up [opposite <i>inter</i> = bury] | ..... |
| Façade | 1. front elevation of building, 2. false appearance or demeanor | ..... |
| Impeding | hindering [<i>impede</i> (v); <i>impediment</i> (n)] | ..... |
| Lacuna | gap; missing part [plural = <i>lacunae</i>] | ..... |
| Monolithic | united in purpose; forming a single unit | ..... |
| Pied | multicolored | ..... |
| Roster | list of names | ..... |
| Seemly | appropriate (of behavior); decorous | ..... |

| Group 6 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|-----------|---|--------------|
| Analogue | 1. something similar; 2. output proportional to input (engineering) | ..... |
| Coda | piece of music at the end of a musical work; finale; final part of document | ..... |
| Commingle | mix | ..... |
| Equivocal | ambiguous; open to interpretation [<i>equivocate</i> (v), <i>equivocation</i> (n)] | ..... |
| Fallible | capable of making mistakes [<i>fallibility</i> (n)] | ..... |
| Hallow | respect; worship | ..... |
| Indigence | poverty | ..... |
| Papyrus | material used for writing on before paper was invented | ..... |
| Pique | 1. annoyance (n); 2. to stimulate interest; to annoy (v) | ..... |
| Sap | 1. liquid inside plants (n); 2. to drain; to undermine (v); 3. a fool (n) | ..... |

| Group 7 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|-------------|--|--------------|
| Arbitrator | mediator; person appointed to judge a dispute [<i>arbitrate</i> (v)] | ..... |
| Descry | to see (esp. at a distance); catch sight of | ..... |
| Facetious | not intended to be taken seriously | ..... |
| Indecorous | unseemly; inappropriate (of behavior) | ..... |
| Proliferate | grow and spread [<i>proliferation</i> (n)] | ..... |
| Scotch (v) | to prevent; stop; disable | ..... |
| Strut | 1. supporting rod (n); 2. to walk in an arrogant manner; show off (v) | ..... |
| Toy (v) | to play with | ..... |
| Usury | lending money at high interest rates | ..... |
| Wag (n) | a witty person | ..... |

| Group 8 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| Atavism | reappearance of ancestral traits; regression [<i>atavistic</i> (a)] | ..... |
| Filibuster | delaying tactics | ..... |
| Gambit | opening move; transaction | ..... |
| Mitigation | making less severe [<i>mitigate</i> (v)] | ..... |
| Obligate | compulsory | ..... |
| Predilection | leaning; interest; talent | ..... |
| Propitiate | appease; try to gain favor [<i>propitiation</i> (n)] | ..... |
| Stanch | to stop | ..... |
| Travesty | parody; ridiculous error | ..... |
| Waft | drift smoothly (v); whiff; smell (n) | ..... |

| Group 9 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|------------|---|--------------|
| Forage | search for food | ..... |
| Lumber | 1. walk in an ungainly way; 2. timber (wood) | ..... |
| Muse | 1. think; meditate (<i>v</i>); 2. a source of inspiration (<i>n</i>) [in mythology, a goddess who gives inspiration] | ..... |
| Prescience | foreknowledge | ..... |
| Prune | 1. to trim; 2. a dried plum | ..... |
| Ready | (used of wit) quick | ..... |
| Resolve | firmness (<i>n</i>) | ..... |
| Squalid | dirty and demeaning | ..... |
| Sullied | made dirty or impure [opposite <i>unsullied</i> ; <i>sully</i> (<i>v</i>)] | ..... |
| Veneration | worship; respect [<i>venerable</i> (<i>a</i>), <i>venerate</i> (<i>v</i>)] | ..... |

| Group 10 | | <u>Notes</u> |
|---------------|---|--------------|
| Demur | object; hesitate to accept | ..... |
| Duplicity | cunning; deception; double dealing | ..... |
| Exigency | urgent matter; pressing need | ..... |
| Expostulate | offer strong objections; remonstrate | ..... |
| Gossamer | delicate; filmy; like gauze | ..... |
| Inefficacious | ineffective | ..... |
| Pine | 1. type of evergreen tree; 2. grieve | ..... |
| Prudish | narrow-minded; excessively concerned with morals [<i>prudery</i> (<i>n</i>), <i>prude</i> (<i>n</i>)] | ..... |
| Quixotic | impractically idealistic | ..... |
| Stipple | cover with dots of paint etc. | ..... |