

WALDEN



Webster's Thesaurus Edition for PSAT®, SAT®, GRE®, LSAT®,
GMAT®, and AP® English Test Preparation

Henry David Thoreau

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PREFACE FROM THE EDITOR

Designed for school districts, educators, and students seeking to maximize performance on standardized tests, Webster's paperbacks take advantage of the fact that classics are frequently assigned readings in English courses. By using a running thesaurus at the bottom of each page, this edition of *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau was edited for students who are actively building their vocabularies in anticipation of taking PSAT[®], SAT[®], AP[®] (Advanced Placement[®]), GRE[®], LSAT[®], GMAT[®] or similar examinations.¹

Webster's edition of this classic is organized to expose the reader to a maximum number of synonyms and antonyms for difficult and often ambiguous English words that are encountered in other works of literature, conversation, or academic examinations. Extremely rare or idiosyncratic words and expressions are given lower priority in the notes compared to words which are "difficult, and often encountered" in examinations. Rather than supply a single synonym, many are provided for a variety of meanings, allowing readers to better grasp the ambiguity of the English language, and avoid using the notes as a pure crutch. Having the reader decipher a word's meaning within context serves to improve vocabulary retention and understanding. Each page covers words not already highlighted on previous pages. If a difficult word is not noted on a page, chances are that it has been highlighted on a previous page. A more complete thesaurus is supplied at the end of the book; Synonyms and antonyms are extracted from Webster's Online Dictionary.

Definitions of remaining terms as well as translations can be found at www.websters-online-dictionary.org. Please send suggestions to websters@icongroupbooks.com

The Editor
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ECONOMY

When I wrote the following pages, or rather the bulk of them, I lived alone, in the woods, a mile from any **neighbor**, in a house which I had built myself, on the shore of Walden Pond, in Concord, Massachusetts, and **earned** my living by the labor of my hands only. I lived there two years and two months. At present I am a **sojourner** in civilized life again.

I should not **obtrude** my affairs so much on the notice of my readers if very particular inquiries had not been made by my townsmen concerning my mode of life, which some would call **impertinent**, though they do not appear to me at all impertinent, but, considering the circumstances, very natural and pertinent. Some have asked what I got to eat; if I did not feel **lonesome**; if I was not afraid; and the like. Others have been curious to learn what portion of my income I devoted to charitable purposes; and some, who have large **families**, how many poor children I maintained. I will therefore ask those of my readers who feel no particular interest in me to pardon me if I undertake to answer some of these questions in this book. In most books, the I, or first person, is omitted; in this it will be retained; that, in respect to **egotism**, is the main difference. We commonly do not remember that it is, after all, always the first person that is speaking. I should not talk so much about myself if there were anybody else whom I knew as well. Unfortunately, I am confined to this theme by the **narrowness** of my experience. Moreover, I, on my side, require of every writer,

Thesaurus

earned: (*adj*) deserved, realized, due.
egotism: (*n*) vanity, ego, pride, conceit, narcissism, egocentricity, selfishness, arrogance, pridefulness, self-esteem, solipsism. ANTONYMS: (*n*) humility, selflessness.
families: (*n*) family.
impertinent: (*adj*) fresh, pert, saucy, forward, audacious, brash, brazen, extraneous, discourteous, disrespectful, flippant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) respectful, polite, courteous.

lonesome: (*adj*) lone, desolate, forlorn, dreary, dismal, solitary, secluded, gloomy, unfrequented; (*adj, n*) isolated, alone. ANTONYM: (*n*) foe.
narrowness: (*n*) thinness, width, intolerance, illiberality, tightness, smallness, pettiness, sheerness, slimness, meanness, skinniness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) wideness, stoutness, thickness, width, coarseness, inaccuracy.
neighbor: (*v*) abut, adjoin, populate,

touch; (*n*) acquaintance, neighborhood, national; (*adj*) neighborly, neighbouring, neighboring, adjacent. ANTONYM: (*n*) foreigner.
obtrude: (*v*) impose, force, encroach, inflict, protrude, stick out, infringe, meddle, visit, barge, push.
sojourner: (*n*) householder, incumbent, inmate, lodger, metic, tenant, residentiary, resident, occupier, occupant, dweller.

first or last, a simple and sincere account of his own life, and not merely what he has heard of other men's lives; some such account as he would send to his **kindred** from a distant land; for if he has lived sincerely, it must have been in a distant land to me. Perhaps these pages are more particularly addressed to poor students. As for the rest of my readers, they will accept such portions as apply to them. I trust that none will stretch the seams in putting on the coat, for it may do good service to him whom it fits.

I would **fain** say something, not so much concerning the Chinese and Sandwich Islanders as you who read these pages, who are said to live in New England; something about your condition, especially your outward condition or circumstances in this world, in this town, what it is, whether it is necessary that it be as bad as it is, whether it cannot be improved as well as not. I have travelled a good deal in Concord; and everywhere, in shops, and offices, and fields, the inhabitants have appeared to me to be doing **penance** in a thousand remarkable ways. What I have heard of Bramins sitting exposed to four fires and looking in the face of the sun; or hanging suspended, with their heads downward, over flames; or looking at the heavens over their shoulders "until it becomes impossible for them to resume their natural position, while from the twist of the neck nothing but liquids can pass into the stomach"; or **dwelling, chained** for life, at the foot of a tree; or measuring with their bodies, like caterpillars, the breadth of vast empires; or standing on one leg on the tops of pillars -- even these forms of conscious penance are hardly more incredible and astonishing than the scenes which I daily witness. The twelve **labors** of Hercules were **trifling** in comparison with those which my **neighbors** have undertaken; for they were only twelve, and had an end; but I could never see that these men **slew** or captured any monster or finished any labor. They have no friend Iolaus to burn with a hot iron the root of the hydra's head, but as soon as one head is crushed, two spring up.

I see young men, my townsmen, whose misfortune it is to have inherited farms, houses, barns, cattle, and farming tools; for these are more easily acquired than got rid of. Better if they had been born in the open pasture and suckled by a

Thesaurus

chained: (*adj*) in chains, enchained, bound.

dwelling: (*n*) domicile, home, residence, house, place, accommodation, address, building, lodge, habitation; (*adj, n*) dwell.

fain: (*adj*) willing, prepared, ready, favorable, heart and soul, prone; (*adv*) gladly, lief, readily, willingly; (*v*) optative.

kindred: (*adj*) cognate, akin, similar, allied, related; (*n*) kin, consanguinity,

relation, folk, folks, kin group.

labor: (*n, v*) toil, endeavor, drudgery, travail, struggle, confinement, childbirth, delivery, grind; (*n*) effort, exertion. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) rest; (*v*) relax, ignore; (*n*) management, leisure, death, relaxation.

neighbors: (*n*) neighbourhood.

penance: (*n*) atonement, sacrament, confession, compunction, penalty, expiation, remorse, repentance, punishment, reparation, hair shirt.

slew: (*n*) wad, turning, sight, heap, stack, lot, flock; (*v*) rotate, slue, swerve, veer.

trifling: (*adj*) paltry, slight, petty, negligible, immaterial, worthless, trivial, minor, small; (*adj, v*) inconsequential; (*adj, n*) frivolity. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) significant, worthwhile, major, considerable, crucial, enormous, great, mature, profound, substantial; (*n*) importance.

wolf, that they might have seen with clearer eyes what field they were called to labor in. Who made them serfs of the soil? Why should they eat their sixty acres, when man is condemned to eat only his peck of dirt? Why should they begin digging their graves as soon as they are born? They have got to live a man's life, pushing all these things before them, and get on as well as they can. How many a poor immortal soul have I met well-nigh crushed and smothered under its load, creeping down the road of life, pushing before it a barn seventy-five feet by forty, its Augean stables never **cleansed**, and one hundred acres of land, **tillage**, mowing, pasture, and woodlot! The portionless, who struggle with no such unnecessary inherited encumbrances, find it labor enough to subdue and cultivate a few cubic feet of flesh.

But men labor under a mistake. The better part of the man is soon **plowed** into the soil for compost. By a seeming fate, commonly called necessity, they are employed, as it says in an old book, laying up treasures which moth and rust will corrupt and thieves break through and steal. It is a fool's life, as they will find when they get to the end of it, if not before. It is said that Deucalion and Pyrrha created men by throwing stones over their heads behind them:--

*Inde genus durum sumus, experiensque laborum,
Et documenta damus qua simus origine nati.*

Or, as Raleigh rhymes it in his **sonorous** way,--

"From thence our kind **hard**-hearted is, enduring pain and care,
Approving that our bodies of a stony nature are."

So much for a blind obedience to a **blundering** oracle, throwing the stones over their heads behind them, and not seeing where they fell.

Most men, even in this comparatively free country, through mere ignorance and mistake, are so occupied with the **factitious** cares and **superfluously** coarse labors of life that its finer **fruits** cannot be plucked by them. Their fingers, from

Thesaurus

blundering: (*adj*) clumsy, tactless, inept, maladroit, ungainly, unthinking, ridiculous, obtuse, oblivious, lumbering, insensitive.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) graceful, sensitive, dexterous.
cleansed: (*adj*) clean, refined, cleaner, depurate.
durum: (*n*) Triticum durum, hard wheat, durum wheat, corn, macaroni wheat.
factitious: (*adj*) artificial, unnatural,

fictitious, man-made, ostensible, bogus, unreal, synthetic, surreptitious, forced, false.
fruits: (*n*) revenue.
hard-hearted: (*adj*) remorseless, ruthless, unkind, obdurate, pitiless, heartless, merciless, unaffected, unconcerned, uninterested, cold-blooded.
plowed: (*v*) plucked; (*adj*) drunk.
sonorous: (*adj*) rotund, resonant, clear, rich, resounding, harmonious, round,

full, ringing, vibrant, sonant.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) shrill, thin.
superfluously: (*adv*) unnecessarily, excessively, needlessly, supernumerarily, uselessly, unwantedly, gratuitously, supererogatorily, sparely, overly, extraneously.
tillage: (*n*) agriculture, farming, cultivated land, tilth, husbandry, culture, land, fallow, vintage, farmland, plowland.

excessive toil, are too clumsy and tremble too much for that. Actually, the **laboring** man has not leisure for a true integrity day by day; he cannot afford to sustain the manliest relations to men; his labor would be **depreciated** in the market. He has no time to be anything but a machine. How can he remember well his ignorance -- which his growth requires -- who has so often to use his knowledge? We should feed and clothe him **gratuitously** sometimes, and recruit him with our cordials, before we judge of him. The finest qualities of our nature, like the bloom on fruits, can be preserved only by the most delicate handling. Yet we do not treat ourselves nor one another thus tenderly.

Some of you, we all know, are poor, find it hard to live, are sometimes, as it were, gasping for breath. I have no doubt that some of you who read this book are unable to pay for all the dinners which you have actually **eaten**, or for the coats and shoes which are fast wearing or are already worn out, and have come to this page to spend borrowed or stolen time, robbing your creditors of an hour. It is very evident what mean and sneaking lives many of you live, for my sight has been whetted by experience; always on the limits, trying to get into business and trying to get out of debt, a very ancient slough, called by the Latins *aes alienum*, another's brass, for some of their coins were made of brass; still living, and dying, and buried by this other's brass; always promising to pay, promising to pay, tomorrow, and dying today, insolvent; seeking to curry **favor**, to get custom, by how many modes, only not state-prison offenses; lying, flattering, voting, contracting yourselves into a nutshell of civility or dilating into an atmosphere of thin and **vaporous** generosity, that you may persuade your neighbor to let you make his shoes, or his hat, or his coat, or his carriage, or import his groceries for him; making yourselves sick, that you may lay up something against a sick day, something to be tucked away in an old chest, or in a stocking behind the **plastering**, or, more safely, in the brick bank; no matter where, no matter how much or how little.

I sometimes wonder that we can be so frivolous, I may almost say, as to attend to the gross but somewhat foreign form of **servitude** called Negro Slavery, there are so many keen and subtle masters that **enslave** both North and South. It

Thesaurus

depreciated: (*adj*) adulterate, cheap, depleted, depressed; (*v*) depreciating.

eaten: (*v*) eat.

enslave: (*v*) enthrall, captivate, subjugate, slave, tame, chain, confine, thrall, inthrall, restrain; (*adj, v*) lead captive. ANTONYMS: (*v*) free, release, emancipate.

favor: (*n, v*) countenance, aid, grace, support, benefit, boon; (*adj, n*) kindness; (*n*) advantage; (*v*) befriend, encourage, patronize. ANTONYMS:

(*v*) hinder, contradict, dislike, hurt, differ, thwart, reject, demean; (*n*) derogation, disapproval, unkindness.

gratuitously: (*adv*) needlessly, spontaneously, complementarily, freely, unnecessarily, groundlessly, unwarrantedly, pointlessly, wantonly, voluntarily, superfluously.

laboring: (*adj*) working, labouring, toiling, drudging, labors, work, elaborate, employed, busy.

plastering: (*n*) daubing, coating,

pargeting, rendering, stucco, coat, plasterwork, application, covering, pargetting.

servitude: (*n*) bondage, serfdom, enslavement, captivity, slavery, yoke, vassalage, thrall, easement, serfhood, dependency. ANTONYM: (*n*) freedom.

vaporous: (*adj*) hazy, foggy, vaporific, ethereal, cloudy, vaporish, steamy, airy, unsubstantial, evaporable, cobwebby.

is hard to have a Southern **overseer**; it is worse to have a Northern one; but worst of all when you are the slave-driver of yourself. Talk of a divinity in man! Look at the **teamster** on the highway, wending to market by day or night; does any divinity stir within him? His highest duty to fodder and water his horses! What is his destiny to him compared with the shipping interests? Does not he drive for Squire Make-a-stir? How **godlike**, how immortal, is he? See how he cowers and sneaks, how vaguely all the day he fears, not being immortal nor divine, but the slave and prisoner of his own opinion of himself, a fame won by his own deeds. Public opinion is a weak tyrant compared with our own private opinion. What a man thinks of himself, that it is which determines, or rather indicates, his fate. Self-emancipation even in the West Indian **provinces** of the fancy and imagination -- what Wilberforce is there to bring that about? Think, also, of the ladies of the land weaving toilet cushions against the last day, not to betray too green an interest in their **fates**! As if you could kill time without injuring eternity.

The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation. What is called resignation is confirmed desperation. From the desperate city you go into the desperate country, and have to console yourself with the bravery of **minks** and **muskrats**. A **stereotyped** but unconscious despair is concealed even under what are called the games and amusements of mankind. There is no play in them, for this comes after work. But it is a characteristic of wisdom not to do desperate things.

When we consider what, to use the words of the **catechism**, is the chief end of man, and what are the true **necessaries** and means of life, it appears as if men had deliberately chosen the common mode of living because they preferred it to any other. Yet they honestly think there is no choice left. But alert and healthy natures remember that the sun rose clear. It is never too late to give up our prejudices. No way of thinking or doing, however ancient, can be trusted without proof. What everybody echoes or in silence passes by as true to-day may turn out to be **falsehood** to-morrow, mere smoke of opinion, which some had trusted for a cloud that would sprinkle **fertilizing** rain on their fields. What old people say you cannot do, you try and find that you can. Old deeds for old

Thesaurus

catechism: (*n*) interrogation, creed, education, question, test; (*v*) challenge.

falsehood: (*n*) fable, fabrication, deception, untruth, lie, fib, fiction, invention, dishonesty; (*adj, n*) deceit, falsity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) fact, honesty, reality.

fates: (*adj*) book of fate, Parcae, sky; (*n*) fortune, the fates.

fertilizing: (*n*) fertilization, farming.

godlike: (*adj*) celestial, heavenly,

seraphic, holy, angelic, godly, divine worship, deified, elysian, foreboding, divine songs.

minks: (*n*) Mustelidae, martens, ferrets, badgers, fishers.

muskrats: (*n*) genus ondatra.

necessaries: (*n*) necessary, necessities of life, necessity, must.

overseer: (*n*) superintendent, foreman, manager, inspector, supervisor, warden, controller, director, examiner, administrator, custodian.

ANTONYM: (*n*) underling.

provinces: (*n*) distance.

stereotyped: (*adj, v*) commonplace, stock, trite; (*adj*) hackneyed, banal, stale, corny, stereotypical; (*v*) established, familiar,

incontrovertible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) original, unconventional, fresh.

teamster: (*n*) carter, driver, muleteer, postilion, arriero, cartman, carrier, porter, vetturino, truck driver, lorry driver.

people, and new deeds for new. Old people did not know enough once, **perchance**, to fetch fresh fuel to keep the fire a-going; new people put a little dry wood under a pot, and are whirled round the globe with the speed of birds, in a way to kill old people, as the phrase is. Age is no better, hardly so well, qualified for an instructor as youth, for it has not profited so much as it has lost. One may almost doubt if the wisest man has learned anything of absolute value by living. Practically, the old have no very important advice to give the young, their own experience has been so partial, and their lives have been such miserable failures, for private reasons, as they must believe; and it may be that they have some faith left which belies that experience, and they are only less young than they were. I have lived some thirty years on this planet, and I have yet to hear the first syllable of valuable or even earnest advice from my seniors. They have told me nothing, and probably cannot tell me anything to the purpose. Here is life, an experiment to a great extent **untried** by me; but it does not avail me that they have tried it. If I have any experience which I think valuable, I am sure to reflect that this my Mentors said nothing about.

One farmer says to me, "You cannot live on vegetable food solely, for it furnishes nothing to make bones with"; and so he **religiously** devotes a part of his day to supplying his system with the raw material of bones; walking all the while he talks behind his oxen, which, with vegetable-made bones, jerk him and his **lumbering plow** along in spite of every obstacle. Some things are really necessities of life in some circles, the most helpless and diseased, which in others are luxuries merely, and in others still are entirely unknown.

The whole ground of human life seems to some to have been gone over by their predecessors, both the heights and the valleys, and all things to have been cared for. According to Evelyn, "the wise Solomon prescribed ordinances for the very distances of trees; and the Roman praetors have decided how often you may go into your neighbor's land to gather the acorns which fall on it without trespass, and what share belongs to that neighbor." Hippocrates has even left directions how we should cut our nails; that is, even with the ends of the fingers, neither shorter nor longer. Undoubtedly the very **tedium** and **ennui** which

Thesaurus

ennui: (*n*) fatigue, tedium, weariness, melancholy, monotony, tediousness, dissatisfaction, listlessness, apathy; (*v*) bore, pall. ANTONYMS: (*n*) variation, liveliness, enthusiasm, energy, interest.

lumbering: (*adj*) heavy, clumsy, ungainly, ponderous, maladroit, gruelling, hulking, accented, all thumbs, unwieldy; (*n*) logging. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) nimble, adroit, agile, graceful, elegant, dainty.

perchance: (*adv*) maybe, possibly, by chance, peradventure, accidentally, incidentally, mayhap, chance, haphazard, probably, haply.

plow: (*n*) furrow; (*v*) farm, cultivate, hoe, turn over, rake, till, dig, cover, dibble, dress the ground.

religiously: (*adv*) conscientiously, spiritually, devoutly, reverently, sacredly, holy, Godly, scrupulously, devotedly, morally, devotionally.

tedium: (*n*) ennui, monotony,

tediousness, dullness, sameness, dreariness, lifelessness, difficulty, drabness; (*adj*) dull work, humdrum. ANTONYMS: (*n*) excitement, diversion, variation, entertainment, ease.

untried: (*adj*) raw, new, untested, unseasoned, fresh, untrodden, unsalted, young, unverified, untouched; (*v*) undetermined. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) proven, seasoned, familiar, experienced.

presume to have exhausted the variety and the joys of life are as old as Adam. But man's capacities have never been measured; nor are we to judge of what he can do by any precedents, so little has been tried. Whatever have been thy failures hitherto, "be not afflicted, my child, for who shall assign to thee what thou hast left undone?"

We might try our lives by a thousand simple tests; as, for instance, that the same sun which ripens my beans illumines at once a system of earths like ours. If I had remembered this it would have prevented some mistakes. This was not the light in which I hoed them. The stars are the **apexes** of what wonderful triangles! What distant and different beings in the various mansions of the universe are contemplating the same one at the same moment! Nature and human life are as various as our several constitutions. Who shall say what prospect life offers to another? Could a greater miracle take place than for us to look through each other's eyes for an instant? We should live in all the ages of the world in an hour; ay, in all the worlds of the ages. History, Poetry, Mythology! -- I know of no reading of another's experience so startling and informing as this would be.

The greater part of what my neighbors call good I believe in my soul to be bad, and if I **repent** of anything, it is very likely to be my good **behavior**. What demon possessed me that I behaved so well? You may say the wisest thing you can, old man -- you who have lived seventy years, not without **honor** of a kind -- I hear an irresistible voice which invites me away from all that. One generation abandons the enterprises of another like stranded vessels.

I think that we may safely trust a good deal more than we do. We may waive just so much care of ourselves as we honestly **bestow** elsewhere. Nature is as well adapted to our weakness as to our strength. The incessant anxiety and strain of some is a **well-nigh incurable** form of disease. We are made to exaggerate the importance of what work we do; and yet how much is not done by us! or, what if we had been taken sick? How vigilant we are! determined not to live by faith if we can avoid it; all the day long on the alert, at night we **unwillingly** say our prayers and commit ourselves to **uncertainties**. So

Thesaurus

apexes: (*n*) acme, apex.

behavior: (*n, v*) bearing, demeanor; (*n*) carriage, conduct, deportment, act, behaviour, manner, character, action, morality.

bestow: (*v*) give, confer, grant, impart, contribute, donate, apply, award; (*adj, v*) accord, allow, present.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) deprive, refuse, withhold, retrieve, withdraw.

honor: (*n, v*) respect, reputation, glory, fame, reward; (*n*) award, accolade,

reverence; (*v*) celebrate; (*adj, n, v*) worship, grace. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) dishonor, disgrace; (*n*) shame, humiliation, wickedness, contempt, insult; (*v*) break, ignore, disrespect, discredit.

incurable: (*adj*) incorrigible, immedicable, cureless, inveterate, irretrievable, irrecoverable, terminal, irremediable, irreparable, remediless, chronic. ANTONYM: (*adj*) mild.

repent: (*v*) deplore, bewail, rue,

mourn, lament, atone, sorry, bemoan, feel remorse, grieve, be sorry.

uncertainties: (*n*) doubts, worries, misgivings.

unwillingly: (*adv*) grudgingly, loathly, aversely, unenthusiastically, indisposedly, resentfully, involuntarily, recalcitrantly, refractorily, lothly, hesitatingly.
ANTONYM: (*adv*) wholeheartedly.

well-nigh: (*adv*) nearly, most; (*adj*) practically.

thoroughly and sincerely are we **compelled** to live, reverencing our life, and denying the possibility of change. This is the only way, we say; but there are as many ways as there can be drawn **radii** from one centre. All change is a miracle to contemplate; but it is a miracle which is taking place every instant. Confucius said, "To know that we know what we know, and that we do not know what we do not know, that is true knowledge." When one man has reduced a fact of the imagination to be a fact to his understanding, I **foresee** that all men at length establish their lives on that basis.

* * * * *

Let us consider for a moment what most of the trouble and anxiety which I have referred to is about, and how much it is necessary that we be troubled, or at least careful. It would be some advantage to live a primitive and frontier life, though in the midst of an outward civilization, if only to learn what are the gross necessities of life and what methods have been taken to obtain them; or even to look over the old day-books of the merchants, to see what it was that men most commonly bought at the stores, what they **stored**, that is, what are the grossest **groceries**. For the improvements of ages have had but little influence on the essential laws of man's existence; as our skeletons, probably, are not to be distinguished from those of our ancestors.

By the words, necessary of life, I mean whatever, of all that man obtains by his own exertions, has been from the first, or from long use has become, so important to human life that few, if any, whether from **savageness**, or poverty, or philosophy, ever attempt to do without it. To many creatures there is in this sense but one necessary of life, Food. To the **bison** of the **prairie** it is a few inches of **palatable** grass, with water to drink; unless he seeks the Shelter of the forest or the mountain's shadow. None of the **brute** creation requires more than Food and Shelter. The necessities of life for man in this climate may, accurately enough,

Thesaurus

bison: (*n*) aurochs, buffalo, zebu, yak, bovid, wisent, antelopes, bubaline, Ruminantia, suborder Ruminantia.

brute: (*adj*) brutal, harsh, gruff, brutish; (*adj, n*) animal, savage; (*n*) barbarian, fiend, creature, monster; (*adv*) beastly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) weak, refined, mild, gentle; (*n*) gentleman.

compelled: (*adj*) forced, obligate, enforced, constrained, responsible, answerable, unwilling, destined.

foresee: (*v*) expect, forecast, anticipate, envisage, prewise, foreknow, prophesy, provide, foresaw, predict, see.

groceries: (*n*) foodstuff, provisions, chow, victuals, grocery, compensation, earnings, essential, fare, fundamental, heart.

palatable: (*adj*) luscious, tasty, agreeable, toothsome, appetizing, eatable, delectable, delicate, tasteful, sweet, savory. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

disagreeable, indigestible, inedible, tasteless.

prairie: (*n*) meadow, lea, grassland, field, savanna, steppe, heath, bush, jungle, desert, pampas.

radii: (*n*) radiuses.

savageness: (*n*) barbarity, savagery, ferociousness, wildness, cruelty, barbarism, fierceness, ferocity, rudeness, inhumanity, harshness.

stored: (*adj*) saved, freighted, laden, filled, fraught, charged.

be distributed under the several heads of Food, Shelter, Clothing, and Fuel; for not till we have secured these are we prepared to entertain the true problems of life with freedom and a prospect of success. Man has invented, not only houses, but clothes and cooked food; and possibly from the accidental discovery of the warmth of fire, and the consequent use of it, at first a luxury, arose the present necessity to sit by it. We observe cats and dogs acquiring the same second nature. By proper Shelter and Clothing we legitimately retain our own internal heat; but with an excess of these, or of Fuel, that is, with an external heat greater than our own internal, may not cookery properly be said to begin? Darwin, the **naturalist**, says of the inhabitants of Tierra del Fuego, that while his own party, who were well **clothed** and sitting close to a fire, were far from too warm, these naked savages, who were farther off, were observed, to his great surprise, "to be **streaming with perspiration** at undergoing such a roasting." So, we are told, the New Hollander goes naked with **impunity**, while the European **shivers** in his clothes. Is it impossible to combine the **hardiness** of these savages with the intellectualness of the civilized man? According to Liebig, man's body is a stove, and food the fuel which keeps up the internal combustion in the lungs. In cold weather we eat more, in warm less. The animal heat is the result of a slow combustion, and disease and death take place when this is too rapid; or for want of fuel, or from some defect in the draught, the fire goes out. Of course the vital heat is not to be **confounded** with fire; but so much for analogy. It appears, therefore, from the above list, that the expression, animal life, is nearly synonymous with the expression, animal heat; for while Food may be regarded as the Fuel which keeps up the fire within us -- and Fuel serves only to prepare that Food or to increase the warmth of our bodies by addition from without -- Shelter and Clothing also serve only to retain the heat thus generated and absorbed.

The grand necessity, then, for our bodies, is to keep warm, to keep the vital heat in us. What pains we accordingly take, not only with our Food, and Clothing, and Shelter, but with our beds, which are our night-clothes, **robbing** the nests and **breasts** of birds to prepare this shelter within a shelter, as the mole has its bed of grass and leaves at the end of its burrow! The poor man is **wont** to

Thesaurus

breasts: (*n*) chest, booby.

clothed: (*adj*) dressed, wrapped, cloaked, robed, covered, attired, vested, absorbed, decent; (*v*) accustomed, arrayed. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unclothed.

confounded: (*adj*) bemused, accursed, execrable, baffled, cursed, befuddled, confused, puzzled, aghast, perplexed; (*adj, v*) abashed.

hardiness: (*n*) strength, tolerance, sturdiness, vigor, toughness,

durability, bravery, mettle, audacity, nerve, spirit. ANTONYMS: (*n*) defeatism, flimsiness.

impunity: (*n*) impune, come off, freedom, immunity, permission, forgiveness. ANTONYM: (*n*) liability.

naturalist: (*n*) natural scientist, naturalistic, Steller, life scientist, ecologist, environmentalist, faunist.

perspiration: (*n*) diaphoresis, hidrosis, sudor, sweating, extravasation, secretion, exertion, exudation, effort,

lather, water.

robbing: (*adj*) freebooting, practicing freebootery; (*n*) theft.

shivers: (*n*) cold, jitters.

streaming: (*adj*) flowing, flapping, detached, incoherent, baggy, slack, relaxed, loose, lax; (*n*) cyclosis; (*v*) disheveled.

wont: (*adj, n*) use, custom, usage; (*n*) practice, tradition, cleanliness, assuetude, assuefaction, convention, rut; (*v*) practise.

complain that this is a cold world; and to cold, no less physical than social, we refer directly a great part of our ills. The summer, in some climates, makes possible to man a sort of Elysian life. Fuel, except to cook his Food, is then unnecessary; the sun is his fire, and many of the fruits are sufficiently cooked by its rays; while Food generally is more various, and more easily obtained, and Clothing and Shelter are wholly or half unnecessary. At the present day, and in this country, as I find by my own experience, a few implements, a knife, an axe, a spade, a wheelbarrow, etc., and for the **studious**, lamplight, stationery, and access to a few books, rank next to necessities, and can all be obtained at a trifling cost. Yet some, not wise, go to the other side of the globe, to **barbarous** and unhealthy regions, and devote themselves to trade for ten or twenty years, in order that they may live -- that is, keep comfortably warm -- and die in New England at last. The **luxuriously** rich are not simply kept comfortably warm, but unnaturally hot; as I implied before, they are cooked, of course a la mode.

Most of the luxuries, and many of the so-called comforts of life, are not only not indispensable, but positive hindrances to the elevation of mankind. With respect to luxuries and comforts, the wisest have ever lived a more simple and meagre life than the poor. The ancient philosophers, Chinese, Hindoo, Persian, and Greek, were a class than which none has been poorer in outward riches, none so rich in inward. We know not much about them. It is remarkable that we know so much of them as we do. The same is true of the more modern reformers and benefactors of their race. None can be an impartial or wise observer of human life but from the vantage ground of what we should call voluntary poverty. Of a life of luxury the fruit is luxury, whether in agriculture, or commerce, or literature, or art. There are nowadays **professors** of philosophy, but not philosophers. Yet it is admirable to profess because it was once admirable to live. To be a philosopher is not merely to have subtle thoughts, nor even to found a school, but so to love wisdom as to live **according** to its dictates, a life of simplicity, independence, **magnanimity**, and trust. It is to solve some of the problems of life, not only theoretically, but practically. The success of great scholars and thinkers is commonly a courtier-like success, not **kingly**, not manly. They make shift to live merely by conformity, practically as their fathers did, and

Thesaurus

according: (*adj*) pursuant, consonant, equal, agreeable, harmonious, conformable, consistent, corresponding, respondent; (*adv*) correspondingly, accordingly.
barbarous: (*adj*) barbaric, savage, gothic, brutal, heathen, truculent, rude, fell, ferocious, fierce, uncivilized. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) nice, cultured, civilized, sophisticated, refined, humane.
kingly: (*adj, adv*) stately; (*adj*) August,

noble, regal, imperial, sovereign, majestic, royal; (*adv*) royally, majestically, regally.
luxuriously: (*adv*) richly, sumptuously, extravagantly, opulently, magnificently, voluptuously, lushly, lavishly, palatially, sensually, gorgeously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) meagerly, cheaply, simply.
magnanimity: (*adj, n*) generosity, liberality; (*n*) largesse, greatness,

charity, munificence, tolerance, nobleness, nobility, kindness, largess. ANTONYM: (*n*) pettiness.
profess: (*v*) assert, feign, affirm, avow, state, pretend, claim, confess, allege, aver; (*n, v*) protest. ANTONYM: (*v*) repress.
studious: (*adj*) scholarly, bookish, academic, assiduous, erudite, diligent, learned, careful, deliberate; (*adj, v*) thoughtful, reflective. ANTONYM: (*adj*) negligent.

are in no sense the **progenitors** of a noble race of men. But why do men degenerate ever? What makes families run out? What is the nature of the luxury which enervates and destroys nations? Are we sure that there is none of it in our own lives? The philosopher is in advance of his age even in the outward form of his life. He is not fed, sheltered, clothed, warmed, like his contemporaries. How can a man be a philosopher and not maintain his vital heat by better methods than other men?

When a man is warmed by the several modes which I have described, what does he want next? Surely not more warmth of the same kind, as more and richer food, larger and more splendid houses, finer and more abundant clothing, more numerous, **incessant**, and hotter fires, and the like. When he has obtained those things which are necessary to life, there is another alternative than to obtain the **superfluties**; and that is, to adventure on life now, his vacation from humbler toil having commenced. The soil, it appears, is suited to the seed, for it has sent its **radicle** downward, and it may now send its shoot upward also with confidence. Why has man rooted himself thus firmly in the earth, but that he may rise in the same proportion into the heavens above? -- for the nobler plants are valued for the fruit they bear at last in the air and light, far from the ground, and are not treated like the humbler esculents, which, though they may be biennials, are cultivated only till they have **perfected** their root, and often cut down at top for this purpose, so that most would not know them in their flowering season.

I do not mean to prescribe rules to strong and **valiant** natures, who will mind their own affairs whether in heaven or hell, and perchance build more **magnificently** and spend more lavishly than the richest, without ever impoverishing themselves, not knowing how they live -- if, indeed, there are any such, as has been dreamed; nor to those who find their encouragement and inspiration in precisely the present condition of things, and **cherish** it with the fondness and enthusiasm of lovers -- and, to some extent, I reckon myself in this number; I do not speak to those who are well employed, in whatever circumstances, and they know whether they are well employed or not; -- but

Thesaurus

cherish: (*v*) care for, nurture, treasure, entertain, cultivate, bosom, prize, esteem, harbor; (*n, v*) hug, foster.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) hate, scorn, reject, denounce, despise, neglect.
incessant: (*adj*) endless, continual, everlasting, eternal, constant, continuous, perpetual, unremitting, interminable, persistent; (*adj, v*) frequent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) intermittent, occasional, sporadic, broken, finite.

magnificently: (*adv*) beautifully, grandly, superbly, gloriously, majestically, gorgeously, sumptuously, marvelously, wonderfully, fantastically, showily.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) poorly, modestly, badly, abysmally, simply, meagerly, incompetently.
perfected: (*adj*) consummate, elaborate, mellow, mature, ripe, fulfilled, done, formed; (*v*) completed, consummated, excessive.

progenitors: (*n*) lineage.
radicle: (*n*) rootlet, root, structure, radicle, germ, trunk, seed, radix radical, radicule, stem, stirps.
superfluties: (*n*) added extras, additions, embellishments, trappings, accompaniments.
valiant: (*adj*) brave, courageous, intrepid, fearless, heroic, audacious, gallant, daring, dauntless, stout, stalwart. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) afraid, despicable.

mainly to the mass of men who are **discontented**, and idly complaining of the hardness of their lot or of the times, when they might improve them. There are some who complain most **energetically** and **inconsolably** of any, because they are, as they say, doing their duty. I also have in my mind that seemingly wealthy, but most terribly impoverished class of all, who have accumulated **dross**, but know not how to use it, or get rid of it, and thus have forged their own golden or silver fetters.

If I should attempt to tell how I have desired to spend my life in years past, it would probably surprise those of my readers who are somewhat acquainted with its actual history; it would certainly **astonish** those who know nothing about it. I will only hint at some of the enterprises which I have cherished.

In any weather, at any hour of the day or night, I have been anxious to improve the nick of time, and **notch** it on my stick too; to stand on the meeting of two eternities, the past and future, which is precisely the present moment; to toe that line. You will pardon some obscurities, for there are more secrets in my trade than in most men's, and yet not voluntarily kept, but inseparable from its very nature. I would gladly tell all that I know about it, and never paint "No Admittance" on my gate.

I long ago lost a hound, a bay horse, and a **turtle** dove, and am still on their trail. Many are the travellers I have spoken concerning them, describing their tracks and what calls they answered to. I have met one or two who had heard the hound, and the tramp of the horse, and even seen the dove disappear behind a cloud, and they seemed as anxious to recover them as if they had lost them themselves.

To anticipate, not the sunrise and the dawn merely, but, if possible, Nature herself! How many mornings, summer and winter, before yet any neighbor was stirring about his business, have I been about mine! No doubt, many of my townsmen have met me returning from this enterprise, farmers starting for Boston in the twilight, or woodchoppers going to their work. It is true, I never

Thesaurus

astonish: (*adj, v*) astound; (*adj, n, v*) surprise; (*adj*) astonishing, surprised; (*v*) flabbergast, daze, confound, dazzle, stun, alarm, nonplus.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) expect, bore.
discontented: (*adj, v*) querulous, complaining; (*adj*) disaffected, disgruntled, malcontent, unsatisfied, dissatisfied, displeased, miserable, put out, ungratified. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) pleased, satisfied, happy, content.

dross: (*n*) trash, rubbish, scoria, refuse, slag, waste, impurity, dregs, garbage, offal, cinder.
energetically: (*adv*) vigorously, strongly, actively, briskly, lustily, forcefully, lively, forcibly, powerfully, spiritedly, strenuously. **ANTONYMS:** (*adv*) idly, quietly, lifelessly, resignedly, indifferently, feebly, wearily, languorously, lazily, sluggishly, passively.
inconsolably: (*adv*) hopelessly,

unhappily, terribly, mournfully, in despair, despondently, sadly, desperately, extremely, desolately, at a loss. **ANTONYM:** (*adv*) hopefully.
notch: (*n, v*) mark, dent, hack, nick, score, nock, hollow, scratch; (*n*) gap, incision; (*v*) indent. **ANTONYM:** (*v*) fill.
turtle: (*n*) terrapin, redbelly, cooter, snapping turtle, box tortoise, painted terrapin, marine turtle, slider, sea turtle; (*adj*) game, venison.

assisted the sun materially in his rising, but, doubt not, it was of the last importance only to be present at it.

So many autumn, ay, and winter days, spent outside the town, trying to hear what was in the wind, to hear and carry it express! I well-nigh sunk all my capital in it, and lost my own breath into the bargain, running in the face of it. If it had concerned either of the political parties, depend upon it, it would have appeared in the Gazette with the earliest intelligence. At other times watching from the **observatory** of some cliff or tree, to telegraph any new arrival; or waiting at evening on the hill-tops for the sky to fall, that I might catch something, though I never caught much, and that, manna-wise, would dissolve again in the sun.

For a long time I was reporter to a journal, of no very wide circulation, whose editor has never yet seen fit to print the bulk of my contributions, and, as is too common with writers, I got only my labor for my pains. However, in this case my pains were their own reward.

For many years I was self-appointed inspector of snow-storms and rain-storms, and did my duty faithfully; surveyor, if not of highways, then of forest paths and all across-lot routes, keeping them open, and ravines bridged and **passable** at all seasons, where the public heel had testified to their utility.

I have looked after the wild stock of the town, which give a faithful **herdsman** a good deal of trouble by leaping fences; and I have had an eye to the **unfrequented** nooks and corners of the farm; though I did not always know whether Jonas or Solomon worked in a particular field to-day; that was none of my business. I have **watered** the red **huckleberry**, the sand cherry and the nettle-tree, the red pine and the black ash, the white grape and the yellow violet, which might have **withered** else in dry seasons.

In short, I went on thus for a long time (I may say it without boasting), faithfully **mind**ing my business, till it became more and more evident that my townsmen would not after all admit me into the list of town officers, nor make my place a **sinecure** with a moderate allowance. My accounts, which I can swear

Thesaurus

assisted: (*adj*) aided.

herdsman: (*n*) herder, drover, shepherd, goatherd, cad, gillie, herdsman, pastoral, herd, cowherd, stockman.

huckleberry: (*n*) bilberry, dangleberry, whortleberry, shrub, blueberry bush.

minding: (*adj*) intent.

observatory: (*n*) observation tower, lookout station, structure, tower, outlook, observation post, lookout cupola, edifice, lookout man,

construction, building.

passable: (*adj*) adequate, indifferent, fair, mediocre, satisfactory, acceptable, middling, decent, respectable, fair to middling, moderate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inadequate, unsatisfactory, unacceptable, atrocious, excellent, exceptional, disagreeable, appalling, intolerable, poor.

sinecure: (*n*) berth, plum, sitting duck, post, position, plum job, place, office,

ecclesiastical benefice, cinch, benefice.

unfrequented: (*adj*) secluded, solitary, isolated, lonesome, desolate, remote, secret, eremitical, deserted, quiet, off the beaten path.

watered: (*adj*) irriguous, dewy, watermarked, moist.

withered: (*adj*) wizened, sear, shriveled, thin, shrunken, dry, dried up, wilted, faded, wizened; (*v*) lame. ANTONYM: (*adj*) plump.

to have kept faithfully, I have, indeed, never got audited, still less accepted, still less paid and settled. However, I have not set my heart on that.

Not long since, a strolling Indian went to sell baskets at the house of a well-known lawyer in my **neighborhood**. "Do you wish to buy any baskets?" he asked. "No, we do not want any," was the reply. "What!" exclaimed the Indian as he went out the gate, "do you mean to **starve** us?" Having seen his **industrious** white neighbors so well off -- that the lawyer had only to weave arguments, and, by some magic, wealth and standing followed -- he had said to himself: I will go into business; I will weave baskets; it is a thing which I can do. Thinking that when he had made the baskets he would have done his part, and then it would be the white man's to buy them. He had not discovered that it was necessary for him to make it worth the other's while to buy them, or at least make him think that it was so, or to make something else which it would be worth his while to buy. I too had woven a kind of basket of a delicate texture, but I had not made it worth any one's while to buy them. Yet not the less, in my case, did I think it worth my while to weave them, and instead of studying how to make it worth men's while to buy my baskets, I studied rather how to avoid the necessity of selling them. The life which men praise and regard as successful is but one kind. Why should we **exaggerate** any one kind at the expense of the others?

Finding that my fellow-citizens were not likely to offer me any room in the court house, or any **curacy** or living anywhere else, but I must shift for myself, I turned my face more exclusively than ever to the woods, where I was better known. I determined to go into business at once, and not wait to acquire the usual capital, using such slender means as I had already got. My purpose in going to Walden Pond was not to live cheaply nor to live **dearly** there, but to **transact** some private business with the fewest obstacles; to be **hindered** from **accomplishing** which for want of a little common sense, a little enterprise and business talent, appeared not so sad as foolish.

I have always endeavored to acquire strict business habits; they are indispensable to every man. If your trade is with the Celestial Empire, then some

Thesaurus

accomplishing: (*n*) doing; (*adj*) effectual.

curacy: (*n*) spot, situation, position, office, post, cure, curateship, berth.

dearly: (*adv*) affectionately, preciously, darlingly, sweetly, petly, expensively, belovedly, intimately, highly, heartfelty, lovely.

exaggerate: (*v*) boast, aggravate, amplify, dramatize, overdo, overdraw, brag, overstate, magnify, aggrandize, enhance. ANTONYMS:

(*v*) minimize, alleviate, weaken.

hindered: (*adj*) obstructed, blocked, delayed, stalled, slowed down, slow, in an inferior position, in a weak position, impeded, thwarted, frustrated.

industrious: (*adj*) diligent, assiduous, indefatigable, busy, energetic, hardworking, laborious, tireless, earnest, keen, enterprising. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) indolent, idle, destructive, weary, careless.

neighborhood: (*n*) vicinity, district, area, community, locality, place, quarter, environs, section; (*adj*) neighboring, local.

starve: (*v*) fast, crave, lust, hunger, thirst, perish, be hungry, deprive, benumb; (*adj, v*) pinch; (*adj*) gripe. ANTONYMS: (*v*) feed, eat.

transact: (*v*) perform, execute, do, manage, conduct, deal, bargain, negotiate, enact, sell, bank. ANTONYM: (*v*) deny.

small counting house on the coast, in some Salem **harbor**, will be fixture enough. You will export such articles as the country affords, purely native products, much ice and pine timber and a little granite, always in native bottoms. These will be good ventures. To oversee all the details yourself in person; to be at once pilot and captain, and owner and **underwriter**; to buy and sell and keep the accounts; to read every letter received, and write or read every letter sent; to **superintend** the discharge of imports night and day; to be upon many parts of the coast almost at the same time -- often the richest freight will be discharged upon a Jersey shore; -- to be your own telegraph, **unweariedly** sweeping the horizon, speaking all passing vessels bound **coastwise**; to keep up a steady despatch of commodities, for the supply of such a distant and exorbitant market; to keep yourself informed of the state of the markets, prospects of war and peace everywhere, and anticipate the tendencies of trade and civilization -- taking advantage of the results of all exploring expeditions, using new passages and all improvements in navigation; -- charts to be studied, the position of reefs and new lights and **buoys** to be ascertained, and ever, and ever, the **logarithmic** tables to be corrected, for by the error of some calculator the vessel often splits upon a rock that should have reached a friendly pier -- there is the untold fate of La Prouse; -- universal science to be kept pace with, studying the lives of all great discoverers and navigators, great adventurers and merchants, from Hanno and the Phoenicians down to our day; in fine, account of stock to be taken from time to time, to know how you stand. It is a labor to task the faculties of a man -- such problems of profit and loss, of interest, of **tare** and tret, and **gauging** of all kinds in it, as demand a universal knowledge.

I have thought that Walden Pond would be a good place for business, not solely on account of the **railroad** and the ice trade; it offers advantages which it may not be good policy to **divulge**; it is a good port and a good foundation. No Neva marshes to be filled; though you must everywhere build on piles of your own driving. It is said that a flood-tide, with a westerly wind, and ice in the Neva, would sweep St. Petersburg from the face of the earth.

Thesaurus

buoys: (*n*) buoyage.

coastwise: (*adj*) coastal.

divulge: (*v*) disclose, betray, communicate, declare, impart, reveal, leak, expose, break, tell, confess.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) suppress, hide, withhold, deny.

gauging: (*n*) measurement, estimate, discharge measurement.

harbor: (*n*) dock, asylum, wharf; (*n, v*) cover, port, harbour, shelter; (*v*) shield, contain, cherish, conceal.

ANTONYM: (*v*) relieve.

logarithmic: (*adj*) logarithmical, logarithmical, exponential, logarithmic, logometric, totitive, fluxional, numeric, proportional, differential, integral.

railroad: (*n*) railway, railway system, tram road, tramway, rails, doctrine; (*v*) dragoon, push, coerce, bully, dispatch.

superintend: (*v*) oversee, manage, direct, administer, control, run,

supervise, govern, handle, overlook, inspect.

tare: (*n*) vetch, cheat, bearded darnel, rye grass, till, tare weight, swindle, slicker, ryegrass, hairy vetch; (*v*) zero.

underwriter: (*n*) sponsor, backer, investment banker, proctor, secretary, solicitor, bailiff, attorney, broker, factor, clerk.

unweariedly: (*adv*) tirelessly, unflaggingly, persistently, unwearily, busily, indefatigably.

As this business was to be entered into without the usual capital, it may not be easy to conjecture where those means, that will still be indispensable to every such undertaking, were to be obtained. As for Clothing, to come at once to the practical part of the question, perhaps we are led oftener by the love of novelty and a regard for the opinions of men, in **procuring** it, than by a true utility. Let him who has work to do recollect that the object of clothing is, first, to retain the vital heat, and secondly, in this state of society, to cover nakedness, and he may judge how much of any necessary or important work may be accomplished without adding to his wardrobe. Kings and queens who wear a suit but once, though made by some tailor or **dressmaker** to their majesties, cannot know the comfort of wearing a suit that fits. They are no better than wooden horses to hang the clean clothes on. Every day our garments become more assimilated to ourselves, receiving the impress of the wearer's character, until we hesitate to lay them aside without such delay and medical appliances and some such solemnity even as our bodies. No man ever stood the lower in my estimation for having a patch in his clothes; yet I am sure that there is greater anxiety, commonly, to have fashionable, or at least clean and unpatched clothes, than to have a sound conscience. But even if the rent is not mended, perhaps the worst vice betrayed is **improvidence**. I sometimes try my acquaintances by such tests as this -- Who could wear a patch, or two extra seams only, over the knee? Most behave as if they believed that their prospects for life would be ruined if they should do it. It would be easier for them to **hobble** to town with a broken leg than with a broken **pantaloon**. Often if an accident happens to a gentleman's legs, they can be mended; but if a similar accident happens to the legs of his **pantaloons**, there is no help for it; for he considers, not what is truly respectable, but what is respected. We know but few men, a great many coats and breeches. Dress a **scarecrow** in your last shift, you standing **shiftless** by, who would not soonest salute the scarecrow? Passing a **cornfield** the other day, close by a hat and coat on a stake, I recognized the owner of the farm. He was only a little more **weather-beaten** than when I saw him last. I have heard of a dog that barked at every stranger who approached his **master's** premises with clothes on, but was easily **quieted** by a naked thief. It is an interesting question how far men would

Thesaurus

cornfield: (*n*) corn field.

dressmaker: (*n*) needlewoman, sempstress, seamstress, garmentworker, shoemaker, garmentmaker, couturier, tailor, Ross, mantuamaker, designer.

hobble: (*n, v*) limp, hitch, fetter; (*v*) hamper, hopple, handcuff, bridle, manacle, hinder; (*adv*) toddle; (*adj*) scrape.

improvidence: (*n*) waste, profligacy, carelessness, prodigality, dissipation,

imprudence, lavishness, wastefulness, incoconction, inculture, shortsightedness. ANTONYM: (*n*) Providence.

master's: (*n*) postgraduate degree.

pantaloon: (*n*) buffoon, jester, pantalon, farceur, clown harlequin, buffo, grimacer, pantaloons, pants, trousers, clown.

pantaloons: (*n*) pants, small clothes, smalls, pantaloons, trousers, inexpressibles, overalls.

procuring: (*v*) procure.

quieted: (*adj*) composed.

scarecrow: (*n*) hobgoblin, bugaboo, simulacrum, malkin, frump, ogre, jackstraw, shewel, goblin, ragamuffin; (*adj*) octopus.

shiftless: (*adj*) lazy, idle, helpless, improvident, feckless, irresponsible, inefficient, incapable, ineffective; (*adj, v*) thriftless; (*v*) unthrifty.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) keen.

weather-beaten: (*adj*) gnarled, rugged.

retain their relative rank if they were **divested** of their clothes. Could you, in such a case, tell surely of any company of civilized men which belonged to the most respected class? When Madam Pfeiffer, in her adventurous travels round the world, from east to west, had got so near home as Asiatic Russia, she says that she felt the necessity of wearing other than a travelling dress, when she went to meet the authorities, for she "was now in a civilized country, where ... people are judged of by their clothes." Even in our democratic New England towns the accidental possession of wealth, and its manifestation in dress and **equipage** alone, obtain for the **possessor** almost universal respect. But they yield such respect, numerous as they are, are so far **heathen**, and need to have a missionary sent to them. Beside, clothes introduced sewing, a kind of work which you may call endless; a woman's dress, at least, is never done.

A man who has at length found something to do will not need to get a new suit to do it in; for him the old will do, that has lain dusty in the **garret** for an indeterminate period. Old shoes will serve a hero longer than they have served his **valet** -- if a hero ever has a valet -- bare feet are older than shoes, and he can make them do. Only they who go to soires and legislative balls must have new coats, coats to change as often as the man changes in them. But if my jacket and trousers, my hat and shoes, are fit to worship God in, they will do; will they not? Who ever saw his old clothes -- his old coat, actually worn out, resolved into its primitive elements, so that it was not a deed of charity to bestow it on some poor boy, by him perchance to be **bestowed** on some poorer still, or shall we say richer, who could do with less? I say, beware of all enterprises that require new clothes, and not rather a new **wearer** of clothes. If there is not a new man, how can the new clothes be made to fit? If you have any enterprise before you, try it in your old clothes. All men want, not something to do with, but something to do, or rather something to be. Perhaps we should never **procure** a new suit, however ragged or dirty the old, until we have so conducted, so enterprised or sailed in some way, that we feel like new men in the old, and that to retain it would be like keeping new wine in old bottles. Our **moulting** season, like that of the **fowls**, must be a crisis in our lives. The **loon** retires to solitary ponds to spend it. Thus also the snake casts its slough, and the caterpillar its **wormy** coat,

Thesaurus

bestowed: (*adj*) presented, conferred, awarded, accurate.
divested: (*adj*) bereft, destitute, naked.
equipage: (*n*) carriage, chariot, brougham, coach, barouche, rig, field-equipage, buggy, cab, cabriolet, chaise.
fowls: (*n*) poultry.
garret: (*n*) cockloft, loft, attic, house top, storey, level, upper story, story, dome, noggin, classical Greek.
heathen: (*adj, n*) gentile, ethnic; (*n*)

infidel, idolater, paynim, heretic; (*adj*) heathenish, irreligious, gíaur, goddess, barbaric.
loon: (*n*) idler, lout, bum, gaffer, birdbrain, diver, dunce, oaf, rube, runnion, underling.
moulting: (*n*) moult, ecdysis, molting, molt, shedding; (*adj*) pulled.
possessor: (*n*) owner, holder, proprietor, householder, occupant, landowner, landholder, proprietary, somebody, someone, soul.

procure: (*v*) get, obtain, buy, earn, win, gain, have, purchase, induce, derive, find. ANTONYM: (*v*) give.
valet: (*n*) man, attendant, lackey, butler, flunkey, manservant, waiter, gentleman, livery servant, servant, retainer.
wearer: (*n*) enjoyer.
wormy: (*adj*) wormlike, grovelling, vermiculate, groveling, cringing, vermicular, submissive, maggoty, totally submissive, vermicious, worn.

by an internal industry and expansion; for clothes are but our **outmost** cuticle and mortal coil. Otherwise we shall be found sailing under false **colors**, and be inevitably cashiered at last by our own opinion, as well as that of mankind.

We don garment after garment, as if we grew like exogenous plants by addition without. Our outside and often thin and fanciful clothes are our **epidermis**, or false skin, which partakes not of our life, and may be stripped off here and there without fatal injury; our thicker garments, constantly worn, are our cellular **integument**, or cortex; but our shirts are our **liber**, or true bark, which cannot be removed without **girdling** and so destroying the man. I believe that all races at some seasons wear something equivalent to the shirt. It is desirable that a man be clad so simply that he can lay his hands on himself in the dark, and that he live in all respects so **compactly** and **preparedly** that, if an enemy take the town, he can, like the old philosopher, walk out the gate empty-handed without anxiety. While one thick garment is, for most purposes, as good as three thin ones, and cheap clothing can be obtained at prices really to suit customers; while a thick coat can be bought for five dollars, which will last as many years, thick pantaloons for two dollars, **cowhide** boots for a dollar and a half a pair, a summer hat for a quarter of a dollar, and a winter cap for sixty-two and a half cents, or a better be made at home at a nominal cost, where is he so poor that, clad in such a suit, of his own earning, there will not be found wise men to do him reverence?

When I ask for a garment of a particular form, my tailoress tells me gravely, "They do not make them so now," not emphasizing the "They" at all, as if she quoted an authority as impersonal as the Fates, and I find it difficult to get made what I want, simply because she cannot believe that I mean what I say, that I am so rash. When I hear this **oracular** sentence, I am for a moment absorbed in thought, emphasizing to myself each word separately that I may come at the meaning of it, that I may find out by what degree of **consanguinity** They are related to me, and what authority they may have in an affair which affects me so nearly; and, finally, I am inclined to answer her with equal mystery, and without any more emphasis of the "they" -- "It is true, they did not make them so recently,

Thesaurus

colors: (*n*) flag, colours, paints, banner, color, colour, ensign, pigment, tint, dye, paint.

compactly: (*adv*) solidly, succinctly, closely, thickly, tightly, firmly, heavily, neatly, pithily, concisely, trimly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) loosely, sparsely, awkwardly.

consanguinity: (*n*) kindred, cognation, relation, relationship, kin, blood kinship, lineage, affinity, alliance, kinship, brotherhood.

cowhide: (*v*) trounce, lambaste, flog; (*n*) leather, knout, bullwhip, lash, whip, strap, thong.

epidermis: (*n*) scarfskin, outer skin, skin, epithelium, epiderm, stratum, coat, mantle, periostracum, pelt, carapace.

girdling: (*n*) cincture.

integument: (*n*) film, coat, mantle, tegument, covering, skin, sheath, envelope, hull, cuticle, husk.

liber: (*n*) bast, phloem, xylem.

oracular: (*adj*) prophetic, ambiguous, mystic, cryptic, prophetic, sibylline, mysterious, delphic, obscure, opinionated, dogmatic.

outmost: (*adj, adv*) farthest; (*adj*) furthest, outer, uttermost, furthestmost, extreme, external, exterior, remotest.

preparedly: (*adv*) setly, fittedly, ripely, fitly, equippedly, disposedly, willingly, qualifiedly, competently, completedly, maturely.

but they do now." Of what use this measuring of me if she does not measure my character, but only the breadth of my shoulders, as it were a peg to bang the coat on? We worship not the Graces, nor the Parcae, but Fashion. She spins and weaves and cuts with full authority. The head monkey at Paris puts on a traveller's cap, and all the monkeys in America do the same. I sometimes despair of getting anything quite simple and honest done in this world by the help of men. They would have to be passed through a powerful press first, to squeeze their old notions out of them, so that they would not soon get upon their legs again; and then there would be some one in the company with a **maggot** in his head, hatched from an egg deposited there nobody knows when, for not even fire kills these things, and you would have lost your labor. Nevertheless, we will not forget that some Egyptian wheat was handed down to us by a mummy.

On the whole, I think that it cannot be maintained that dressing has in this or any country risen to the dignity of an art. At present men make shift to wear what they can get. Like **shipwrecked** sailors, they put on what they can find on the beach, and at a little distance, whether of space or time, laugh at each other's **masquerade**. Every generation laughs at the old fashions, but follows religiously the new. We are amused at **beholding** the costume of Henry VIII, or Queen Elizabeth, as much as if it was that of the King and Queen of the Cannibal Islands. All costume off a man is pitiful or grotesque. It is only the serious eye **peering** from and the sincere life passed within it which restrain laughter and **consecrate** the costume of any people. Let Harlequin be taken with a fit of the colic and his trappings will have to serve that mood too. When the soldier is hit by a **cannonball**, rags are as becoming as purple.

The childish and savage taste of men and women for new patterns keeps how many shaking and **squinting** through kaleidoscopes that they may discover the particular figure which this generation requires today. The manufacturers have learned that this taste is merely **whimsical**. Of two patterns which differ only by a few threads more or less of a particular **color**, the one will be sold readily, the other lie on the shelf, though it frequently happens that after the lapse of a season the latter becomes the most fashionable. Comparatively, tattooing is not the

Thesaurus

beholding: (*n*) fusion, seeing, visual perception, look.

cannonball: (*n*) cannon ball, shell, letter, round shot, epistle, bullet train, ammunition, message, Shinkansen.

color: (*n, v*) flush, blush, tint, tinge, paint, stain; (*adj, n, v*) colour; (*v*) redden; (*n*) guise, complexion; (*adj, n*) tone. ANTONYMS: (*v*) discolor, pale, show, whiten, untwist, denote, depict, represent, blanch, blench.

consecrate: (*n, v*) sanctify; (*v*) devote,

commit, ordain, apply, dedicate, hallow, vow, exalt; (*adj*) dedicated, consecrated. ANTONYMS: (*v*) despoil, revile, damage, defile, deprecate; (*adj*) desecrated.

maggot: (*n*) larva, crotchet, conceit, freak, chimera, quirk, fad, capriccio; (*adj, n*) worm; (*adj*) mite, emmet.

masquerade: (*n, v*) disguise, pose, revel; (*n*) camouflage, masque, fancy dress, pretense, fake, cover; (*v*) impersonate, pretend.

peering: (*adj*) nosy, prying, snoopy.

shipwrecked: (*adj, v*) stranded; (*adj*) castaway, stuck, rejected, high and dry; (*v*) wrecked, cast away, capsized, grounded, foundered, swamped.

squinting: (*n*) strabismus; (*adj*) closed.

whimsical: (*adj, n*) fanciful, eccentric; (*adj*) capricious, freakish, humorous, changeable, fickle, erratic, wayward, odd, arbitrary. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) reasonable, behaving, normal, serious, predictable.

hideous custom which it is called. It is not barbarous merely because the printing is **skin-deep** and **unalterable**.

I cannot believe that our factory system is the best mode by which men may get clothing. The condition of the operatives is becoming every day more like that of the English; and it cannot be wondered at, since, as far as I have heard or observed, the principal object is, not that mankind may be well and honestly **clad**, but, unquestionably, that corporations may be **enriched**. In the long run men hit only what they aim at. Therefore, though they should fail immediately, they had better aim at something high.

As for a Shelter, I will not deny that this is now a necessary of life, though there are instances of men having done without it for long periods in colder countries than this. Samuel Laing says that "the Laplander in his skin dress, and in a skin bag which he puts over his head and shoulders, will sleep night after night on the snow ... in a degree of cold which would **extinguish** the life of one exposed to it in any woollen clothing." He had seen them asleep thus. Yet he adds, "They are not hardier than other people." But, probably, man did not live long on the earth without discovering the convenience which there is in a house, the domestic comforts, which phrase may have originally signified the satisfactions of the house more than of the family; though these must be extremely partial and occasional in those climates where the house is associated in our thoughts with winter or the rainy season chiefly, and two thirds of the year, except for a **parasol**, is unnecessary. In our climate, in the summer, it was formerly almost solely a covering at night. In the Indian gazettes a **wigwam** was the symbol of a day's march, and a row of them cut or painted on the bark of a tree signified that so many times they had camped. Man was not made so large limbed and robust but that he must seek to narrow his world and wall in a space such as fitted him. He was at first bare and out of doors; but though this was pleasant enough in serene and warm weather, by daylight, the rainy season and the winter, to say nothing of the **torrid** sun, would perhaps have nipped his race in the bud if he had not made haste to **clothe** himself with the shelter of a house.

Thesaurus

clad: (*adj*) dressed, attired, clothed, coated, garbed; (*n*) cladding; (*prep*) gowned; (*v*) costume, shod, dress, attire. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) undressed, unclothed.
clothe: (*v*) dress, cover, garb, apparel, clad, vest, arrange, deck, invest, wrap; (*n, v*) attire. ANTONYMS: (*v*) reveal, strip, uncover.
enriched: (*adj*) educated.
extinguish: (*v*) destroy, exterminate, eradicate, douse, annihilate,

consume, wipe out, end, suppress, quash; (*adj, v*) allay. ANTONYMS: (*v*) ignite, build, create, encourage, inflame, sustain, protect.
parasol: (*n*) sunshade, canopy, awning, umbrella, marquee, beach umbrella, shade, cover, tilt, tent.
skin-deep: (*adj*) superficial, shallow, surface, sketchy, trivial.
torrid: (*adj*) hot, burning, sultry, impassioned, fervent, perfervid, fervid, fiery, ardent, sweltering,

passionate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) freezing, cold, cool, frigid, arctic.
unalterable: (*adj*) constant, inalterable, immutable, permanent, invariable, firm, changeless, rigid, stable, irrevocable, unchangeable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) alterable, impermanent, temporary, fluid, flexible.
wigwam: (*n*) hovel, cabin, shanty, shed, tepee, lodge, dugout, booth, bothy, chalet, cot.

Adam and Eve, according to the fable, wore the **bower** before other clothes. Man wanted a home, a place of warmth, or comfort, first of warmth, then the warmth of the **affections**.

We may imagine a time when, in the infancy of the human race, some **enterprising** mortal crept into a hollow in a rock for shelter. Every child begins the world again, to some extent, and loves to stay outdoors, even in wet and cold. It plays house, as well as horse, having an instinct for it. Who does not remember the interest with which, when young, he looked at **shelving** rocks, or any approach to a cave? It was the natural yearning of that portion, any portion of our most primitive ancestor which still survived in us. From the cave we have advanced to roofs of palm leaves, of bark and boughs, of linen woven and stretched, of grass and straw, of boards and **shingles**, of stones and tiles. At last, we know not what it is to live in the open air, and our lives are domestic in more senses than we think. From the hearth the field is a great distance. It would be well, perhaps, if we were to spend more of our days and nights without any obstruction between us and the celestial bodies, if the poet did not speak so much from under a roof, or the saint dwell there so long. Birds do not sing in caves, nor do doves cherish their innocence in dovecots.

However, if one designs to construct a dwelling-house, it behooves him to exercise a little Yankee **shrewdness**, lest after all he find himself in a workhouse, a labyrinth without a clue, a museum, an **almshouse**, a prison, or a splendid **mausoleum** instead. Consider first how slight a shelter is absolutely necessary. I have seen Penobscot Indians, in this town, living in tents of thin cotton cloth, while the snow was nearly a foot deep around them, and I thought that they would be glad to have it deeper to keep out the wind. Formerly, when how to get my living honestly, with freedom left for my proper pursuits, was a question which **vexed** me even more than it does now, for unfortunately I am become somewhat callous, I used to see a large box by the railroad, six feet long by three wide, in which the laborers locked up their tools at night; and it suggested to me that every man who was hard pushed might get such a one for a dollar, and, having bored a few **auger** holes in it, to admit the air at least, get into it when it

Thesaurus

affections: (*n*) bosom.

almshouse: (*n*) townhouse, workhouse.

auger: (*n*) borer, wimble, drill, gimlet, snake, broach, perforator, awl, probe, trepan, bit.

bower: (*n*) arbour, alcove, pergola, hermitage, grotto, framing, framework, summer house; (*v*) inclose, embower, enclose.

enterprising: (*adj*) bold, energetic, active, aggressive, courageous,

vigorous, ambitious, go-ahead, brave, pushing; (*adj, n*) daring.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) lethargic, unenterprising, passive, inactive, indolent, lazy, cautious, cowardly.

mausoleum: (*n*) grave, vault, crypt, sepulcher, tomb, catacomb, monument, mausole, burial chamber, narrow house, shrine.

shelving: (*n*) racking, shelf, bookshelf; (*adj*) shelvy.

shingles: (*n*) zoster, herpes, zona,

herpes zoster virus.

shrewdness: (*n*) craftiness, perspicacity, astuteness, gumption, ingenuity, foxiness, craft, cunning, cleverness, sharpness, sagacity.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) stupidity, ingenuousness, ineptness.

vexed: (*adj*) troubled, irritated, angry, pestered, peeved, harassed, sore, harried, uneasy, cross, offended.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) calm, uncomplicated.

rained and at night, and hook down the lid, and so have freedom in his love, and in his soul be free. This did not appear the worst, nor by any means a **despicable** alternative. You could sit up as late as you pleased, and, whenever you got up, go abroad without any landlord or house-lord **dogging** you for rent. Many a man is harassed to death to pay the rent of a larger and more luxurious box who would not have frozen to death in such a box as this. I am far from **jesting**. Economy is a subject which admits of being treated with **levity**, but it cannot so be disposed of. A comfortable house for a rude and hardy race, that lived mostly out of doors, was once made here almost entirely of such materials as Nature furnished ready to their hands. Gookin, who was superintendent of the Indians subject to the Massachusetts Colony, writing in 1674, says, "The best of their houses are covered very neatly, tight and warm, with barks of trees, slipped from their bodies at those seasons when the sap is up, and made into great **flakes**, with pressure of weighty timber, when they are green.... The meaner sort are covered with mats which they make of a kind of **bulrush**, and are also **indifferently** tight and warm, but not so good as the former.... Some I have seen, sixty or a hundred feet long and thirty feet broad.... I have often lodged in their wigwams, and found them as warm as the best English houses." He adds that they were commonly carpeted and lined within with well-wrought embroidered mats, and were furnished with various **utensils**. The Indians had advanced so far as to regulate the effect of the wind by a mat suspended over the hole in the roof and moved by a string. Such a lodge was in the first instance constructed in a day or two at most, and taken down and put up in a few hours; and every family owned one, or its apartment in one.

In the savage state every family owns a shelter as good as the best, and sufficient for its coarser and simpler wants; but I think that I speak within bounds when I say that, though the birds of the air have their nests, and the foxes their holes, and the savages their wigwams, in modern civilized society not more than one half the families own a shelter. In the large towns and cities, where civilization especially prevails, the number of those who own a shelter is a very small fraction of the whole. The rest pay an annual tax for this outside garment of all, become indispensable summer and winter, which would buy a village of

Thesaurus

bulrush: (*n*) *Juncus effusus*, bullrush, *Typha latifolia*, reed; (*adj*) peppercorn, pinch of snuff, rap, halfpenny, doit, farthing, feather.

despicable: (*adj*) vile, base, abominable, mean, abject, miserable, dishonorable, filthy, dirty, hateful, ignoble. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) honorable, creditable, praiseworthy, worthy, noble, loveable, likable, laudable, endearing, commendable, lovable.

dogging: (*adj*) dogs, persisting, continuous, uninterrupted.

flakes: (*n*) dust.

indifferently: (*adv*) carelessly, coldly, nonchalantly, listlessly, unconcernedly, uninterestedly, neutrally, middlingly, casually, unbiasedly, disinterestedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) passionately, obsessively, carefully, eagerly, energetically, warmly, anxiously, enthusiastically, sympathetically.

jesting: (*adj*) jocular, jocose, facetious, humorous, playful; (*n*) banter, humor, comedy, pleasantry, fun, joke. ANTONYM: (*n*) tragedy.

levity: (*n*) flightiness, frivolity, flippancy, buoyancy, lightness, giddiness, inconstancy, frivolousness, humorousness, jocosity; (*n, v*) fickleness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) gravity, seriousness.

utensils: (*n*) gear, equipment, tackle, apparatus, hardware.

Indian wigwams, but now helps to keep them poor as long as they live. I do not mean to insist here on the disadvantage of **hiring** compared with **owning**, but it is evident that the savage owns his shelter because it costs so little, while the civilized man hires his commonly because he cannot afford to own it; nor can he, in the long run, any better afford to hire. But, answers one, by merely paying this tax, the poor civilized man secures an **abode** which is a palace compared with the savage's. An annual rent of from twenty-five to a hundred dollars (these are the country rates) entitles him to the benefit of the improvements of centuries, spacious apartments, clean paint and paper, Rumford fire-place, back plastering, Venetian blinds, copper pump, spring lock, a **commodious cellar**, and many other things. But how happens it that he who is said to enjoy these things is so commonly a poor civilized man, while the savage, who has them not, is rich as a savage? If it is asserted that civilization is a real advance in the condition of man -- and I think that it is, though only the wise improve their advantages -- it must be shown that it has produced better dwellings without making them more costly; and the cost of a thing is the amount of what I will call life which is required to be exchanged for it, immediately or in the long run. An average house in this neighborhood costs perhaps eight hundred dollars, and to lay up this sum will take from ten to fifteen years of the laborer's life, even if he is not **encumbered** with a family -- **estimating** the **pecuniary** value of every man's labor at one dollar a day, for if some receive more, others receive less; -- so that he must have spent more than half his life commonly before his wigwam will be earned. If we suppose him to pay a rent instead, this is but a doubtful choice of **evils**. Would the savage have been wise to exchange his wigwam for a palace on these terms?

It may be **guessed** that I reduce almost the whole advantage of holding this **superfluous** property as a fund in store against the future, so far as the individual is concerned, mainly to the defraying of funeral expenses. But perhaps a man is not required to bury himself. Nevertheless this points to an important distinction between the civilized man and the savage; and, no doubt, they have designs on us for our benefit, in making the life of a civilized people an institution, in which the life of the individual is to a great extent absorbed, in

Thesaurus

abode: (*n*) dwelling, house, residence, place, domicile, lodge, abidance, mansion, lodging, address, seat.
cellar: (*n*) basement, cellarage, wine cellar, godown, warehouse, winery, silo, pit, excavation, story, storey.
commodious: (*adj*) capacious, wide, roomy, spacious, comfortable, voluminous, extensive, useful, large; (*adj, v*) convenient, easy.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) small, uncomfortable, tight, incommodious,

confined, squeezed.
encumbered: (*adj*) burdened, burdensome, weighed down, heavy, deep, clayey, cloggy. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unencumbered.
estimating: (*n*) estimation.
evils: (*n*) mala.
guessed: (*adj*) rude, inscrutable.
hiring: (*n*) employment, engagement, staffing, booking.
owning: (*n*) admission, avowal, confession, courteous recognition,

acknowledgment.
pecuniary: (*adj*) financial, fiscal, commercial, economic, nummularly, sumptuary, numismatical, pecunial, cruminal.
superfluous: (*adj, v*) spare; (*adj*) needless, extra, excess, excessive, unnecessary, surplus, pointless, superabundant, supernumerary, supererogatory. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) indispensable, important, essential, basic, pertinent.

order to preserve and perfect that of the race. But I wish to show at what a sacrifice this advantage is at present obtained, and to suggest that we may possibly so live as to secure all the advantage without suffering any of the disadvantage. What mean ye by saying that the poor ye have always with you, or that the fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?

"As I live, saith the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this **proverb** in Israel.

"Behold all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die."

When I consider my neighbors, the farmers of Concord, who are at least as well off as the other classes, I find that for the most part they have been **toiling** twenty, thirty, or forty years, that they may become the real owners of their farms, which commonly they have **inherited** with **encumbrances**, or else bought with hired money -- and we may regard one third of that toil as the cost of their houses -- but commonly they have not paid for them yet. It is true, the encumbrances sometimes **outweigh** the value of the farm, so that the farm itself becomes one great encumbrance, and still a man is found to inherit it, being well **acquainted** with it, as he says. On applying to the assessors, I am surprised to learn that they cannot at once name a dozen in the town who own their farms free and clear. If you would know the history of these homesteads, **inquire** at the bank where they are mortgaged. The man who has actually paid for his farm with labor on it is so rare that every neighbor can point to him. I doubt if there are three such men in Concord. What has been said of the merchants, that a very large majority, even ninety-seven in a hundred, are sure to fail, is equally true of the farmers. With regard to the merchants, however, one of them says **pertinently** that a great part of their failures are not genuine pecuniary failures, but merely failures to fulfil their engagements, because it is inconvenient; that is, it is the moral character that breaks down. But this puts an infinitely worse face on the matter, and suggests, beside, that probably not even the other three succeed in saving their souls, but are perchance bankrupt in a worse sense than

Thesaurus

acquainted: (*adj*) knowledgeable, informed, aware, cognizant, conversant, hand and glove, intimate, thick; (*adv*) abreast; (*v*) inform, acquaint.

encumbrance: (*n*) check, hindrance, load, burden, barrier, impediment, tie, obstacle, imposition, charge, onus.

inherit: (*v*) heir, come into, get, to inherit, own, receive, come in for, to succeed, follow, descend, accede.

inquire: (*v*) demand, ask, explore, enquire, inspect, research, consult, pry, request, wonder; (*n, v*) question. ANTONYM: (*v*) answer.

outweigh: (*v*) preponderate, overshadow, overbalance, counterbalance, outstrip, predominate, exceed, prevail, surpass, outmatch; (*adj*) outdo.

pertinently: (*adv*) relevantly, appositely, aptly, fitly, properly, fittingly, rightly, patly, germanely,

relatedly, apropos.

proverb: (*n*) adage, byword, aphorism, dictum, saying, axiom, parable, motto, expression; (*n, v*) maxim, saw.

toil: (*n, v*) labor, work, drudge, sweat, drudgery, grind, labour, travail; (*v*) plod; (*n*) effort, exertion.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) pastime, entertainment, fun, relaxation; (*v*) laze, neglect.

toiling: (*adj*) labouring, drudging, busy.

they who fail honestly. Bankruptcy and **repudiation** are the springboards from which much of our civilization vaults and turns its somersets, but the savage stands on the unelastic plank of famine. Yet the Middlesex Cattle Show goes off here with **eclat** annually, as if all the joints of the agricultural machine were suent.

The farmer is **endeavoring** to solve the problem of a livelihood by a formula more complicated than the problem itself. To get his shoestrings he speculates in herds of cattle. With **consummate** skill he has set his trap with a hair spring to catch comfort and independence, and then, as he turned away, got his own leg into it. This is the reason he is poor; and for a similar reason we are all poor in respect to a thousand savage **comforts**, though surrounded by luxuries. As Chapman sings,

"The false society of men --
-- for earthly greatness
All heavenly comforts rarefies to air."

And when the farmer has got his house, he may not be the richer but the poorer for it, and it be the house that has got him. As I understand it, that was a valid objection urged by Momus against the house which Minerva made, that she "had not made it **movable**, by which means a bad neighborhood might be **avoided**"; and it may still be urged, for our houses are such unwieldy property that we are often imprisoned rather than housed in them; and the bad neighborhood to be avoided is our own **scurvy selves**. I know one or two families, at least, in this town, who, for nearly a generation, have been wishing to sell their houses in the outskirts and move into the village, but have not been able to accomplish it, and only death will set them free.

Granted that the majority are able at last either to own or hire the modern house with all its improvements. While civilization has been improving our houses, it has not equally improved the men who are to inhabit them. It has created palaces, but it was not so easy to create noblemen and kings. And if the

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avoided: (*adj*) unpopular.

comforts: (*n*) amenities, bread and butter, convenience, conveniences.

consummate: (*adj, v*) perfect; (*n, v*) conclude, crown; (*v*) accomplish, achieve, execute; (*adj*) accomplished, absolute, profound, matchless, masterful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inadequate, mediocre, incomplete, deficient, amateurish, untrained, abysmal, inept; (*v*) start, initiate, begin.

eclat: (*n*) acclamation, celebrity, brilliance, elegance, grandness, vogue, magnificence; (*v*) commendation, praise, laud; (*n, v*) acclaim.

endeavoring: (*n*) effort; (*adj*) aspiring.

movable: (*adj*) portable, transferable, mercurial, adjustable, ambulatory, changeable, transportable, moveable, flexible, active; (*v*) shifting. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) immovable, unchangeable.

repudiation: (*n*) denial, refusal, exclusion, renunciation, disclaimer, negation, exception, omission, disownment, protest, renouncement. ANTONYMS: (*n*) permission, affirmation.

scurvy: (*adj*) contemptible, paltry, miserable, sordid, low, abject, ignoble, dirty, scabby; (*v*) base, scurfy.

selves: (*pron*) oneself.

civilized man's **pursuits** are no worthier than the savage's, if he is employed the greater part of his life in obtaining gross necessities and comforts merely, why should he have a better dwelling than the former?

But how do the poor minority fare? Perhaps it will be found that just in proportion as some have been placed in outward circumstances above the savage, others have been **degraded** below him. The luxury of one class is **counterbalanced** by the **indigence** of another. On the one side is the palace, on the other are the almshouse and "silent poor." The myriads who built the **pyramids** to be the tombs of the Pharaohs were fed on garlic, and it may be were not **decently** buried themselves. The mason who finishes the **cornice** of the palace returns at night perchance to a hut not so good as a wigwam. It is a mistake to suppose that, in a country where the usual evidences of civilization exist, the condition of a very large body of the inhabitants may not be as degraded as that of savages. I refer to the degraded poor, not now to the degraded rich. To know this I should not need to look farther than to the shanties which everywhere border our **railroads**, that last improvement in civilization; where I see in my daily walks human beings living in sties, and all winter with an open door, for the sake of light, without any visible, often imaginable, wood-pile, and the forms of both old and young are permanently contracted by the long habit of shrinking from cold and misery, and the development of all their limbs and **faculties** is checked. It certainly is fair to look at that class by whose labor the works which distinguish this generation are accomplished. Such too, to a greater or less extent, is the condition of the operatives of every **denomination** in England, which is the great workhouse of the world. Or I could refer you to Ireland, which is marked as one of the white or enlightened spots on the map. Contrast the physical condition of the Irish with that of the North American Indian, or the South Sea Islander, or any other savage race before it was degraded by contact with the civilized man. Yet I have no doubt that that people's rulers are as wise as the average of civilized rulers. Their condition only proves what **squalidness** may consist with civilization. I hardly need refer now to the laborers in our Southern States who produce the staple exports of this country, and are themselves a staple production of the

Thesaurus

cornice: (*n*) architrave, zoophorus, entablature, epistyle, framing, framework, pediment, projection, sconce; (*v*) furnish, provide.
counterbalanced: (*adj*) counterpoised.
decently: (*adv*) becomingly, decorously, fairly, correctly, seemly, fitly, courteously, justly, appropriately, rightly, right.
 ANTONYMS: (*adv*) rudely, improperly, disreputably, inappropriately, immorally.

degraded: (*adj*) debased, low, ignoble, debauched, depraved, abject, sordid, dishonored, corrupted, contemptible, base. ANTONYM: (*adj*) good.
denomination: (*n*) appellation, title, cognomen, class, communion, appellative, designation, sect, name, value, degree.
faculties: (*n*) mother wit.
indigence: (*n*) need, poverty, beggary, penury, pauperism, neediness, misery, impoverishment, necessity;

(*n, v*) destitution, want.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) luxury, wealth.
pursuits: (*n*) diversion, duties.
pyramids: (*n*) billiards, pingpong, pool, bagatelle, jackstones, pushball, hopscotch.
railroads: (*n*) railway.
squalidness: (*n*) squalor, sordidness, squalidity, uncleanness, foulness, filthiness, griminess, muckiness, muddiness, shabbiness, sordid dirtiness. ANTONYM: (*n*) smartness.

South. But to confine myself to those who are said to be in moderate circumstances.

Most men appear never to have considered what a house is, and are actually though **needlessly** poor all their lives because they think that they must have such a one as their neighbors have. As if one were to wear any sort of coat which the tailor might cut out for him, or, gradually leaving off palm-leaf hat or cap of **woodchuck** skin, complain of hard times because he could not afford to buy him a crown! It is possible to invent a house still more convenient and luxurious than we have, which yet all would admit that man could not afford to pay for. Shall we always study to obtain more of these things, and not sometimes to be content with less? Shall the respectable citizen thus gravely teach, by **precept** and example, the necessity of the young man's providing a certain number of superfluous glow-shoes, and umbrellas, and empty guest chambers for empty guests, before he dies? Why should not our furniture be as simple as the Arab's or the Indian's? When I think of the benefactors of the race, whom we have apotheosized as messengers from heaven, bearers of divine gifts to man, I do not see in my mind any retinue at their heels, any **carload** of fashionable furniture. Or what if I were to allow -- would it not be a singular allowance? -- that our furniture should be more complex than the Arab's, in proportion as we are morally and intellectually his superiors! At present our houses are **cluttered** and **defiled** with it, and a good housewife would sweep out the greater part into the dust hole, and not leave her morning's work undone. Morning work! By the blushes of Aurora and the music of Memnon, what should be man's morning work in this world? I had three pieces of limestone on my desk, but I was terrified to find that they required to be dusted daily, when the furniture of my mind was all **undusted** still, and threw them out the window in disgust. How, then, could I have a furnished house? I would rather sit in the open air, for no dust gathers on the grass, unless where man has broken ground.

It is the luxurious and **dissipated** who set the fashions which the herd so **diligently** follow. The traveller who stops at the best houses, so called, soon discovers this, for the publicans presume him to be a Sardanapalus, and if he

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carload: (*n*) assemblage, shipload.

cluttered: (*adj*) disorderly, chaotic, jumbled, messy, muddled, disordered, all over the place, messed up, littered, in disarray, in a state. ANTONYM: (*adj*) tidy.

defiled: (*adj*) impure, polluted, dirty, maculate, debauched, contaminated, corrupt, violated, tainted, abusive, adulterate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) hallowed, purified, sanctified, cleansed, untarnished.

diligently: (*adv*) busily, assiduously, sedulously, attentively, industriously, earnestly, actively, laboriously, tirelessly, carefully, studiously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) wearily, hastily.

dissipated: (*adj, v*) fast; (*adj*) dissolute, immoral, abandoned, profligate, prodigal, gay, rakish, degenerate, squandered, licentious.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) upright, moral.

needlessly: (*adv*) uselessly,

redundantly, unnecessarily, gratuitously, superfluously, unwantedly, to no avail, meaninglessly, groundlessly, excessively, without need.

precept: (*n*) canon, decree, command, mandate, charge, lesson, injunction, law, commandment, principle; (*adj, n*) rule.

undusted: (*adj*) dirty.

woodchuck: (*n*) groundhog, marmot, *Marmota monax*.

resigned himself to their tender mercies he would soon be completely **emasculated**. I think that in the railroad car we are inclined to spend more on luxury than on safety and convenience, and it threatens without **attaining** these to become no better than a modern drawing-room, with its divans, and ottomans, and sun-shades, and a hundred other oriental things, which we are taking west with us, invented for the ladies of the **harem** and the **effeminate** natives of the Celestial Empire, which Jonathan should be ashamed to know the names of. I would rather sit on a **pumpkin** and have it all to myself than be crowded on a velvet cushion. I would rather ride on earth in an ox cart, with a free circulation, than go to heaven in the fancy car of an excursion train and breathe a malaria all the way.

The very simplicity and **nakedness** of man's life in the primitive ages imply this advantage, at least, that they left him still but a sojourner in nature. When he was **refreshed** with food and sleep, he contemplated his journey again. He **dwelt**, as it were, in a tent in this world, and was either threading the valleys, or crossing the plains, or climbing the mountain-tops. But lo! men have become the tools of their tools. The man who independently plucked the fruits when he was hungry is become a farmer; and he who stood under a tree for shelter, a housekeeper. We now no longer camp as for a night, but have settled down on earth and forgotten heaven. We have adopted Christianity merely as an improved method of agri-culture. We have built for this world a family mansion, and for the next a family tomb. The best works of art are the expression of man's struggle to free himself from this condition, but the effect of our art is merely to make this low state comfortable and that higher state to be forgotten. There is actually no place in this village for a work of fine art, if any had come down to us, to stand, for our lives, our houses and streets, furnish no proper **pedestal** for it. There is not a nail to hang a picture on, nor a shelf to receive the bust of a hero or a saint. When I consider how our houses are built and paid for, or not paid for, and their internal economy managed and sustained, I wonder that the floor does not give way under the visitor while he is admiring the **gewgaws** upon the mantelpiece, and let him through into the cellar, to some solid and honest though **earthy** foundation. I cannot but perceive that this so-called rich and refined life

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attaining: (*v*) attain, achieve; (*n*) attainment.

dwelt: (*v*) dwell, inhabit.

earthy: (*adj*) coarse, mundane, earthly, realistic, vulgar, worldly, gross, terrestrial, natural, terrene, rude.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sophisticated, cultured, clean.

effeminate: (*adj*) womanish, delicate, epicene, sissy, emasculate, tender, ladylike, cissy, easy, voluptuous; (*adj, v*) feminine. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

macho, manly, masculine.

emasculated: (*adj*) gelded, cut, lackadaisical, cut down, down, feeble, flaccid.

gewgaws: (*n*) gay ornaments, fallals, frippery.

harem: (*n*) hareem, quarters, zenana, serail.

nakedness: (*n*) nudity, altogether, baldness, nude, nudeness, undress, birthday suit, openness, status, emptiness, frankness.

pedestal: (*n*) bottom, foot, groundwork, plinth, footstall, basis, bed, pillar, dais, stand, platform.

pumpkin: (*n*) Autumn pumpkin, vegetable, veggie, squash, gourd, head, punkin, pumpkin, pumpkin vine.

refreshed: (*adj*) invigorated, rejuvenated, reinvigorated, new, novel, revived, impudent, energizing, overbold, energising, clean. ANTONYM: (*adj*) tired.

is a thing jumped at, and I do not get on in the enjoyment of the fine arts which **adorn** it, my attention being wholly occupied with the jump; for I remember that the greatest genuine leap, due to human **muscles** alone, on record, is that of certain wandering Arabs, who are said to have cleared twenty-five feet on level ground. Without factitious support, man is sure to come to earth again beyond that distance. The first question which I am tempted to put to the proprietor of such great **impropriety** is, Who bolsters you? Are you one of the ninety-seven who fail, or the three who succeed? Answer me these questions, and then perhaps I may look at your bawbles and find them ornamental. The cart before the horse is neither beautiful nor useful. Before we can adorn our houses with beautiful objects the walls must be stripped, and our lives must be stripped, and beautiful **housekeeping** and beautiful living be laid for a foundation: now, a taste for the beautiful is most cultivated out of doors, where there is no house and no housekeeper.

Old Johnson, in his "Wonder-Working Providence," speaking of the first settlers of this town, with whom he was contemporary, tells us that "they **burrow** themselves in the earth for their first shelter under some hillside, and, casting the soil **aloft** upon timber, they make a **smoky** fire against the earth, at the highest side." They did not "provide them houses," says he, "till the earth, by the Lord's blessing, brought forth bread to feed them," and the first year's crop was so light that "they were forced to cut their bread very thin for a long season." The secretary of the Province of New Netherland, writing in Dutch, in 1650, for the information of those who wished to take up land there, states more particularly that "those in New Netherland, and especially in New England, who have no means to build farmhouses at first according to their wishes, dig a square pit in the ground, cellar fashion, six or seven feet deep, as long and as broad as they think proper, case the earth inside with wood all round the wall, and line the wood with the bark of **trees** or something else to prevent the caving in of the earth; floor this cellar with **plank**, and **wainscot** it overhead for a ceiling, raise a roof of spars clear up, and cover the spars with bark or green sods, so that they can live dry and warm in these houses with their entire families for two, three, and four years, it being understood that partitions are run through those cellars

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adorn: (*v*) deck, dress, embellish, ornament, beautify, enrich, grace, trim, garnish, gild, blazon.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) mar, disfigure, deform, deface, damage, hurt.

aloft: (*adj, adv*) overhead; (*adv*) up, on high, over, aloof, upwards, uphill, above ground; (*prep*) upon; (*adj*) eminent, lofty.

burrow: (*adj, v*) delve, dig, gouge, mine; (*n, v*) tunnel, earth; (*n*) lair, den, hole, cavity; (*v*) nestle. ANTONYMS:

(*v*) fill, plant.

housekeeping: (*n*) housewifery, household, domestic science.

impropriety: (*n*) barbarism, obscenity, indecorum, error, rudeness, indelicacy, incorrectness, solecism, wrongness; (*adj*) immorality, inaptitude. ANTONYMS: (*n*) decency, correctness.

muscles: (*n*) sinew, strength.

plank: (*n*) timber, beam, slat, girder, panel, parachute, matchboard,

footbridge, hardboard; (*v*) flump; (*n, v*) planch.

smoky: (*adj*) murky, hazy, fumid, vaporous, opaque, muddy, famish, burnt; (*v*) sooty, smutty, dusty. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clean, fresh, clear.

trees: (*n*) foliage.

wainscot: (*n*) wainscoting, panel, plinth, wall, panelling, parietes, skirting board, wainscotting, lining, paneling.

which are adapted to the size of the family. The wealthy and principal men in New England, in the beginning of the colonies, **commenced** their first dwelling-houses in this fashion for two reasons: firstly, in order not to waste time in building, and not to want food the next season; secondly, in order not to discourage poor laboring people whom they brought over in numbers from Fatherland. In the course of three or four years, when the country became adapted to agriculture, they built themselves handsome houses, spending on them several thousands."

In this course which our ancestors took there was a show of **prudence** at least, as if their principle were to satisfy the more pressing wants first. But are the more pressing wants satisfied now? When I think of acquiring for myself one of our luxurious dwellings, I am deterred, for, so to speak, the country is not yet adapted to human culture, and we are still forced to cut our spiritual bread far thinner than our **forefathers** did their wheaten. Not that all architectural ornament is to be neglected even in the rudest periods; but let our houses first be lined with beauty, where they come in contact with our lives, like the **tenement** of the **shellfish**, and not overlaid with it. But, alas! I have been inside one or two of them, and know what they are lined with.

Though we are not so **degenerate** but that we might possibly live in a cave or a wigwam or wear **skins** today, it certainly is better to accept the advantages, though so dearly bought, which the invention and industry of mankind offer. In such a neighborhood as this, boards and shingles, lime and **bricks**, are cheaper and more easily obtained than suitable caves, or whole logs, or bark in sufficient quantities, or even well-tempered clay or flat stones. I speak **understandingly** on this subject, for I have made myself acquainted with it both theoretically and practically. With a little more wit we might use these materials so as to become richer than the richest now are, and make our civilization a blessing. The civilized man is a more experienced and wiser savage. But to make haste to my own experiment.

Thesaurus

bricks: (*n*) walk, highway.

commenced: (*v*) began, Gan; (*adj*) initiate, present.

degenerate: (*adj*) corrupt, debauched, depraved, dissolute; (*v*) decay, degrade, relapse, decline, drop, rot; (*adj, n*) profligate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) upright, honorable, moral, healthy, virtuous, regenerate; (*v*) develop, flourish, recuperate, uplift, upgrade.

forefathers: (*n*) patriarchs, forefather, ancestor, colony, lineage, family.

prudence: (*n*) foresight, economy, frugality, caution, care, forethought, providence, circumspection, judgment, deliberation; (*adj, n*) wisdom. ANTONYMS: (*n*) imprudence, profligacy, generosity, hindsight, recklessness, extravagance.

shellfish: (*n*) mollusc, shell, cephalopod, crayfish, reptile, bird, scollop, bivalve, chiton, cockle, crawdad.

skins: (*n*) cash, folding money.

tenement: (*n*) dwelling, apartment, flat, apartment building, habitation, abode, stateroom, tablinum, residence, toft, domicile.

understandingly: (*adv*) sensitively, knowingly, sympathetically, intelligently, perceptively, considerately, compassionately, tolerantly, discerningly, thoughtfully, supportively. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) unkindly, insensitively.

Near the end of March, 1845, I borrowed an axe and went down to the woods by Walden Pond, nearest to where I intended to build my house, and began to cut down some tall, **arrowy** white pines, still in their youth, for timber. It is difficult to begin without borrowing, but perhaps it is the most generous course thus to permit your fellow-men to have an interest in your enterprise. The owner of the axe, as he released his hold on it, said that it was the apple of his eye; but I returned it sharper than I received it. It was a pleasant hillside where I worked, covered with pine woods, through which I looked out on the pond, and a small open field in the woods where pines and **hickories** were springing up. The ice in the pond was not yet **dissolved**, though there were some open spaces, and it was all dark-colored and saturated with water. There were some slight flurries of snow during the days that I worked there; but for the most part when I came out on to the railroad, on my way home, its yellow sand heap stretched away gleaming in the hazy atmosphere, and the rails shone in the spring sun, and I heard the lark and **pewee** and other birds already come to commence another year with us. They were pleasant spring days, in which the winter of man's discontent was **thawing** as well as the earth, and the life that had lain **torpid** began to stretch itself. One day, when my axe had come off and I had cut a green **hickory** for a wedge, driving it with a stone, and had placed the whole to soak in a pond-hole in order to swell the wood, I saw a striped snake run into the water, and he lay on the bottom, apparently without inconvenience, as long as I stayed there, or more than a quarter of an hour; perhaps because he had not yet fairly come out of the torpid state. It appeared to me that for a like reason men remain in their present low and primitive condition; but if they should feel the influence of the spring of springs **arousing** them, they would of necessity rise to a higher and more **ethereal** life. I had previously seen the snakes in frosty mornings in my path with portions of their bodies still numb and inflexible, waiting for the sun to thaw them. On the 1st of April it rained and melted the ice, and in the early part of the day, which was very foggy, I heard a stray goose **groping** about over the pond and cackling as if lost, or like the spirit of the fog.

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arousing: (*adj, n*) stirring; (*adj*) moving, stimulating, affecting, animating, hopeful, pitiful, poignant; (*n*) awakening, start, beginning.
arrowy: (*adj*) barbed.
dissolved: (*adj*) adulterate, gone, liquified, broken.
ethereal: (*adj*) airy, celestial, unworldly, delicate, intangible, aeriform, spiritual, aery, vaporous, incorporeal, diaphanous.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) earthly, heavy,

indelicate, worldly, tangible, thick, robust, concrete.
groping: (*adj*) fumbling, gropingly, investigative, uncertain, blind, probing, tentative, uncertain, unsure, hesitant, exploratory.
hickories: (*n*) walnut family, Juglandaceae.
hickory: (*n*) mockernut hickory, hickory tree, pignut, shellbark, shagbark, mockernut, club, brown hickory, black hickory, big shellbark,

bitter pignut.
pewee: (*n*) peewit, pewit, green plover, flycatcher, wood pewee, lapwing.
thawing: (*n*) thaw, melt, heating, atmospheric condition, phase change, phase transition, state change, warming; (*adj*) thawy.
torpid: (*adj*) inactive, sluggish, indolent, dull, slow, dormant, lazy, dead, lifeless, flat, supine.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) energetic, lively.

So I went on for some days cutting and hewing timber, and also **studs** and rafters, all with my narrow axe, not having many **communicable** or scholar-like thoughts, singing to myself, --

Men say they know many things;
But lo! they have taken wings --
The arts and sciences,
And a thousand appliances;
The wind that blows
Is all that any body knows.

I hewed the main timbers six inches square, most of the studs on two sides only, and the rafters and floor timbers on one side, leaving the rest of the bark on, so that they were just as straight and much stronger than sawed ones. Each stick was carefully mortised or tenoned by its **stump**, for I had **borrowed** other tools by this time. My days in the woods were not very long ones; yet I usually carried my dinner of bread and butter, and read the newspaper in which it was wrapped, at noon, sitting amid the green pine boughs which I had cut off, and to my bread was imparted some of their fragrance, for my hands were covered with a thick coat of pitch. Before I had done I was more the friend than the foe of the pine tree, though I had cut down some of them, having become better acquainted with it. Sometimes a **rambler** in the wood was attracted by the sound of my axe, and we chatted pleasantly over the chips which I had made.

By the middle of April, for I made no haste in my work, but rather made the most of it, my house was framed and ready for the raising. I had already bought the **shanty** of James Collins, an Irishman who worked on the Fitchburg Railroad, for boards. James Collins' shanty was considered an **uncommonly** fine one. When I called to see it he was not at home. I walked about the outside, at first **unobserved** from within, the window was so deep and high. It was of small dimensions, with a **peaked** cottage roof, and not much else to be seen, the dirt being raised five feet all around as if it were a compost heap. The roof was the

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borrowed: (*adj*) foreign, rubato, secondary.

communicable: (*adj*) infectious, contagious, communicative, epidemic, transmissible, pestiferous, transferable, ancestral, communicatory, transmittable, contractable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) incommunicable, noncontagious.

peaked: (*adj*) pointed, sharp, spiky, ensiform, peaky, poorly, salient, unwell, gaunt, wan, emaciated.

rambler: (*n, v*) rover; (*n*) nomad, straggler, walker, hiker, traveler, peregrinator, climber, vagrant, itinerant, saunterer.

shanty: (*n*) cabin, hovel, cot, shack, chanty, hutch, booth, bothy, chalet, stall, shed.

studs: (*n*) jewelry.

stumpy: (*n*) stub, end, pulpit; (*v*) confuse, stamp, baffle, perplex, nonplus, puzzle, bewilder, mystify. ANTONYM: (*v*) explain.

uncommonly: (*adv*) rarely, strangely, infrequently, scarcely, occasionally, exceptionally, oddly; (*adj, adv*) particularly, remarkably, singularly, curiously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) frequently, typically.

unobserved: (*adj, v*) unseen; (*v*) unheeded, unregarded, unthought of, unperceived; (*adj*) ignored, not noticed, hidden, unmarked, unnoted; (*adv*) secretly. ANTONYM: (*adj*) evident.

soundest part, though a good deal warped and made brittle by the sun. Doorsill there was none, but a perennial passage for the hens under the door board. Mrs. C. came to the door and asked me to view it from the inside. The hens were driven in by my approach. It was dark, and had a dirt floor for the most part, **dank**, **clammy**, and aguish, only here a board and there a board which would not bear removal. She lighted a lamp to show me the inside of the roof and the walls, and also that the board floor extended under the bed, warning me not to step into the cellar, a sort of dust hole two feet deep. In her own words, they were "good boards overhead, good boards all around, and a good window" -- of two whole **squares** originally, only the cat had passed out that way lately. There was a stove, a bed, and a place to sit, an infant in the house where it was born, a silk parasol, gilt-framed looking-glass, and a patent new coffee-mill **nailed** to an oak **sapling**, all told. The bargain was soon concluded, for James had in the meanwhile returned. I to pay four dollars and twenty-five cents tonight, he to **vacate** at five tomorrow morning, selling to nobody else meanwhile: I to take possession at six. It were well, he said, to be there early, and anticipate certain indistinct but wholly unjust claims on the score of ground rent and fuel. This he assured me was the only encumbrance. At six I passed him and his family on the road. One large bundle held their all -- bed, coffee-mill, looking-glass, hens -- all but the cat; she took to the woods and became a wild cat, and, as I learned **afterward**, trod in a trap set for woodchucks, and so became a dead cat at last.

I took down this dwelling the same morning, drawing the nails, and removed it to the pond-side by small cartloads, spreading the boards on the grass there to bleach and warp back again in the sun. One early thrush gave me a note or two as I drove along the woodland path. I was informed **treacherously** by a young Patrick that neighbor Seeley, an Irishman, in the intervals of the **carting**, transferred the still tolerable, straight, and drivable nails, staples, and spikes to his pocket, and then stood when I came back to pass the time of day, and look freshly up, unconcerned, with spring thoughts, at the devastation; there being a dearth of work, as he said. He was there to represent spectatordom, and help make this seemingly insignificant event one with the removal of the **gods** of Troy.

Thesaurus

afterward: (*adv, conj*) then, after that; (*adv*) thereafter, afterwards, later, subsequently, later on, next, soon; (*adj*) following; (*n*) future. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) now, previously, before.

carting: (*n*) cartage, portorage, portage, transport.

clammy: (*adj*) viscous, sweaty, sticky, muggy, moist, humid, damp, viscid, sultry, dank; (*n*) ropy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) arid, dried, fresh.

dank: (*adj*) damp, wet, moist, humid, sticky, soggy, sultry, muggy, juicy, rheumy, musty. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) arid, parched, bright.

gods: (*n*) gallery.

nailed: (*adj*) fixed, tight, stationary, stable, secure, decided, firm, immobile.

sapling: (*n*) seedling, stripling, adolescent, sprout, plant, youth, tree, young tree, cub, young man, plantlet.

squares: (*n*) square.

treacherously: (*adv*) faithlessly, traitorously, dishonestly, perfidiously, unsafely, deceitfully, precariously, dangerously, perilously, untruly, fraudulently. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) firmly, honestly, loyally, safely.

vacate: (*v*) abandon, resign, abdicate, relinquish, renounce, repeal, give up; (*adj, v*) evacuate, annul, empty, leave. ANTONYMS: (*v*) occupy, overflow, fill, remain, stay, enter.

I dug my cellar in the side of a hill sloping to the south, where a woodchuck had formerly dug his burrow, down through **sumach** and **blackberry** roots, and the lowest stain of vegetation, six feet square by seven deep, to a fine sand where potatoes would not freeze in any winter. The sides were left shelving, and not **stoned**; but the sun having never shone on them, the sand still keeps its place. It was but two hours' work. I took particular pleasure in this breaking of ground, for in almost all latitudes men dig into the earth for an **equable** temperature. Under the most splendid house in the city is still to be found the cellar where they store their roots as of old, and long after the **superstructure** has disappeared posterity remark its dent in the earth. The house is still but a sort of porch at the entrance of a burrow.

At length, in the beginning of May, with the help of some of my acquaintances, rather to improve so good an occasion for **neighborliness** than from any necessity, I set up the frame of my house. No man was ever more **honored** in the character of his raisers than I. They are destined, I trust, to assist at the raising of loftier structures one day. I began to occupy my house on the 4th of July, as soon as it was boarded and **roofed**, for the boards were carefully feather-edged and lapped, so that it was perfectly impervious to rain, but before boarding I laid the foundation of a chimney at one end, bringing two cartloads of stones up the hill from the pond in my arms. I built the chimney after my hoeing in the fall, before a fire became necessary for warmth, doing my cooking in the meanwhile out of doors on the ground, early in the morning; which mode I still think is in some respects more convenient and agreeable than the usual one. When it stormed before my bread was baked, I fixed a few boards over the fire, and sat under them to watch my loaf, and passed some pleasant hours in that way. In those days, when my hands were much employed, I read but little, but the least scraps of paper which lay on the ground, my holder, or tablecloth, afforded me as much entertainment, in fact answered the same purpose as the Iliad.

Thesaurus

blackberry: (*v*) bloater, bouilli, bouillon, breadfruit, chop suey, blancmange; (*n*) drupelet, mulberry, bramble, black haw, blackberry bush.
equable: (*adj*) equal, temperate, stable, mild, balanced, peaceful, halcyon, placid, pacific, sedate, moderate.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) spasmodic, vacillating, variable, unequal, irregular, intemperate, fluctuating, inequable, jumpy, senseless.
honored: (*adj*) esteemed, reputable,

respected, honoured, privileged, glorious, distinguished, honorable, worshipful, exalted, revered.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) disadvantaged, disreputable.
neighborliness: (*n*) neighbourliness, amity, goodwill, kindness.
roofed: (*adj*) testudinated, arched.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) roofless, exposed, open.
stoned: (*adj*) intoxicated, drugged, tight, zonked, drunken, inebriate,

inebriated, ecstatic, rabid, high, unconscious.
sumach: (*n*) shumac, smooth sumac, bush, staghorn sumac, sugar sumac, squawbush, skunkbush, shrub, shining sumac, scarlet sumac, mountain sumac.
superstructure: (*n*) structure, work done, building, road pavement, trailer body, superstruction, side frame, pavement, ne plus ultra, fait accompli, edifice.

It would be worth the while to build still more deliberately than I did, considering, for instance, what foundation a door, a window, a cellar, a garret, have in the nature of man, and perchance never raising any superstructure until we found a better reason for it than our temporal **necessities** even. There is some of the same fitness in a man's building his own house that there is in a bird's building its own nest. Who knows but if men constructed their dwellings with their own hands, and provided food for themselves and families simply and honestly enough, the poetic faculty would be universally developed, as birds universally sing when they are so engaged? But alas! we do like **cowbirds** and **cuckoos**, which lay their eggs in nests which other birds have built, and cheer no traveller with their **chattering** and **unmusical** notes. Shall we forever resign the pleasure of construction to the carpenter? What does architecture amount to in the experience of the mass of men? I never in all my walks came across a man engaged in so simple and natural an occupation as building his house. We belong to the community. It is not the tailor alone who is the ninth part of a man; it is as much the preacher, and the merchant, and the farmer. Where is this division of labor to end? and what object does it finally serve? No doubt another may also think for me; but it is not therefore desirable that he should do so to the exclusion of my thinking for myself.

True, there are architects so called in this country, and I have heard of one at least possessed with the idea of making architectural ornaments have a core of truth, a necessity, and hence a beauty, as if it were a revelation to him. All very well perhaps from his point of view, but only a little better than the common **dilettantism**. A sentimental reformer in architecture, he began at the cornice, not at the foundation. It was only how to put a core of truth within the ornaments, that every **sugarplum**, in fact, might have an almond or **caraway** seed in it -- though I hold that almonds are most wholesome without the sugar -- and not how the **inhabitant**, the **indweller**, might build truly within and without, and let the ornaments take care of themselves. What reasonable man ever supposed that ornaments were something outward and in the skin merely -- that the **tortoise** got his spotted shell, or the shell-fish its mother-o'-pearl tints, by such a contract as the inhabitants of Broadway their Trinity Church? But a man has no more to

Thesaurus

caraway: (*n*) Carum Carvi, herb, caraway seed, Carum, anise, Apiaceae, carrot family, Caraway, family Apiaceae, family Umbelliferae, genus Carum.
chattering: (*n*) chatter, cackle, yak, grabbing, claver; (*adj*) talkative, loquacious, noisy, gabby, garrulous; (*v*) natter.
cowbirds: (*n*) Molothrus, genus Molothrus.
cuckoos: (*n*) order Cuculiformes.

dilettantism: (*adj*) sciolism, smattering, glimmering.
indweller: (*n*) inhabitant, denizen, occupant, tenant, resident.
inhabitant: (*n*) denizen, resident, occupant, citizen, tenant, occupier, population, native, liver, indweller; (*v*) habitant. ANTONYM: (*n*) stranger.
necessities: (*n*) supplies, necessity, essential, wants, support, subsistence, requirement, bread.

sugarplum: (*n*) bonbon, sugar confectionery, sweet.
tortoise: (*v*) sluggard, loiterer, lingerer; (*n*) gopher, desert tortoise, gopher tortoise, giant tortoise, gopher turtle, testudo.
unmusical: (*adj*) dissonant, discordant, harsh, tuneless, inharmonious, unmelodic, unmelodious, cacophonous, jarring, nonmusical, untunable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) musical, melodious.

do with the style of architecture of his house than a tortoise with that of its shell: nor need the soldier be so idle as to try to paint the precise color of his virtue on his standard. The enemy will find it out. He may turn pale when the trial comes. This man seemed to me to lean over the cornice, and **timidly** whisper his half truth to the rude occupants who really knew it better than he. What of architectural beauty I now see, I know has gradually grown from within outward, out of the necessities and character of the indweller, who is the only builder -- out of some unconscious **truthfulness**, and **nobleness**, without ever a thought for the appearance and whatever additional beauty of this kind is destined to be produced will be preceded by a like unconscious beauty of life. The most interesting dwellings in this country, as the painter knows, are the most **unpretending**, humble log huts and cottages of the poor commonly; it is the life of the inhabitants whose shells they are, and not any peculiarity in their surfaces merely, which makes them picturesque; and equally interesting will be the citizen's suburban box, when his life shall be as simple and as agreeable to the imagination, and there is as little straining after effect in the style of his dwelling. A great proportion of architectural ornaments are literally hollow, and a September gale would strip them off, like borrowed plumes, without injury to the substantials. They can do without architecture who have no olives nor wines in the cellar. What if an equal ado were made about the ornaments of style in literature, and the architects of our bibles spent as much time about their cornices as the architects of our churches do? So are made the **belles-lettres** and the beaux-arts and their **professors**. Much it **concerns** a man, **forsooth**, how a few sticks are **slanted** over him or under him, and what colors are **daubed** upon his box. It would signify somewhat, if, in any earnest sense, he slanted them and daubed it; but the spirit having departed out of the tenant, it is of a piece with constructing his own coffin -- the architecture of the grave -- and "carpenter" is but another name for "coffin-maker." One man says, in his despair or indifference to life, take up a handful of the earth at your feet, and paint your house that color. Is he thinking of his last and narrow house? Toss up a copper for it as well. What an abundance of leisure he must have! Why do you take up a handful of dirt? Better paint your house your own complexion; let it turn pale

Thesaurus

belles-lettres: (*n*) pure literature, writing.

concerns: (*n*) dealings, affairs.

daubed: (*adj*) beplastered, covered, greasy.

forsooth: (*adv*) really, actually, certainly, indeed, in truth, truly, by right; (*adj*) in fact, joking apart; (*int*) quotha.

nobleness: (*n*) dignity, generosity, magnanimity, nobility, greatness, grandeur, stateliness, civil honors,

goodness, glory, glorify.

professors: (*n*) faculty.

slanted: (*adj*) slanting, diagonal, lopsided, tilted, sloped, sloping, oblique, skewed, aslant, askew, aslope. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) straight, balanced, impartial, level, upright.

timidly: (*adv*) fearfully, timorously, cautiously, shyly, diffidently, anxiously, nervously, shily, gingerly, modestly, apprehensively. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) confidently,

bravely, daringly, brashly, fearlessly, decisively, brazenly.

truthfulness: (*adj, n*) honesty, sincerity, probity, honor; (*n*) truth, openness, frankness, candor, faith, loyalty; (*adj*) integrity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) untruthfulness, inaccuracy, evasiveness, caution, deceit.

unpretending: (*adj*) unassuming, humble, unostentatious, unobtrusive, lowly, unpretentious, restrained; (*n*) plain, homely, familiar, intimate.

or blush for you. An enterprise to improve the style of cottage architecture! When you have got my ornaments ready, I will wear them.

Before winter I built a chimney, and shingled the sides of my house, which were already **impervious** to rain, with imperfect and **sappy** shingles made of the first slice of the log, whose edges I was obliged to **straighten** with a plane.

I have thus a tight shingled and **plastered** house, ten feet wide by fifteen long, and eight-foot posts, with a garret and a **closet**, a large window on each side, two trap doors, one door at the end, and a brick fireplace opposite. The exact cost of my house, paying the usual price for such materials as I used, but not counting the work, all of which was done by myself, was as follows; and I give the details because very few are able to tell exactly what their houses cost, and fewer still, if any, the separate cost of the various materials which **compose** them:--

Boards.....	\$ 8.03½	mostly shanty boards.
Refuse shingles for roof sides.....	4.00	
Laths.....	1.25	
Two second-hand windows with glass...	2.43	
One thousand old brick.....	4.00	
Two casks of lime....	2.40	That was high.
Hair.....	0.31	More than I needed.
Mantle-tree iron.....	0.15	
Nails.....	3.90	
Hinges and screws....	0.14	
Latch.....	0.10	

Thesaurus

closet: (*n*) cupboard, cubicle, cell, latrine, bathroom, wardrobe, water closet; (*adj*) clandestine, confidential, secret, private. ANTONYM: (*adj*) open.

compose: (*v*) build, compile, write, weave; (*adj, v*) appease, tranquilize, allay, lull; (*n, v*) calm, constitute, settle. ANTONYMS: (*v*) destroy, ruin, unsettle, annihilate, discompose, demolish, disturb, fluster.

impervious: (*adj*) impenetrable,

inaccessible, callous, impassable, imperviable, invulnerable, waterproof, tight, resistant, insensitive, pachydermatous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) vulnerable, pervious, susceptible, affected, penetrable, receptive, scared, sensitive.

plastered: (*adj*) drunk, tight, intoxicated, pixilated, loaded, soaked, sloshed, smashed, wet, inebriated, pissed.

sappy: (*adj*) foolish, absurd, succulent, mawkish, soft, goofy, zany, weak, liquid, stupid, fool. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unemotional, cool.

second-hand: (*adj*) hand-me-down, derivative, imitative, secondary.

straighten: (*v*) tidy, unbend, neaten, square away, extend, dress, adjust, stretch, unwind, right, straight. ANTONYMS: (*v*) bend, sink, withdraw, align, stoop, distort, confuse, complicate, tilt.

Chalk..... 0.01

Transportation..... 1.40

I carried a good part
on my back.

In all..... \$28.12½

These are all the materials, **excepting** the timber, **stones**, and sand, which I claimed by squatter's right. I have also a small woodshed adjoining, made chiefly of the stuff which was left after building the house.

I intend to build me a house which will **surpass** any on the main street in Concord in grandeur and luxury, as soon as it pleases me as much and will cost me no more than my present one.

I thus found that the student who wishes for a shelter can obtain one for a lifetime at an expense not greater than the rent which he now pays annually. If I seem to boast more than is becoming, my excuse is that I **brag** for humanity rather than for myself; and my shortcomings and inconsistencies do not affect the truth of my statement. Notwithstanding much **cant** and **hypocrisy** -- **chaff** which I find it difficult to separate from my wheat, but for which I am as sorry as any man -- I will breathe freely and stretch myself in this respect, it is such a relief to both the moral and physical system; and I am resolved that I will not through humility become the devil's attorney. I will **endeavor** to speak a good word for the truth. At Cambridge College the mere rent of a student's room, which is only a little larger than my own, is thirty **dollars** each year, though the corporation had the advantage of building thirty-two side by side and under one roof, and the occupant suffers the inconvenience of many and noisy neighbors, and perhaps a residence in the fourth story. I cannot but think that if we had more true wisdom in these respects, not only less education would be needed, because, forsooth, more would already have been acquired, but the pecuniary expense of getting an education would in a great measure vanish. Those **conveniences** which the student requires at Cambridge or elsewhere cost him or somebody else ten times as great a sacrifice of life as they would with proper

Thesaurus

brag: (*n, v*) bluster, vaunt, crow; (*v*) pride, gasconade, blow, show off, rodomontade; (*n*) boasting, bragging; (*adj*) great.
cant: (*n*) jargon, lingo, slang, vernacular, argot; (*n, v*) bank, tilt, bias, incline; (*adj, n*) bevel; (*v*) list.
chaff: (*v*) tease, jest, rally, mock, kid, jolly, joke; (*n*) bran, raillery, husk; (*n, v*) ridicule.
conveniences: (*n*) creature comforts, comforts, convenience, living,

support, livelihood, keep, sustenance, facility, facilities, device.
dollars: (*n*) bread.
endeavor: (*n, v*) struggle, try, strain; (*n*) effort, trial, essay, shot, enterprise, work; (*v*) strive, aim. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) neglect.
excepting: (*conj, prep*) but, bar; (*n, prep*) except for, exclusive of; (*prep*) aside from, besides, apart from, barring, excluding, with the exception of; (*v*) saving. ANTONYM: (*prep*) including.

hypocrisy: (*n, v*) insincerity; (*n*) cant, dissimulation, falsity, deception, falseness, sanctimony, deceit, lip service; (*v*) double dealing; (*adj*) hypocritical. ANTONYMS: (*n*) sincerity, honesty.
stones: (*n*) shingle, grit.
surpass: (*v*) beat, outdo, exceed, surmount, better, excel, outstrip, overcome, overrun, best, go beyond. ANTONYMS: (*v*) fail, lose, follow, trail.

management on both sides. Those things for which the most money is demanded are never the things which the student most wants. Tuition, for instance, is an important item in the term bill, while for the far more valuable education which he gets by **associating** with the most cultivated of his contemporaries no charge is made. The mode of founding a college is, commonly, to get up a subscription of dollars and cents, and then, following blindly the principles of a division of labor to its extreme -- a principle which should never be followed but with **circumspection** -- to call in a contractor who makes this a subject of speculation, and he employs Irishmen or other operatives actually to lay the foundations, while the students that are to be are said to be fitting themselves for it; and for these oversights successive generations have to pay. I think that it would be better than this, for the students, or those who desire to be benefited by it, even to lay the foundation themselves. The student who secures his coveted leisure and retirement by systematically **shirking** any labor necessary to man obtains but an **ignoble** and **unprofitable** leisure, **defrauding** himself of the experience which alone can make leisure fruitful. "But," says one, "you do not mean that the students should go to work with their hands instead of their heads?" I do not mean that exactly, but I mean something which he might think a good deal like that; I mean that they should not play life, or study it merely, while the community supports them at this expensive game, but earnestly live it from beginning to end. How could youths better learn to live than by at once trying the experiment of living? Methinks this would exercise their minds as much as mathematics. If I wished a boy to know something about the arts and sciences, for instance, I would not pursue the common course, which is merely to send him into the neighborhood of some professor, where anything is **professed** and practised but the art of life; -- to survey the world through a telescope or a microscope, and never with his natural eye; to study chemistry, and not learn how his bread is made, or mechanics, and not learn how it is earned; to discover new satellites to Neptune, and not detect the motes in his eyes, or to what **vagabond** he is a satellite himself; or to be **devoured** by the monsters that **swarm** all around him, while contemplating the monsters in a drop of vinegar. Which would have advanced the most at the end of a month --

Thesaurus

associating: (*n*) connection, reference.
circumspection: (*n*) care, wariness, chariness, cautiousness, calculation, precaution, vigilance, discernment, judgment; (*adj, n*) discretion, prudence. ANTONYM: (*n*) recklessness.
defrauding: (*n*) fraudulently, theft.
devoured: (*adj*) eaten up.
ignoble: (*adj*) contemptible, abject, base, dishonorable, disgraceful, beggarly, mean, humble, degraded,

despicable, caddish. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) honorable, glorious.
professed: (*adj*) alleged, declared, apparent, avowed, pretended, seeming, supposed, affected, feigned, so-called, purported.
shirking: (*n*) avoidance, goofing off, goldbricking, dodging, escape, elusion, soldiering, skirting, slacking, fudging.
swarm: (*n*) host, horde, multitude, drove, throng, cloud, assembly; (*n, v*)

mob; (*v*) teem, pour; (*adj*) shoal. ANTONYMS: (*v*) retreat; (*n*) few.
unprofitable: (*adj*) profitless, fruitless, futile, inutile, disadvantageous, unfruitful, barren, idle, vain, uneconomic, unproductive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fruitful, lucrative.
vagabond: (*n, v*) tramp; (*adj, n*) vagrant; (*v*) roam, stray, wander, range, ramble; (*n*) outcast, bum, wanderer, nomad. ANTONYMS: (*n*) inhabitant, resident; (*adj*) settled.

the boy who had made his own **jackknife** from the ore which he had dug and smelted, reading as much as would be necessary for this -- or the boy who had attended the lectures on **metallurgy** at the Institute in the meanwhile, and had received a Rodgers' **penknife** from his father? Which would be most likely to cut his fingers?... To my astonishment I was informed on leaving college that I had studied navigation! -- why, if I had taken one turn down the harbor I should have known more about it. Even the poor student studies and is taught only political economy, while that economy of living which is synonymous with philosophy is not even sincerely professed in our colleges. The consequence is, that while he is reading Adam Smith, Ricardo, and Say, he runs his father in debt irretrievably.

As with our colleges, so with a hundred "modern improvements"; there is an illusion about them; there is not always a positive advance. The devil goes on **exacting** compound interest to the last for his early share and numerous succeeding investments in them. Our inventions are wont to be pretty toys, which **distract** our attention from serious things. They are but improved means to an **unimproved** end, an end which it was already but too easy to arrive at; as railroads lead to Boston or New York. We are in great haste to construct a magnetic telegraph from Maine to Texas; but Maine and Texas, it may be, have nothing important to communicate. Either is in such a predicament as the man who was earnest to be introduced to a distinguished deaf woman, but when he was presented, and one end of her ear trumpet was put into his hand, had nothing to say. As if the main object were to talk fast and not to talk sensibly. We are eager to tunnel under the Atlantic and bring the Old World some weeks nearer to the New; but perchance the first news that will leak through into the broad, **flapping** American ear will be that the Princess Adelaide has the whooping cough. After all, the man whose horse **trots** a mile in a minute does not carry the most important messages; he is not an **evangelist**, nor does he come round eating locusts and wild **honey**. I doubt if Flying Childers ever carried a **peck** of corn to mill.

Thesaurus

distract: (*adj, v*) confuse, bewilder; (*v*) disorder, ail, disturb, deflect, craze, disquiet, molest, annoy, agitate.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) center, explain, concentrate, clarify.

evangelist: (*n*) revivalist, gospeller, missionary, apostle, saint, sermonizer, evangelical, disciple, John, Luke, mark.

exacting: (*adj*) fastidious, austere, strict, trying, stern, difficult, hard, finicky, nice; (*adj, v*) exigent; (*adj, n*)

exact. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) lenient, relaxed, tolerant, unexacting, unfastidious, basic, careless, relaxing.

flapping: (*adj*) loose, detached, baggy, streaming, flying, slack; (*n*) fluttering, flutter, flaps, dither, disturbance.

honey: (*n*) dear, love, beloved, nectar, sweetheart, dearest, duck, molasses, sugar, baby; (*v*) sweeten.

jackknife: (*n*) penknife, pocketknife, jackknife procedure, diving.

metallurgy: (*n*) metallography.

peck: (*n, v*) nibble; (*v*) beak, pick, kiss, pick up; (*n*) pile, plenty, mass, slew, lot, mint.

penknife: (*adj, n*) blade; (*n*) switchblade, pocketknife, clasp knife, pocket knife, carving knife, stiletto; (*adj*) cutlery, edge tool, whittle, razor.

trots: (*n*) Aztec two-step, Montezuma's revenge; (*adj*) ill.

unimproved: (*adj*) unkempt, uncleared. ANTONYM: (*adj*) improved.

One says to me, "I wonder that you do not lay up money; you love to travel; you might take the cars and go to Fitchburg today and see the country." But I am wiser than that. I have learned that the swiftest traveller is he that goes **afoot**. I say to my friend, Suppose we try who will get there first. The distance is thirty miles; the fare ninety cents. That is almost a day's wages. I remember when wages were sixty cents a day for laborers on this very road. Well, I start now on foot, and get there before night; I have **travelled** at that rate by the week together. You will in the meanwhile have earned your fare, and arrive there some time tomorrow, or possibly this evening, if you are lucky enough to get a job in season. Instead of going to Fitchburg, you will be working here the greater part of the day. And so, if the railroad reached round the world, I think that I should keep ahead of you; and as for seeing the country and getting experience of that kind, I should have to cut your acquaintance altogether.

Such is the universal law, which no man can ever **outwit**, and with regard to the railroad even we may say it is as broad as it is long. To make a railroad round the world available to all mankind is equivalent to **grading** the whole surface of the planet. Men have an **indistinct** notion that if they keep up this activity of joint stocks and spades long enough all will at length ride somewhere, in next to no time, and for nothing; but though a crowd **rushes** to the depot, and the conductor **shouts** "All aboard!" when the smoke is blown away and the **vapor condensed**, it will be perceived that a few are riding, but the rest are run over -- and it will be called, and will be, "A melancholy accident." No doubt they can ride at last who shall have earned their fare, that is, if they survive so long, but they will probably have lost their elasticity and desire to travel by that time. This spending of the best part of one's life **earning** money in order to enjoy a questionable liberty during the least valuable part of it reminds me of the Englishman who went to India to make a fortune first, in order that he might return to England and live the life of a poet. He should have gone up garret at once. "What!" **exclaim** a million Irishmen starting up from all the shanties in the land, "is not this railroad which we have built a good thing?" Yes, I answer, comparatively good, that is, you might have done worse; but I wish, as you are

Thesaurus

afoot: (*n*) afloat, prevalent; (*v*) on foot, on the tapis, agoing; (*adv*) walking, abroach; (*adj*) underway, itinerant, current.

condensed: (*adj*) concise, compressed, concentrated, succinct, compact, summary, compendious, short, shortened; (*adj, v*) condense; (*n*) tabloid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) loose, uncondensed, diluted, expanded, convoluted, long.

earning: (*n*) proceeds; (*v*) get.

exclaim: (*v*) call out, call, shout, cry out, ejaculate, clamor, outcry, scream, shout out, speak, vociferate.

grading: (*n*) classification, sorting, leveling, marking, sizing, blending, progressive interconnection, separation, order, screening, ordering.

indistinct: (*adj*) indefinite, inarticulate, faint, dull, fuzzy, indeterminate, hazy, neutral; (*adj, n*) confused, cloudy, dark. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

clear, slight, separate, certain, precise, audible, strong, definite.

outwit: (*v*) circumvent, outsmart, outfox, deceive, overreach, trick, frustrate, outmanoeuvre, baffle, bamboozle, cheat.

rushes: (*n*) rush, grasses.

shouts: (*n*) cries.

travelled: (*adj*) cosmopolitan.

vapor: (*n*) fog, cloud, steam, haze, evaporation, vapour, fume; (*adj, n*) gas, air; (*adj, v*) bluster; (*v*) boast.

brothers of mine, that you could have spent your time better than digging in this dirt.

Before I finished my house, wishing to earn ten or twelve dollars by some honest and agreeable method, in order to meet my unusual expenses, I planted about two acres and a half of light and sandy soil near it chiefly with beans, but also a small part with potatoes, corn, peas, and **turnips**. The whole lot contains eleven acres, mostly growing up to pines and hickories, and was sold the preceding season for eight dollars and eight cents an acre. One farmer said that it was "good for nothing but to raise cheeping **squirrels** on." I put no **manure** whatever on this land, not being the owner, but merely a **squatter**, and not expecting to cultivate so much again, and I did not quite hoe it all once. I got out several **cords** of stumps in **plowing**, which supplied me with fuel for a long time, and left small circles of virgin mould, easily **distinguishable** through the summer by the greater **luxuriance** of the beans there. The dead and for the most part **unmerchantable** wood behind my house, and the **driftwood** from the pond, have supplied the remainder of my fuel. I was obliged to hire a team and a man for the plowing, though I held the plow myself. My farm outgoes for the first season were, for **implements**, seed, work, etc., \$14.72+. The seed corn was given me. This never costs anything to speak of, unless you plant more than enough. I got twelve bushels of beans, and eighteen bushels of potatoes, beside some peas and sweet corn. The yellow corn and turnips were too late to come to anything. My whole income from the farm was

	\$ 23.44
Deducting the outgoes.....	\$ 14.72½
There are left.....	\$ 8.71½

beside produce consumed and on hand at the time this estimate was made of the value of \$4.50 -- the amount on hand much more than balancing a little grass

Thesaurus

cords: (*n*) trousers, bands, line, strings, corduroys, raised bands.

distinguishable: (*adj, adv*) appreciable, perceptible, definite, visible; (*adj*) distinct, apparent, marked, differentiable, recognizable; (*adv*) observable, noticeable. ANTONYM: (*adj*) inseparable.

driftwood: (*n*) wood, refuse, debris.

implements: (*n*) equipment, apparatus, gear, tackle, rigging, outfit, hardware, trappings.

luxuriance: (*n*) exuberance, copiousness, abundance, lushness, affluence, wealth, luxury, excess, luxuriance, rampancy; (*adj*) fecundity.

manure: (*n*) compost, fertiliser, fertilizer; (*n, v*) muck, soil; (*v*) fertilize, cultivate, plough, weed, plow; (*adj*) guano.

plowing: (*v*) tilling, sowing; (*n*) tillage, aration, country, cultivation, earth, land.

squatter: (*n*) intruder, homesteader, nester, trespasser, resident, alien, stranger, backwoodsman, inhabitant, colonist, pioneer.

squirrels: (*n*) squirrel, mice, beavers, agoutis, marmots, gophers, guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, Rodentia, order Rodentia.

turnips: (*n*) root crop, brassica, genus brassica, cauliflowers, potatoes.

unmerchantable: (*adj*) unmarketable, unsalable, unvendible, not salable.

which I did not raise. All things considered, that is, considering the importance of a man's soul and of today, notwithstanding the short time occupied by my experiment, nay, partly even because of its transient character, I believe that that was doing better than any farmer in Concord did that year.

The next year I did better still, for I **spaded** up all the land which I required, about a third of an **acre**, and I learned from the experience of both years, not being in the least **awed** by many celebrated works on **husbandry**, Arthur Young among the rest, that if one would live simply and eat only the crop which he raised, and raise no more than he ate, and not exchange it for an insufficient quantity of more luxurious and expensive things, he would need to cultivate only a few rods of ground, and that it would be cheaper to spade up that than to use **oxen** to plow it, and to select a fresh spot from time to time than to manure the old, and he could do all his necessary farm work as it were with his left hand at odd hours in the summer; and thus he would not be tied to an ox, or horse, or cow, or pig, as at present. I desire to speak **impartially** on this point, and as one not interested in the success or failure of the present economical and social arrangements. I was more independent than any farmer in Concord, for I was not **anchored** to a house or farm, but could follow the bent of my genius, which is a very crooked one, every moment. Beside being better off than they already, if my house had been burned or my **crops** had failed, I should have been nearly as well off as before.

I am wont to think that men are not so much the keepers of herds as herds are the keepers of men, the former are so much the **freer**. Men and oxen exchange work; but if we consider necessary work only, the oxen will be seen to have greatly the advantage, their farm is so much the larger. Man does some of his part of the exchange work in his six weeks of **haying**, and it is no boy's play. Certainly no nation that lived simply in all respects, that is, no nation of philosophers, would commit so great a **blunder** as to use the labor of animals. True, there never was and is not likely soon to be a nation of philosophers, nor am I certain it is desirable that there should be. However, I should never have broken a horse or bull and taken him to board for any work he might do for me,

Thesaurus

acre: (*n*) agrimensor, Akka.

anchored: (*adj*) fixed, immobile, stationary, secure, stable, firm; (*v*) rock solid, moored, on a rock, tethered.

awed: (*adj*) frightened, groveling, reverential, reverent, overwhelmed, overcome, intimidated, worshipful, impressed, fearful, abominable.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unawed, irreverent.

blunder: (*n, v*) mistake, stumble, slip,

botch; (*adj, n*) fault; (*n*) error, gaffe, trip; (*v*) fail, fumble; (*adj, n, v*) miss.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) succeed, correct, accomplish, achieve; (*n*) achievement.

crops: (*n*) crop.

freer: (*adj*) unconfinned.

haying: (*n*) harvest home, harvesting, making of hay, haying time.

husbandry: (*n*) cultivation, farming, economy, frugality, culture, conservation, thrift, tillage, dairying, horticulture, gardening.

impartially: (*adv*) justly, dispassionately, neutrally, evenly, disinterestedly, objectively, unbiasedly, unprejudicedly, indifferently, evenhandedly, rightly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) unfairly.

oxen: (*n*) bull, ox, cows, cow, cattle, Bos Taurus, bullock, kine, milker, beef, dairy cow.

spade: (*v*) grub, delve, scoop, excavate; (*n*) nigger, coon, nigra, jigaboo, boy, black person, spit.

for fear I should become a **horseman** or a herdsman merely; and if society seems to be the **gainer** by so doing, are we certain that what is one man's gain is not another's loss, and that the stable-boy has equal cause with his master to be satisfied? Granted that some public works would not have been constructed without this aid, and let man share the glory of such with the ox and horse; does it follow that he could not have accomplished works yet more worthy of himself in that case? When men begin to do, not merely unnecessary or artistic, but luxurious and idle work, with their assistance, it is inevitable that a few do all the exchange work with the oxen, or, in other words, become the slaves of the strongest. Man thus not only works for the animal within him, but, for a symbol of this, he works for the animal without him. Though we have many substantial houses of brick or stone, the prosperity of the farmer is still measured by the degree to which the barn overshadows the house. This town is said to have the largest houses for oxen, cows, and horses **hereabouts**, and it is not **behindhand** in its public buildings; but there are very few halls for free worship or free speech in this county. It should not be by their architecture, but why not even by their power of abstract thought, that nations should seek to commemorate themselves? How much more admirable the Bhagvat-Geeta than all the ruins of the East! Towers and **temples** are the luxury of princes. A simple and independent mind does not toil at the bidding of any prince. Genius is not a **retainer** to any emperor, nor is its material silver, or gold, or marble, except to a trifling extent. To what end, pray, is so much stone **hammered**? In Arcadia, when I was there, I did not see any **hammering** stone. Nations are possessed with an insane ambition to **perpetuate** the memory of themselves by the amount of hammered stone they leave. What if equal pains were taken to smooth and polish their manners? One piece of good sense would be more memorable than a monument as high as the moon. I love better to see stones in place. The grandeur of Thebes was a vulgar grandeur. More sensible is a rod of stone wall that bounds an honest man's field than a hundred-gated Thebes that has wandered farther from the true end of life. The religion and civilization which are **barbaric** and **heathenish** build splendid temples; but what you might call Christianity does not. Most of the stone a nation hammers goes toward its tomb

Thesaurus

barbaric: (*adj*) boorish, uncivil, graceless, churlish, uncouth, uncivilized, savage, barbarous, wild, gross, inhuman. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) refined, civilized, cultured, polished.
behindhand: (*adv*) behind; (*adj, adv*) backward; (*adj*) tardy, slow, belated, overdue, dilatory, untimely, undone, serotine; (*adj, v*) remiss.
gainer: (*n*) diving, weight gainer, dive.
hammered: (*adj*) drunk.
hammering: (*n*) beating, pounding,

pound, fagging, drudgery, needle hammer, defeat, knock, failure, British pound, Ezra Loomin Pound. ANTONYM: (*n*) victory.
heathenish: (*adj*) pagan, gothic, paganish, savage, doggerel, tramontane, barbarous, gentile, brutal, ethnic, ferocious.
hereabouts: (*adv*) hereabout, thereabouts.
horseman: (*n*) cavalier, rider, jockey, horse fancier, horseback rider,

trooper, trainer, knight, cavalryman, animal fancier, postilion.
perpetuate: (*v*) eternize, immortalize, maintain, preserve, continue, carry on, follow up, uphold, consolidate, commemorate, bear on.
retainer: (*n*) domestic, menial, follower, attendant, manservant, holder, retainers, henchman, retaining bracket, flunky, retaining fee.
temples: (*n*) brow.

only. It buries itself alive. As for the Pyramids, there is nothing to wonder at in them so much as the fact that so many men could be found degraded enough to spend their lives **constructing** a tomb for some ambitious **booby**, whom it would have been wiser and manlier to have drowned in the Nile, and then given his body to the dogs. I might possibly **invent** some excuse for them and him, but I have no time for it. As for the religion and love of art of the builders, it is much the same all the world over, whether the building be an Egyptian temple or the United States Bank. It costs more than it comes to. The **mainspring** is **vanity**, assisted by the love of garlic and bread and butter. Mr. Balcom, a promising young architect, designs it on the back of his Vitruvius, with hard pencil and ruler, and the job is let out to Dobson & Sons, stonecutters. When the thirty centuries begin to look down on it, mankind begin to look up at it. As for your high towers and monuments, there was a crazy fellow once in this town who undertook to dig through to China, and he got so far that, as he said, he heard the Chinese pots and kettles **rattle**; but I think that I shall not go out of my way to admire the hole which he made. Many are concerned about the monuments of the West and the East -- to know who built them. For my part, I should like to know who in those days did not build them -- who were above such trifling. But to proceed with my statistics.

By **surveying**, **carpentry**, and day-labor of various other kinds in the village in the meanwhile, for I have as many trades as fingers, I had earned \$13.34. The expense of food for eight months, namely, from July 4th to March 1st, the time when these estimates were made, though I lived there more than two years -- not counting potatoes, a little green corn, and some **peas**, which I had raised, nor considering the value of what was on hand at the last date -- was

Rice	\$ 1.73½	
Molasses	1.73	Cheapest form of the saccharine .
Rye meal	1.04¾	

Thesaurus

booby: (*n*) tomfool, numskull, loggerhead, jackass, idiot, coot, dolt, oaf, dope, pinhead, dummy.
carpentry: (*n*) woodwork, woodworking, cabinetmaking, cabinetwork, craft, trade, cabinetry, carpentering.
constructing: (*adj*) building, edificant; (*n*) synthesis.
invent: (*v*) devise, form, create, excogitate, concoct, imagine, contrive; (*n, v*) forge, fabricate,

design, coin.
mainspring: (*n*) motive, spring, primum mobile, reason, ground, inducement, coil, grounds, incitement, keystone, fountain.
peas: (*n*) beans, bean, bills.
rattle: (*n, v*) jingle, jangle, clatter; (*n*) click, clang, clack; (*v*) bang, confuse, shake, patter, disconcert.
saccharine: (*adj*) syrupy, sugary, treacly, cloying, honeyed, luscious, mushy, sentimental, saccharin, soft,

overly sweet.
surveying: (*n*) mensuration, measurement, investigation, triangulation; (*v*) inspect, examine; (*adj*) observant.
vanity: (*n*) egotism, pride, emptiness, arrogance, futility, inanity, vainglory, conceitedness, pretension, pomposity; (*adj, n*) amour propre.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) selflessness, humility, importance, value, effectiveness.

Indian meal ..	0.99¾	Cheaper than rye.
Pork	0.22	

All **experiments** which failed:

Flour	0.88	Costs more than Indian meal, both money and trouble.
Sugar	0.80	
Lard	0.65	
Apples	0.25	
Dried apple	0.22	
Sweet potatoes	0.10	
One pumpkin	0.06	
One watermelon ...	0.02	
Salt	0.03	

Yes, I did eat \$8.74, all told; but I should not thus **unblushingly** publish my guilt, if I did not know that most of my readers were equally guilty with myself, and that their **deeds** would look no better in print. The next year I sometimes caught a mess of fish for my dinner, and once I went so far as to slaughter a woodchuck which **ravaged** my bean-field -- effect his **transmigration**, as a Tartar would say -- and **devour** him, partly for experiment's sake; but though it afforded me a **momentary** enjoyment, notwithstanding a musky **flavor**, I saw that the **longest** use would not make that a good practice, however it might seem to have your woodchucks ready dressed by the village butcher.

Thesaurus

deeds: (*n*) works, activity, actions, conduct, background, events, happenings, performance, activities.
devour: (*v*) eat, bolt, gulp, demolish, guzzle, swallow, gorge, ingurgitate, gobble, use up, absorb. ANTONYMS: (*v*) avoid, abstain, regurgitate, nibble, fast, sip.
experiments: (*n*) data.
flavor: (*n*) relish, tang, smell, aroma, salt; (*n, v*) taste, flavour, smack; (*v*) spice, season, sauce. ANTONYMS:

(*n*) staleness, blandness, emptiness.
longest: (*adj*) best, lengest, fastest, top, record, best ever, greatest.
momentary: (*adj*) brief, fugitive, transient, short, instantaneous, ephemeral, passing, momentaneous, temporary, impermanent, temporal. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) lasting, lengthy, long.
potatoes: (*n*) root crop.
ravaged: (*adj*) desolate, devastated, destroyed, ruined, pillaged, blasted,

raped, despoiled, everlasting, goddamn, bleak.
transmigration: (*n*) metempsychosis, migration, mutagenesis, transanimation, mutagenesis, shifting, journey, transanimation, rebirth.
unblushingly: (*adv*) immodestly, brazenly, impudently, unabashedly.
watermelon: (*n*) melon, Citrullus vulgaris, watermelon vine, melon vine.

Clothing and some **incidental** expenses within the same dates, though little can be **inferred** from this **item**, amounted to

	\$ 8.40 $\frac{3}{4}$
Oil and some household utensils	2.00

So that all the **pecuniary** outgoes, **excepting** for washing and **mending**, which for the most part were done out of the house, and their **bills** have not yet been received -- and these are all and more than all the ways by which money necessarily goes out in this part of the world -- were

House	\$ 28.12+
Farm one year	14.72+
Food eight months	8.74
Clothing, etc., eight months	8.40 $\frac{3}{4}$
Oil, etc., eight months	2.00
	<hr/>
In all	\$ 61.99 $\frac{3}{4}$

I address myself now to those of my readers who have a living to get. And to meet this I have for farm produce sold

	\$ 23.44
Earned by day-labor	13.34
	<hr/>
In all	\$ 36.78

Thesaurus

bills: (*n*) currency, folding money.
excepting: (*conj, prep*) but, bar; (*n, prep*) except for, exclusive of; (*prep*) aside from, besides, apart from, barring, excluding, with the exception of; (*v*) saving. ANTONYM: (*prep*) including.
incidental: (*adj*) fortuitous, accidental, contingent, adventitious, collateral, chance, occasional, incident, attendant, concomitant, episodic. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) basic, direct, intended, significant.

inferred: (*adj*) subtle, tacit, assumed, incidental, latent, unsaid, unspoken, understood, contingent, implied, derivative. ANTONYM: (*adj*) explicit.
item: (*n*) detail, article, entry, point, thing, subject, object, affair, event, part, particular.
mending: (*n*) fix, repair, fixing, maintenance, restoration, reparation, improvement, darning, mend, amendment, correction.
pecuniary: (*adj*) financial, fiscal,

commercial, economic, nummularly, sumptuary, numismatical, pecunial, cruminal.
utensils: (*n*) gear, equipment, tackle, apparatus, hardware.

which subtracted from the sum of the outgoes leaves a balance of \$25.21¾ on the one side -- this being very nearly the means with which I started, and the measure of expenses to be incurred -- and on the other, beside the leisure and independence and health thus secured, a comfortable house for me as long as I choose to occupy it.

These statistics, however accidental and therefore **uninstructive** they may appear, as they have a certain **completeness**, have a certain value also. Nothing was given me of which I have not rendered some account. It appears from the above estimate, that my food alone cost me in money about twenty-seven cents a week. It was, for nearly two years after this, rye and Indian meal without yeast, potatoes, rice, a very little salt pork, **molasses**, and salt; and my drink, water. It was fit that I should live on rice, mainly, who love so well the philosophy of India. To meet the objections of some **inveterate** cavillers, I may as well state, that if I dined out occasionally, as I always had done, and I trust shall have opportunities to do again, it was frequently to the detriment of my domestic arrangements. But the dining out, being, as I have stated, a constant element, does not in the least affect a comparative statement like this.

I learned from my two years' experience that it would cost incredibly little trouble to obtain one's necessary food, even in this latitude; that a man may use as simple a diet as the animals, and yet retain health and strength. I have made a satisfactory dinner, satisfactory on several accounts, simply off a dish of **purslane** (*Portulaca oleracea*) which I gathered in my cornfield, **boiled** and **salted**. I give the Latin on account of the **savoriness** of the trivial name. And pray what more can a reasonable man desire, in peaceful times, in ordinary noons, than a sufficient number of ears of green sweet corn boiled, with the addition of salt? Even the little variety which I used was a **yielding** to the demands of appetite, and not of health. Yet men have come to such a pass that they frequently starve, not for want of necessaries, but for want of luxuries; and I know a good woman who thinks that her son lost his life because he took to drinking water only.

Thesaurus

boiled: (*adj*) intoxicated, poached, stewed; (*v*) sodden.
completeness: (*n*) thoroughness, entirety, fullness, entireness, unity, integrality, plenitude, comprehensiveness, perfection, totality, wholeness. ANTONYM: (*n*) incompleteness.
inveterate: (*adj*) incorrigible, confirmed, chronic, ingrained, old, irredeemable; (*adj, v*) fixed; (*v*) rooted, ingrafted, hackneyed; (*n*)

ineffaceable.
molasses: (*n*) syrup, honey, sirup, cure, manna, melasses, molosses, theriaca, sugar.
purslane: (*n*) herb, pusley, herbaceous plant.
salted: (*adj*) salty, corned, saline; (*n*) salt grass, lustful, lecherous, leap, flavor, corrective, saltcellar, bitter.
savoriness: (*n*) flavorsomeness, sapidness, taste, savor, appetizingness.

uninstructive: (*adj*) uninformative, unilluminating, not informative, newsless, not edifying, unedifying. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) instructive, enlightening, informative.
yielding: (*adj, v*) flexible, pliable, supple, tractable, pliant; (*adj*) compliant, submissive, soft, obedient, docile; (*n*) submission. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) hard, firm, inflexible, solid, rigid, obstinate, stiff, stubborn, unyielding, rebellious.

The reader will perceive that I am treating the subject rather from an economic than a **dietetic** point of view, and he will not venture to put my **abstemiousness** to the test unless he has a well-stocked larder.

Bread I at first made of pure Indian meal and salt, genuine hoe-cakes, which I **baked** before my fire out of doors on a shingle or the end of a stick of timber sawed off in building my house; but it was wont to get smoked and to have a piny flavor, I tried flour also; but have at last found a mixture of rye and Indian meal most convenient and agreeable. In cold weather it was no little amusement to bake several small loaves of this in succession, tending and turning them as carefully as an Egyptian his hatching eggs. They were a real cereal fruit which I **ripened**, and they had to my senses a fragrance like that of other noble fruits, which I kept in as long as possible by wrapping them in cloths. I made a study of the ancient and indispensable art of bread-making, consulting such authorities as offered, going back to the primitive days and first invention of the **unleavened** kind, when from the wildness of nuts and meats men first reached the **mildness** and refinement of this diet, and travelling gradually down in my studies through that accidental **souring** of the dough which, it is supposed, taught the **leavening** process, and through the various fermentations thereafter, till I came to "good, sweet, wholesome bread," the staff of life. Leaven, which some deem the soul of bread, the spiritus which fills its cellular tissue, which is religiously preserved like the **vestal** fire -- some precious **bottleful**, I suppose, first brought over in the Mayflower, did the business for America, and its influence is still rising, swelling, spreading, in cerealian **billows** over the land -- this seed I regularly and faithfully procured from the village, till at length one morning I forgot the rules, and **scalded** my yeast; by which accident I discovered that even this was not indispensable -- for my discoveries were not by the synthetic but analytic process -- and I have gladly omitted it since, though most housewives earnestly assured me that safe and wholesome bread without yeast might not be, and elderly people prophesied a speedy decay of the vital forces. Yet I find it not to be an essential ingredient, and after going without it for a year am still in the land of the living; and I am glad to escape the **trivialness** of carrying a bottleful in my pocket, which would sometimes pop and discharge its contents to my

Thesaurus

abstemiousness: (*n*) temperance, soberness, restraint, sobriety, frugality, moderation, chastity, self-control, austerity. ANTONYM: (*n*) indulgence.
bake: (*v*) roast, broil, fire, fry, cook, stew, to bake, grill, scorch, toast, heat.
billows: (*n*) great waters, high seas, offing, watery waste, brine, vapors, clouds, smoke, sea, ocean, main.
bottleful: (*n*) containerful, split.
dietetic: (*adj*) dietary, alimentary,

dietetical, dietic, dietical, food, nutritional.
leavening: (*n*) leaven, yeast, barm, matter, substance, imponderable, baking powder.
mildness: (*adj, n*) gentleness, kindness, benignity, compassion, goodness; (*n*) lenity, mercy, meekness, leniency, lenience, tenderness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) roughness, pungency.
ripened: (*adj*) mature, matured, elderly, aged, maturer, old, mellow,

grown, full-grown, cured, adult. ANTONYM: (*adj*) young.
scalded: (*adj*) scorched, overcooked, burnt. ANTONYM: (*adj*) underdone.
souring: (*n*) acidification, ageing.
trivialness: (*n*) triviality.
unleavened: (*adj*) azymous, not fermented, unmellowed, unseasoned. ANTONYM: (*adj*) leavened.
vestal: (*adj*) chaste, virginal, virtuous, pure, saturated, not mixed, good, sinless, undiluted; (*n*) woman, nun.

discomfiture. It is simpler and more respectable to omit it. Man is an animal who more than any other can adapt himself to all climates and circumstances. Neither did I put any sal-soda, or other acid or alkali, into my bread. It would seem that I made it according to the recipe which Marcus Porcius Cato gave about two **centuries** before Christ. "Panem depsticum sic facito. Manus mortariumque bene lavato. Farinam in mortarium indito, aquae paulatim addito, subigitoque pulchre. Ubi bene subegeris, defingito, coquitoque sub testu." Which I take to mean, -- "Make **kneaded** bread thus. Wash your hands and trough well. Put the meal into the trough, add water gradually, and knead it thoroughly. When you have kneaded it well, mould it, and bake it under a cover," that is, in a baking kettle. Not a word about **leaven**. But I did not always use this staff of life. At one time, owing to the emptiness of my purse, I saw none of it for more than a month.

Every New Englander might easily raise all his own breadstuffs in this land of rye and Indian corn, and not depend on distant and **fluctuating** markets for them. Yet so far are we from simplicity and independence that, in Concord, fresh and sweet meal is rarely sold in the shops, and **hominy** and corn in a still coarser form are hardly used by any. For the most part the farmer gives to his cattle and **hogs** the grain of his own producing, and buys flour, which is at least no more wholesome, at a greater cost, at the store. I saw that I could easily raise my **bushel** or two of rye and Indian corn, for the former will grow on the **poorest** land, and the latter does not require the best, and grind them in a hand-mill, and so do without rice and pork; and if I must have some concentrated sweet, I found by experiment that I could make a very good molasses either of pumpkins or **beets**, and I knew that I needed only to set out a few **maples** to obtain it more easily still, and while these were growing I could use various substitutes beside those which I have named. "For," as the Forefathers sang,--

"we can make liquor to **sweeten** our lips
Of pumpkins and parsnips and walnut-tree chips."

Thesaurus

beets: (*n*) beta, genus beta.

bushel: (*v*) repair, mend, fix, doctor;
(*n*) basket, handbasket, mountain,
filling; (*adj*) cargo, darned, filled.

centuries: (*n*) century.

discomfiture: (*n*) embarrassment,
confusion, perturbation, discomfort,
discomfit, disconcertion,
discomposure, humiliation,
consternation; (*adj*) rebuff, rout.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) contentment,
honor.

fluctuating: (*adj*) variable,
unpredictable, unstable, erratic,
inconstant, irresolute, mutable,
unsteady, irregular, fickle; (*v*)
fluctuate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)
constant, fixed.

hogs: (*n*) Suidae, boars, family Suidae,
stock.

hominy: (*v*) hardtack, hoecake, corn,
edible corn.

knead: (*v*) rub down, rub, form,
fashion, shape, massage, work,

mould, set, sculpture; (*adj*) mash.

leaven: (*n*) barm, yeast, leavening,
element; (*v*) lift, raise, temper,
elevate; (*adj*) denaturalize, denature,
distain.

maples: (*n*) maple.

poorest: (*adj*) lowest, least, worst.

sweeten: (*v*) dulcify, sugar, dulcorate,
candy, mollify, honey, appease,
soften, make things pleasant, gild the
pill, glaze. ANTONYMS: (*v*) salt,
displease, trouble, worry, aggravate.

Finally, as for salt, that grossest of groceries, to obtain this might be a fit occasion for a visit to the **seashore**, or, if I did without it altogether, I should probably drink the less water. I do not learn that the Indians ever troubled themselves to go after it.

Thus I could avoid all trade and **barter**, so far as my food was concerned, and having a shelter already, it would only remain to get clothing and fuel. The pantaloons which I now wear were **woven** in a farmer's family -- thank Heaven there is so much virtue still in man; for I think the fall from the farmer to the **operative** as great and memorable as that from the man to the farmer; -- and in a new country, fuel is an encumbrance. As for a habitat, if I were not permitted still to squat, I might purchase one acre at the same price for which the land I cultivated was sold -- namely, eight dollars and eight cents. But as it was, I considered that I enhanced the value of the land by **squatting** on it.

There is a certain class of unbelievers who sometimes ask me such questions as, if I think that I can live on vegetable food alone; and to strike at the root of the matter at once -- for the root is faith -- I am accustomed to answer such, that I can live on board nails. If they cannot understand that, they cannot understand much that I have to say. For my part, I am glad to bear of experiments of this kind being tried; as that a young man tried for a fortnight to live on hard, raw corn on the ear, using his teeth for all mortar. The **squirrel** tribe tried the same and succeeded. The human race is interested in these experiments, though a few old women who are **incapacitated** for them, or who own their thirds in mills, may be alarmed.

My furniture, part of which I made myself -- and the rest cost me nothing of which I have not rendered an account -- consisted of a bed, a table, a desk, three chairs, a looking-glass three inches in diameter, a pair of **tongs** and andirons, a kettle, a **skillet**, and a frying-pan, a **dipper**, a wash-bowl, two knives and forks, three plates, one cup, one spoon, a jug for oil, a jug for molasses, and a japanned lamp. None is so poor that he need sit on a pumpkin. That is **shiftlessness**. There is a plenty of such chairs as I like best in the village garrets to be had for

Thesaurus

barter: (*n, v*) trade, swap, truck, traffic, swop, switch; (*v*) bargain, change; (*n*) commutation, permutation, interchange.

dipper: (*n*) shovel, spoon, Big Dipper, scoop, butterball, bufflehead, Little Dipper, plough, duck, oscine, thimble.

incapacitated: (*adj*) powerless, unfit, handicapped, helpless, incompetent, out of action, impotent, unable, weak, under disability, prostrate.

operative: (*adj*) effective, functional, working, in force, active, running, practical; (*n*) worker, spy, mechanic; (*adj, n*) efficient. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inactive, invalid, medical, decorative.

seashore: (*n*) beach, coast, shore, seaboard, seacoast, coastline, shoreline, seaside, landfall, littoral; (*adj*) marine.

shiftlessness: (*n*) idleness, indolence.

skillet: (*n*) pan, frypan, saucepan, casserole, tumbler, bowl, spider,

basin, crucible, posnet, cup.

squatting: (*adj*) crouching; (*n*) leg exercise, colonization, movement, knee bend; (*v*) couchant; (*adv*) asquat.

squirrel: (*n*) hackee, spermophile, baranduki, burunduki, gopher, baronduki, barunduki, collector; (*v*) bank, conserve; (*adj*) courser.

tongs: (*n*) forceps, pincers, pliers, nippers, poker, lifter, pair of tongs, trivet, vice, ice tongs; (*v*) clutches.

woven: (*adj*) plaited.

taking them away. Furniture! Thank God, I can sit and I can stand without the aid of a furniture warehouse. What man but a philosopher would not be ashamed to see his furniture packed in a cart and going up country exposed to the light of heaven and the eyes of men, a **beggarly** account of empty boxes? That is Spaulding's furniture. I could never tell from inspecting such a load whether it belonged to a so-called rich man or a poor one; the owner always seemed poverty-stricken. Indeed, the more you have of such things the poorer you are. Each load looks as if it contained the contents of a dozen shanties; and if one shanty is poor, this is a dozen times as poor. Pray, for what do we move ever but to get rid of our furniture, our exuvioe: at last to go from this world to another newly furnished, and leave this to be burned? It is the same as if all these traps were **buckled** to a man's belt, and he could not move over the rough country where our lines are cast without dragging them -- dragging his trap. He was a lucky fox that left his tail in the trap. The **muskrat** will **gnaw** his third leg off to be free. No wonder man has lost his elasticity. How often he is at a dead set! "Sir, if I may be so bold, what do you mean by a dead set?" If you are a **seer**, whenever you meet a man you will see all that he owns, ay, and much that he pretends to **disown**, behind him, even to his kitchen furniture and all the **trumpery** which he saves and will not burn, and he will appear to be harnessed to it and making what headway he can. I think that the man is at a dead set who has got through a knot-hole or gateway where his sledge load of furniture cannot follow him. I cannot but feel compassion when I hear some **trig**, compact-looking man, seemingly free, all girded and ready, speak of his "furniture," as whether it is insured or not. "But what shall I do with my furniture?" -- My gay butterfly is **entangled** in a spider's web then. Even those who seem for a long while not to have any, if you inquire more narrowly you will find have some stored in somebody's barn. I look upon England today as an old gentleman who is travelling with a great deal of baggage, trumpery which has accumulated from long housekeeping, which he has not the courage to burn; great trunk, little trunk, **bandbox**, and bundle. Throw away the first three at least. It would surpass the powers of a well man nowadays to take up his bed and walk, and I should certainly advise a sick one to lay down his bed and run. When I have met

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bandbox: (*adj*) dapper, spruce.

beggarly: (*adj*) base, mean, shabby, sorry, miserable, poor, humble, pitiable, ignoble; (*adj, n*) scrubby, vile.

buckled: (*v*) wreathy, frizzly, crepe; (*adj*) warped, misshapen, malformed, distorted, askew, deformed.

disown: (*v*) disavow, disinherit, abandon, renounce, disclaim, forsake, refuse, recant, repudiate, retract, disallow. ANTONYMS: (*v*) bequeath,

accept, avow, adopt, admit, claim.

entangled: (*adj*) complicated, intricate, embroiled, complex, foul, confused, matted, tangled, inextricable, knotty; (*v*) entangle.

gnaw: (*v*) chew, fret, crunch, corrode, nibble, eat, erode, to bite, munch, masticate; (*n, v*) chafe.

muskrat: (*n*) mint, Marrubium, horehound, champak, pelt, olibanum, rodent, spirit of Myrcia, NAPHA water, ondatra, gnawer.

seer: (*n*) prophet, augur, diviner, oracle, forecaster, visionary, clairvoyant, illusionist, conjuror, idealist, predictor.

trig: (*adj*) neat, trim, natty, shipshape, tricky, spare; (*n*) trigonometry, triangulation, spherical trigonometry, triggering; (*n, v*) skid.

trumpery: (*n*) nonsense, trash, frippery, gimcracks, gimcrackery, tripe, frills, folderol, falderal; (*adj*) trashy, worthless.

an immigrant **tottering** under a bundle which contained his all -- looking like an enormous wen which had grown out of the **nape** of his neck -- I have pitied him, not because that was his all, but because he had all that to carry. If I have got to drag my trap, I will take care that it be a light one and do not nip me in a vital part. But perchance it would be wisest never to put one's paw into it.

I would observe, by the way, that it costs me nothing for curtains, for I have no gazers to shut out but the sun and moon, and I am willing that they should look in. The moon will not sour milk nor **taint** meat of mine, nor will the sun **injure** my furniture or fade my carpet; and if he is sometimes too warm a friend, I find it still better economy to retreat behind some curtain which nature has provided, than to add a single item to the details of housekeeping. A lady once offered me a mat, but as I had no room to spare within the house, nor time to spare within or without to shake it, I **declined** it, preferring to wipe my feet on the sod before my door. It is best to avoid the beginnings of evil.

Not long since I was present at the auction of a deacon's effects, for his life had not been ineffectual:--

"The evil that men do lives after them."

As usual, a great proportion was trumpery which had begun to accumulate in his father's day. Among the rest was a dried **tapeworm**. And now, after lying half a century in his garret and other dust holes, these things were not burned; instead of a bonfire, or **purifying** destruction of them, there was an auction, or increasing of them. The neighbors eagerly collected to view them, bought them all, and carefully transported them to their garrets and dust holes, to lie there till their estates are settled, when they will start again. When a man dies he kicks the dust.

The customs of some savage nations might, perchance, be **profitably imitated** by us, for they at least go through the semblance of casting their slough annually; they have the idea of the thing, whether they have the reality or not. Would it not be well if we were to celebrate such a "busk," or "feast of first fruits," as Bartram describes to have been the custom of the Mucclasse Indians? "When a

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declined: (*adj*) less.

imitated: (*adj*) mimical.

injure: (*n, v*) damage, harm, impair; (*v*) contuse, disfigure, maim, bruise, blemish, wound, insult; (*adj, v*) abuse. ANTONYMS: (*v*) heal, enable, repair, protect, help.

nape: (*n*) nucha, scruff, occiput, rear, back end, backside, chine.

profitably: (*adv*) advantageously, helpfully, fruitfully, productively, favorably, lucratively, usefully,

gainfully, economically, prolifically, expeditiously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) fruitlessly, unproductively, unhelpfully.

purifying: (*adj*) purging, purgatorial, antiseptic, expurgatory, ablutionary, remedial; (*v*) cathartic, abstergent; (*n*) purification.

taint: (*n, v*) blemish, disgrace, corrupt, spot, blot; (*adj, v*) defile, sully, pollute, contaminate; (*n*) pollution, contamination. ANTONYMS: (*v*)

enhance, right, respect, disinfect, clean; (*n*) perfection, cleanliness; (*adv*) cheerfully.

tapeworm: (*n*) cestode, echinococcus, taenia, beef tapeworm, flatworm, platyhelminth, pork tapeworm, taenia saginata, taenia solium, taeniasis, tapeworms.

tottering: (*adj*) unsteady, ramshackle, easily shaken, tottery, sick, rocky, broken, trembling, cracked; (*v*) drooping; (*n*) convulsion.

town celebrates the busk," says he, "having previously provided themselves with new clothes, new pots, pans, and other household utensils and furniture, they collect all their worn out clothes and other despicable things, sweep and **cleanse** their houses, squares, and the whole town of their filth, which with all the remaining grain and other old provisions they cast together into one common heap, and consume it with fire. After having taken medicine, and fasted for three days, all the fire in the town is **extinguished**. During this fast they **abstain** from the gratification of every appetite and passion whatever. A general amnesty is proclaimed; all malefactors may return to their town."

"On the fourth morning, the high priest, by rubbing dry wood together, produces new fire in the public square, from whence every **habitation** in the town is supplied with the new and pure flame."

They then feast on the new corn and fruits, and dance and sing for three days, "and the four following days they receive visits and **rejoice** with their friends from **neighboring** towns who have in like manner purified and prepared themselves."

The Mexicans also practised a similar purification at the end of every fifty-years, in the belief that it was time for the world to come to an end.

I have scarcely **heard** of a truer **sacrament**, that is, as the dictionary defines it, "outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace," than this, and I have no doubt that they were originally inspired directly from Heaven to do thus, though they have no Biblical record of the revelation.

For more than five years I maintained myself thus solely by the labor of my hands, and I found that, by working about six weeks in a year, I could meet all the expenses of living. The whole of my winters, as well as most of my summers, I had free and clear for study. I have thoroughly tried school-keeping, and found that my expenses were in proportion, or rather out of proportion, to my income, for I was obliged to dress and train, not to say think and believe, accordingly, and I lost my time into the bargain. As I did not teach for the good of my fellow-

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abstain: (*v*) desist, forbear, avoid, give up, eschew, withhold, cease, decline, fast, neglect; (*adj, v*) deny oneself. ANTONYMS: (*v*) consume, yield, use, surrender, partake, indulge, imbibe, persist, vote, eat.

cleanse: (*adj, v*) clean; (*v*) bathe, wash, clarify, wipe, scour, scrub, clear, rinse, disinfect, refine. ANTONYMS: (*v*) dirty, soil, stain, spot, pollute, mess, defile, cloud.

extinguished: (*adj*) extinct, out, dead,

quenched, allayed, destroyed; (*n*) defunctness, complete annihilation, experimental extinction, extermination, extinction.

habitation: (*adj, n*) abode; (*n*) domicile, residence, house, home, habitat, lodging, place, occupancy, inhabitation, inhabitancy. ANTONYM: (*n*) vacancy.

heard: (*n*) hearing.

neighboring: (*adj, adv*) adjacent, near; (*adj*) adjoining, nearby, contiguous,

neighbor, abutting, next, neighborly, nigh, next to. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) distant, remote, far, national.

rejoice: (*v*) cheer, gladden, triumph, revel, jubilate, gratify, gloat, please; (*n, v*) delight, glory, joy. ANTONYMS: (*v*) lament, mourn, complain.

sacrament: (*n*) token, penance, rite, ritual, liturgy, symbol, communion, baptism, Eucharist, confirmation, ceremony.

men, but simply for a livelihood, this was a failure. I have tried trade but I found that it would take ten years to get under way in that, and that then I should probably be on my way to the devil. I was actually afraid that I might by that time be doing what is called a good business. When formerly I was looking about to see what I could do for a living, some sad experience in **conforming** to the wishes of friends being fresh in my mind to tax my ingenuity, I thought often and seriously of picking huckleberries; that surely I could do, and its small profits might suffice -- for my greatest skill has been to want but little -- so little capital it required, so little distraction from my **wanted** moods, I **foolishly** thought. While my acquaintances went **unhesitatingly** into trade or the professions, I contemplated this occupation as most like theirs; ranging the hills all summer to pick the berries which came in my way, and thereafter **carelessly** dispose of them; so, to keep the flocks of Admetus. I also dreamed that I might gather the wild herbs, or carry evergreens to such villagers as loved to be reminded of the woods, even to the city, by hay-cart loads. But I have since learned that trade **curse**s everything it handles; and though you trade in messages from heaven, the whole curse of trade attaches to the business.

As I preferred some things to others, and especially valued my freedom, as I could fare hard and yet succeed well, I did not wish to spend my time in earning rich carpets or other fine furniture, or delicate cookery, or a house in the Grecian or the Gothic style just yet. If there are any to whom it is no interruption to acquire these things, and who know how to use them when acquired, I **relinquish** to them the pursuit. Some are "industrious," and appear to love labor for its own sake, or perhaps because it keeps them out of worse mischief; to such I have at present nothing to say. Those who would not know what to do with more leisure than they now enjoy, I might advise to work twice as hard as they do -- work till they pay for themselves, and get their free papers. For myself I found that the occupation of a day-laborer was the most independent of any, especially as it required only thirty or forty days in a year to support one. The laborer's day ends with the going down of the sun, and he is then free to devote himself to his chosen pursuit, independent of his labor; but his employer, who

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carelessly: (*adv*) incautiously, hastily, recklessly, heedlessly, casually, sloppily, imprudently, inconsiderately, rashly, negligently, unwarily. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) thoroughly, diligently, carefully, warily, laboriously, thoughtfully, attentively, daintily, methodically, discreetly, economically.

conforming: (*v*) conform; (*adj*) parallel, like, congruent, according, seemingly, respectable, relevant, proper; (*n*)

accordance, matching.

curse: (*n*) abuse.

foolishly: (*adv*) idiotically, ridiculously, stupidly, indiscreetly, silly, insanely, injudiciously, preposterously, absurdly, senselessly; (*adj, adv*) madly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) sensibly, solemnly, shrewdly, prudently, responsibly, judiciously, carefully, rationally.

relinquish: (*v*) abandon, abdicate, leave, cede, quit, renounce, give up,

discard, disclaim, yield, desert. ANTONYMS: (*v*) keep, accept, continue, enforce, acquire.

unhesitatingly: (*adv*) readily, openly, freely, plainly, speedily, willingly, decidedly, resolutely, determinedly, sincerely, undisguisedly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) eventually.

wanted: (*adj, n*) habitual, ordinary, usual, familiar; (*adj*) everyday, general, conventional, routine; (*n*) accustomed, common, regular.

speculates from month to month, has no **respite** from one end of the year to the other.

In short, I am convinced, both by faith and experience, that to maintain one's self on this earth is not a hardship but a **pastime**, if we will live simply and wisely; as the pursuits of the simpler nations are still the sports of the more artificial. It is not necessary that a man should earn his living by the sweat of his brow, unless he **sweats** easier than I do.

One young man of my acquaintance, who has inherited some acres, told me that he thought he should live as I did, if he had the means. I would not have any one adopt my mode of living on any account; for, beside that before he has fairly learned it I may have found out another for myself, I desire that there may be as many different persons in the world as possible; but I would have each one be very careful to find out and pursue his own way, and not his father's or his mother's or his neighbor's instead. The youth may build or plant or sail, only let him not be hindered from doing that which he tells me he would like to do. It is by a mathematical point only that we are wise, as the sailor or the **fugitive** slave keeps the **polestar** in his eye; but that is sufficient guidance for all our life. We may not arrive at our port within a **calculable** period, but we would preserve the true course.

Undoubtedly, in this case, what is true for one is truer still for a thousand, as a large house is not **proportionally** more expensive than a small one, since one roof may cover, one cellar **underlie**, and one wall separate several apartments. But for my part, I preferred the solitary dwelling. Moreover, it will commonly be cheaper to build the whole yourself than to convince another of the advantage of the common wall; and when you have done this, the common partition, to be much cheaper, must be a thin one, and that other may prove a bad neighbor, and also not keep his side in repair. The only co-operation which is commonly possible is exceedingly partial and superficial; and what little true co-operation there is, is as if it were not, being a harmony **inaudible** to men. If a man has faith, he will co-operate with equal faith everywhere; if he has not faith, he will continue to live like the rest of the world, whatever company he is joined to. To

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calculable: (*adj*) computable, numerable, arithmetical, analytic, algebraic, measurable, reckonable, countable, estimable, able to be gauged, assessable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) incalculable, inestimable.
fugitive: (*adj*) ephemeral, fleeting, momentary, elusive, caducous; (*n*) escapee, absconder, deserter, emigrant, criminal; (*v*) fugacious.
inaudible: (*adj*) indistinct, imperceptible, inarticulate, noiseless,

quiet, faint, out of hearing, muffled, silent, unheard, low. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) audible, obvious.
pastime: (*n*) game, avocation, entertainment, recreation, hobby, distraction, interest, fun, pursuit, amusement, sideline.
polestar: (*n*) Polaris, North Star, lodestar, loadstar, polar star, variable, cynosure, focus, seat, Pole Star, heart.
proportionally: (*adv*) relatively, commensurately, pro rata, in

proportion, balancedly, symmetrically, proportionably.
respite: (*n, v*) pause, rest, lull; (*n*) repose, intermission, recess, break, remission, relief, cessation, interruption.
sweats: (*n*) workout suit, sweatsuit, clothes, apparel, clothing.
underlie: (*adj*) smolder; (*n*) underlay, hade; (*v*) sustain, suffer, spread through, possess, pervade, hazard, govern, endure.

co-operate in the highest as well as the lowest sense, means to get our living together. I heard it proposed lately that two young men should travel together over the world, the one without money, earning his means as he went, before the mast and behind the plow, the other carrying a bill of exchange in his pocket. It was easy to see that they could not long be companions or **co-operate**, since one would not operate at all. They would part at the first interesting crisis in their adventures. Above all, as I have implied, the man who goes alone can start today; but he who **travels** with another must wait till that other is ready, and it may be a long time before they get off.

But all this is very selfish, I have heard some of my townsmen say. I confess that I have hitherto **indulged** very little in **philanthropic** enterprises. I have made some **sacrifices** to a sense of duty, and among others have sacrificed this pleasure also. There are those who have used all their arts to persuade me to undertake the support of some poor family in the town; and if I had nothing to do -- for the devil finds employment for the idle -- I might try my hand at some such pastime as that. However, when I have thought to indulge myself in this respect, and lay their Heaven under an obligation by maintaining certain poor persons in all respects as comfortably as I maintain myself, and have even ventured so far as to make them the offer, they have one and all unhesitatingly preferred to remain poor. While my townsmen and women are devoted in so many ways to the good of their fellows, I trust that one at least may be spared to other and less humane pursuits. You must have a genius for charity as well as for anything else. As for Doing-good, that is one of the professions which are full. Moreover, I have tried it fairly, and, strange as it may seem, am satisfied that it does not agree with my constitution. Probably I should not consciously and deliberately **forsake** my particular calling to do the good which society demands of me, to save the universe from **annihilation**; and I believe that a like but infinitely greater **steadfastness** elsewhere is all that now **preserves** it. But I would not stand between any man and his genius; and to him who does this

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annihilation: (*n*) abolition, death, slaughter, destruction, obliteration, extermination, extirpation, disintegration, demolition, defeat, pulverization. ANTONYMS: (*n*) preservation, survival, creation, protection.

co-operate: (*v*) collaborate.

forsake: (*v*) abandon, ditch, relinquish, abdicate, fail, leave, forgo, chuck, disclaim; (*n, v*) drop; (*adj, v*) quit. ANTONYM: (*v*) support.

indulged: (*adj*) pet, privileged, cherished, admired.

philanthropic: (*adj*) benevolent, charitable, humanitarian, humane, kind, eleemosynary, generous, beneficent, kindly, munificent, good. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) selfish, miserly, nasty, mean.

preserves: (*n*) conserve, jam, chowchow, conserves, jelly, marmalade, canned food, confiture, European federation of importers of

dried fruit, preserved food, apple butter.

sacrifices: (*n*) holocaust.

steadfastness: (*adj, n*) firmness, stability; (*n*) resolution, resolve, staunchness, perseverance, loyalty, fidelity, determination, steadiness, insistence. ANTONYMS: (*n*) disloyalty, indecisiveness, flexibility, indecision, indifference, unreliability, untrustworthiness, weakness.

travels: (*n*) actions, expedition.

work, which I decline, with his whole heart and soul and life, I would say, Persevere, even if the world call it doing evil, as it is most likely they will.

I am far from supposing that my case is a peculiar one; no doubt many of my readers would make a similar defence. At doing something -- I will not engage that my neighbors shall pronounce it good -- I do not hesitate to say that I should be a capital fellow to hire; but what that is, it is for my employer to find out. What good I do, in the common sense of that word, must be aside from my main path, and for the most part wholly unintended. Men say, practically, Begin where you are and such as you are, without aiming mainly to become of more worth, and with kindness **aforethought** go about doing good. If I were to preach at all in this strain, I should say rather, Set about being good. As if the sun should stop when he had **kindled** his fires up to the **splendor** of a moon or a star of the sixth magnitude, and go about like a Robin Goodfellow, peeping in at every cottage window, inspiring lunatics, and **tainting** meats, and making darkness visible, instead of steadily increasing his genial heat and **beneficence** till he is of such brightness that no mortal can look him in the face, and then, and in the meanwhile too, going about the world in his own orbit, doing it good, or rather, as a truer philosophy has discovered, the world going about him getting good. When Phaeton, wishing to prove his heavenly birth by his beneficence, had the sun's chariot but one day, and drove out of the beaten track, he burned several blocks of houses in the lower streets of heaven, and scorched the surface of the earth, and dried up every spring, and made the great desert of Sahara, till at length Jupiter hurled him headlong to the earth with a **thunderbolt**, and the sun, through grief at his death, did not shine for a year.

There is no **odor** so bad as that which arises from goodness tainted. It is human, it is divine, **carrion**. If I knew for a certainty that a man was coming to my house with the conscious design of doing me good, I should run for my life, as from that dry and **parching** wind of the African deserts called the **simoom**, which fills the mouth and nose and ears and eyes with dust till you are **suffocated**, for fear that I should get some of his good done to me -- some of its virus mingled with my blood. No -- in this case I would rather suffer evil the

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aforethought: (*adj*) deliberate, premeditated, intentional, plotted, studied, intended, designed, planned, forethought; (*v*) prepenze; (*n*) premeditation.
beneficence: (*n*) benefaction, grace, charity, benevolence, goodness, generosity, bounty, munificence, almsgiving, alms; (*adj, n*) kindness. ANTONYM: (*n*) maleficence.
carrion: (*n*) carcass, offal, dead body, corpse, filth, ket, any filth, carogne;

(*adj*) garbage.
kindled: (*adj*) enkindled, lighted, lit, burning.
odor: (*n*) aroma, scent, odour, bouquet, flavour, perfume, flavor, savor, stink; (*n, v*) smell, stench.
parching: (*adj*) torrid, hot, parched.
simoom: (*n*) samiel, wind, sirocco, dust storm.
splendor: (*adj, n, v*) brilliancy; (*n*) magnificence, pomp, sheen, lustre, luster, glory, ostentation, glitter; (*n, v*)

brightness; (*adj, n*) radiance. ANTONYMS: (*n*) dullness, ordinariness, paucity, austerity, understatement, shabbiness, simplicity, unattractiveness.
suffocated: (*adj*) suffocate; (*v*) asphyxied.
tainting: (*n*) pollution.
thunderbolt: (*n*) bolt of lightning, lightning, thunder, thunderclap, bombshell, surprise, flash, shackle, quarrel, streak of lightning, streak.

natural way. A man is not a good man to me because he will feed me if I should be starving, or warm me if I should be freezing, or pull me out of a ditch if I should ever fall into one. I can find you a Newfoundland dog that will do as much. Philanthropy is not love for one's fellow-man in the broadest sense. Howard was no doubt an exceedingly kind and worthy man in his way, and has his reward; but, comparatively speaking, what are a hundred Howards to us, if their **philanthropy** do not help us in our best estate, when we are most worthy to be helped? I never heard of a philanthropic meeting in which it was sincerely proposed to do any good to me, or the like of me.

The Jesuits were quite **balked** by those Indians who, being burned at the stake, suggested new modes of torture to their tormentors. Being superior to physical suffering, it sometimes chanced that they were superior to any consolation which the missionaries could offer; and the law to do as you would be done by fell with less **persuasiveness** on the ears of those who, for their part, did not care how they were done by, who loved their enemies after a new fashion, and came very near freely **forgiving** them all they did.

Be sure that you give the poor the aid they most need, though it be your example which leaves them far behind. If you give money, spend yourself with it, and do not merely abandon it to them. We make curious mistakes sometimes. Often the poor man is not so cold and hungry as he is dirty and ragged and gross. It is partly his taste, and not merely his misfortune. If you give him money, he will perhaps buy more **rag**s with it. I was wont to pity the clumsy Irish laborers who cut ice on the pond, in such mean and ragged clothes, while I shivered in my more tidy and somewhat more fashionable garments, till, one bitter cold day, one who had slipped into the water came to my house to warm him, and I saw him strip off three pairs of **pants** and two pairs of stockings ere he got down to the skin, though they were dirty and ragged enough, it is true, and that he could afford to refuse the extra garments which I offered him, he had so many intra ones. This **ducking** was the very thing he needed. Then I began to pity myself, and I saw that it would be a greater charity to bestow on me a **flannel** shirt than a whole slop-shop on him. There are a thousand **hacking** at

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balked: (*adj*) frustrated, baffled, discouraged, at sea.

ducking: (*n*) dip, dousing, hunting, wetting, submersion, duckbilled platypus, duckbill, duck hunting, dive, complete attention; (*v*) owe.

flannel: (*n*) washcloth, cloth, face cloth, pants, trousers, flannelette, white, tweed, gabardine; (*v*) blanket, fur.

forgiving: (*adj*) compassionate, lenient, tolerant, charitable,

remissive, humane, kind, magnanimous, generous, merciful, mild. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unforgiving, hardhearted, impatient, strict.

hacking: (*n*) cut, drudge.

pants: (*n*) knickers, trousers, drawers, knickerbockers, underpants, chinos, cords, denim, bloomers, flannel, knee pants.

persuasiveness: (*n*) eloquence, force, convincingness, potency, military

strength, intensity level, strength, long suit, metier, articulacy, military posture.

philanthropy: (*n*) charity, generosity, humanity, kindness, philanthropic gift, beneficence, altruism, charitableness, humanitarianism, largesse, gift. ANTONYMS: (*n*) nastiness, selfishness.

rag: (*adj*) refuse, rubble, scourings, sweepings, trash, waste; (*n*) clothing, tatter, orts, odds and ends, dress.

the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root, and it may be that he who bestows the largest amount of time and money on the needy is doing the most by his mode of life to produce that misery which he strives in vain to relieve. It is the pious slave-breeder devoting the proceeds of every tenth slave to buy a Sunday's liberty for the rest. Some show their kindness to the poor by employing them in their kitchens. Would they not be kinder if they employed themselves there? You boast of spending a tenth part of your income in charity; maybe you should spend the nine **tenths** so, and done with it. Society recovers only a tenth part of the property then. Is this owing to the generosity of him in whose possession it is found, or to the **remissness** of the officers of justice?

Philanthropy is almost the only virtue which is sufficiently appreciated by mankind. Nay, it is greatly overrated; and it is our selfishness which overrates it. A robust poor man, one sunny day here in Concord, praised a fellow-townsmen to me, because, as he said, he was kind to the poor; meaning himself. The kind uncles and aunts of the race are more **esteemed** than its true spiritual fathers and mothers. I once heard a reverend lecturer on England, a man of learning and intelligence, after enumerating her scientific, literary, and political worthies, Shakespeare, Bacon, Cromwell, Milton, Newton, and others, speak next of her Christian heroes, whom, as if his profession required it of him, he elevated to a place far above all the rest, as the greatest of the great. They were Penn, Howard, and Mrs. Fry. Every one must feel the falsehood and cant of this. The last were not England's best men and women; only, perhaps, her best philanthropists.

I would not subtract anything from the praise that is due to philanthropy, but merely demand justice for all who by their lives and works are a blessing to mankind. I do not value chiefly a man's **uprightness** and benevolence, which are, as it were, his stem and leaves. Those plants of whose **greenness** withered we make herb tea for the sick serve but a humble use, and are most employed by quacks. I want the flower and fruit of a man; that some fragrance be wafted over from him to me, and some **ripeness** flavor our intercourse. His goodness must not be a partial and transitory act, but a constant **superfluity**, which costs him nothing and of which he is unconscious. This is a charity that hides a multitude

Thesaurus

esteemed: (*adj*) dear, reputable, respected, honorable, noble, honored, prestigious, important, distinguished, August, respect. ANTONYM: (*adj*) disreputable.

greenness: (*n*) green, freshness, viridity, verdure, greenery, verdancy, emerald, chartreuse, richness, immaturity, profuseness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) ripeness, experience.

remissness: (*n*) laxity, negligence,

laxness, carelessness, heedlessness, inadvertence, inattention, disregard, thoughtlessness, disesteem; (*adj*) idleness.

ripeness: (*n, v*) readiness; (*n*) maturation, maturity, mellowness, perfection, fruition, lusciousness, succulence, full development; (*v*) preparedness, ripen. ANTONYMS: (*n*) greenness, dryness.

superfluity: (*n*) plethora, redundancy, superabundance, nimety,

overabundance, overplus, embarrassment, redundancy, extravagance, surplus, glut. ANTONYM: (*n*) shortfall.

tenths: (*n*) custom, assessment, excise, gavel, octroi, tithe.

uprightness: (*adj, n*) honesty, rectitude, fairness, honor, right, fidelity, probity, candor, equity; (*n*) morality, truth. ANTONYMS: (*n*) debauchery, wickedness, decadence, dishonesty, immorality, indecency.

of sins. The **philanthropist** too often surrounds mankind with the remembrance of his own **castoff** griefs as an atmosphere, and calls it sympathy. We should impart our courage, and not our despair, our health and ease, and not our disease, and take care that this does not spread by **contagion**. From what southern plains comes up the voice of wailing? Under what latitudes reside the heathen to whom we would send light? Who is that **intemperate** and brutal man whom we would redeem? If anything ail a man, so that he does not perform his functions, if he have a pain in his bowels even -- for that is the seat of sympathy -- he forthwith sets about reforming -- the world. Being a **microcosm** himself, he discovers -- and it is a true discovery, and he is the man to make it -- that the world has been eating green apples; to his eyes, in fact, the globe itself is a great green apple, which there is danger awful to think of that the children of men will **nibble** before it is ripe; and **straightway** his drastic philanthropy seeks out the Esquimau and the Patagonian, and embraces the populous Indian and Chinese villages; and thus, by a few years of philanthropic activity, the powers in the meanwhile using him for their own ends, no doubt, he cures himself of his **dyspepsia**, the globe acquires a faint blush on one or both of its cheeks, as if it were beginning to be ripe, and life loses its **crudity** and is once more sweet and wholesome to live. I never dreamed of any enormity greater than I have committed. I never knew, and never shall know, a worse man than myself.

I believe that what so saddens the reformer is not his sympathy with his fellows in distress, but, though he be the holiest son of God, is his private ail. Let this be righted, let the spring come to him, the morning rise over his couch, and he will forsake his generous companions without apology. My excuse for not **lecturing** against the use of tobacco is, that I never chewed it, that is a penalty which reformed tobacco-chewers have to pay; though there are things enough I have chewed which I could lecture against. If you should ever be betrayed into any of these philanthropies, do not let your left hand know what your right hand does, for it is not worth knowing. Rescue the **drowning** and tie your shoestrings. Take your time, and set about some free labor.

Thesaurus

castoff: (*n*) desertion, scrap.

contagion: (*n*) plague, contagious disease, taint, transmission, contamination, disease, conduction, pest, corruption, pollution, grippe.

crudity: (*n*) crudeness, rudeness, coarseness, immaturity, wild, impoliteness, rawness, grossness, uncouthness, incivility, vulgarity.
ANTONYM: (*n*) decency.

drowning: (*n*) masking, demersion.

dyspepsia: (*adj, n*) indigestion; (*n*)

upset stomach, symptom, pessimism, stomach upset.

intemperate: (*adj*) inordinate, immoderate, dissipated, unbridled, extreme, disorderly, inclement, unruly, wild, undue, violent.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) calm, temperate, moderate.

lecturing: (*n*) instruction, talk.

microcosm: (*adj*) Elzevir edition, epitome; (*n*) example, world.

nibble: (*n, v*) bite, nip, taste; (*v*) eat,

munch, chew, browse, pick, gnaw, crunch, champ. ANTONYMS: (*v*) gobble, overeat, gulp, gorge.

philanthropist: (*n*) humanitarian, donor, benefactor, philanthrope, altruist, patron, socialist, utilitarian, presenter, cosmopolite, amicus humani generis.

straightway: (*adv*) presently, forthwith, directly, right, anon, immediately, at once, straightforward, promptly; (*adj*) straight, immediate.

Our manners have been **corrupted** by communication with the saints. Our hymn-books **resound** with a **melodious** cursing of God and enduring Him forever. One would say that even the prophets and redeemers had rather consoled the fears than confirmed the hopes of man. There is nowhere recorded a simple and **irrepressible** satisfaction with the gift of life, any memorable praise of God. All health and success does me good, however far off and withdrawn it may appear; all disease and failure helps to make me sad and does me evil, however much sympathy it may have with me or I with it. If, then, we would indeed restore mankind by truly Indian, **botanic**, magnetic, or natural means, let us first be as simple and well as Nature ourselves, dispel the clouds which hang over our own brows, and take up a little life into our pores. Do not stay to be an overseer of the poor, but endeavor to become one of the worthies of the world.

I read in the Gulistan, or Flower Garden, of Sheik Sadi of Shiraz, that "they asked a wise man, saying: Of the many celebrated trees which the Most High God has created lofty and **umbrageous**, they call none azad, or free, excepting the **cypress**, which bears no fruit; what mystery is there in this? He replied, Each has its appropriate produce, and appointed season, during the continuance of which it is fresh and blooming, and during their absence dry and withered; to neither of which states is the cypress exposed, being always flourishing; and of this nature are the azads, or religious independents. -- Fix not thy heart on that which is **transitory**; for the Dijlah, or Tigris, will continue to flow through Bagdad after the race of caliphs is extinct: if thy hand has plenty, be liberal as the date tree; but if it affords nothing to give away, be an azad, or free man, like the cypress."

Thesaurus

botanic: (*adj*) vegetative, botanical, floral.

corrupted: (*adj*) tainted, rotten, spoiled, degraded, adulterated, depraved, distorted, decayed, impaired, debased; (*n*) corrupter.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) pure.

cypress: (*n*) cyprus, wood, cypresses, juniper, sequoia, sandarac, cypress tree; (*adj*) deep mourning, willow, mourning, cypress green.

irrepressible: (*adj*) uncontrollable,

uncontainable, unmanageable, wanton, inextinguishable, rampant, effervescent; (*v*) ungovernable, volcanic, stanchless, simmering.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) orderly.

melodious: (*adj*) harmonious, musical, sweet, tuneful, mellow, dulcet, soft, gentle, full, canorous, mellifluous.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) harsh, unmelodious, inharmonious, tuneless, grating, loud.

resound: (*v*) ring, reverberate, boom,

peal, roar, blare, resonate, sound, reecho, clatter, resounding.

transitory: (*adj*) transient, temporary, fleeting, momentary, brief, ephemeral, temporal, fugacious, impermanent, fugitive, transitive.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) permanent, lasting.

umbrageous: (*adj*) shadowy, umbrage, umbratious, indignant, outraged, shadowed, incensed, touchy, testy, umbriferous, suspect.

COMPLEMENTAL VERSES

THE PRETENSIONS OF POVERTY

Thou dost presume too much, poor needy **wretch**,
 To claim a station in the **firmament**
 Because thy humble cottage, or thy tub,
 Nurses some lazy or **pedantic** virtue
 In the cheap sunshine or by shady springs,
 With **roots** and pot-herbs; where thy right hand,
 Tearing those humane passions from the mind,
 Upon whose stocks fair blooming virtues flourish,
 Degradeth nature, and benumbeth sense,
 And, Gorgon-like, turns active men to stone.
 We not require the dull society
 Of your necessitated temperance,
 Or that unnatural stupidity
 That knows nor joy nor sorrow; nor your forc'd
 Falsely exalted passive **fortitude**
 Above the active. This low **abject** brood,
 That fix their seats in **mediocrity**,
 Become your **servile** minds; but we advance

Thesaurus

abject: (*adj*) contemptible, pitiful, low, wretched, despicable, sordid, base, mean, vile; (*n*) ignominious, dirty.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) honorable, hopeful, magnificent, esteemed, proud, dignified, commendable, noble, exalted, worthy, happy.
firmament: (*n*) sphere, welkin, heaven, heavens, celestial sphere, expanse, arena, field, vault of heaven, domain, area.
fortitude: (*n*) bravery, endurance, grit,

pluck, backbone, determination, tenacity, firmness, strength; (*adj, n*) guts, spunk. ANTONYMS: (*n*) cowardice, frailty, impatience.
mediocrity: (*n*) indifference, medium, balance, averageness, mean, person, somebody, someone, soul, ordinariness; (*adj, n*) moderation.
 ANTONYM: (*n*) excellence.
pedantic: (*adj*) affected, donnish, learned, bookish, formal, scholastic, scholarly, didactic, full of affectation,

fussy; (*adj, v*) pompous.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) basic, dilettante.
roots: (*n*) heredity, family, origin, line, extraction, ancestry.
servile: (*adj*) abject, obsequious, base, fawning, ignoble, sordid, subservient, cringing, slavish; (*adj, n*) mean, low.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) bossy, assertive.
wretch: (*n*) victim, villain, scoundrel, reprobate, reptile, miscreant, martyr, object of compassion, poor devil, prey, wreck.

Such virtues only as admit excess,
 Brave, **bounteous** acts, **regal magnificence**,
 All-seeing prudence, magnanimity
 That knows no bound, and that heroic virtue
 For which **antiquity** hath left no name,
 But patterns only, such as Hercules,
 Achilles, Theseus. Back to thy loath'd cell;
 And when **thou** seest the new **enlightened** sphere,
 Study to know but what those worthies were.

T. CAREW

Thesaurus

antiquity: (*n*) ancientness, ancience, past, relic, status quo, artefact, artifact, oldness, old age, hoariness; (*adj, n*) age. ANTONYMS: (*n*) today, newness, modernity.
bounteous: (*adj*) bountiful, liberal, ample, copious, plentiful, bighearted, generous, munificent, handsome, benevolent, affluent. ANTONYM: (*adj*) scarce.
enlightened: (*adj*) liberal, disillusioned, progressive, cultured,

aware, informed, learned, lettered; (*adj, v*) wise; (*n, v*) savant; (*v*) shrewd. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) puzzled, unenlightened, uninformed, confounded, confused, ignorant, perplexed, wild, reactionary, traditional; (*n*) uninitiate.
magnificence: (*adj, n*) splendor, brilliancy, gorgeousness; (*n*) glory, pomp, brilliance, grandness, greatness, dignity, majesty, loftiness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) paucity, modesty,

shabbiness, poverty, austerity, unattractiveness.
regal: (*adj*) noble, imperial, grand, purple, royal, dignified, kingly, August, imposing, stately, magnificent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) undignified, modest, poor.
thou: (*n*) chiliad, grand, m, g, one thousand, gramme, gram, gm, gigabyte, Gb, curtilage.

WHERE I LIVED, AND WHAT I LIVED FOR

At a certain season of our life we are **accustomed** to consider every spot as the possible site of a house. I have thus surveyed the country on every side within a **dozen** miles of where I live. In imagination I have bought all the farms in succession, for all were to be bought, and I knew their price. I walked over each farmer's premises, tasted his wild apples, discoursed on husbandry with him, took his farm at his price, at any price, mortgaging it to him in my mind; even put a higher price on it -- took everything but a **deed** of it -- took his word for his deed, for I dearly love to talk -- **cultivated** it, and him too to some extent, I trust, and withdrew when I had enjoyed it long enough, leaving him to carry it on. This experience entitled me to be regarded as a sort of real-estate **broker** by my friends. Wherever I sat, there I might live, and the landscape **radiated** from me accordingly. What is a house but a sedes, a seat? -- better if a country seat. I discovered many a site for a house not likely to be soon improved, which some might have thought too far from the village, but to my eyes the village was too far from it. Well, there I might live, I said; and there I did live, for an hour, a summer and a winter life; saw how I could let the years run off, **buffet** the winter through, and see the spring come in. The future inhabitants of this region, wherever they may place their houses, may be sure that they have been **anticipated**. An afternoon sufficed to lay out the land into **orchard**, wood-lot,

Thesaurus

accustomed: (*adj, n*) habitual; (*adj*) familiar, normal, wonted, usual, natural, everyday, ordinary, habituated, common, traditional.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unusual, green, unseasoned, unconventional, untrained, abnormal, uncharacteristic, exceptional.
anticipated: (*adj*) expected, foreseen, predictable, due, estimated, appointed, awaited, coming, forthcoming, natural, planned.

broker: (*n*) mediator, go-between, agent, middleman, factor, dealer, attorney, stockbroker, intermediary, merchant, bailiff.
buffet: (*n, v*) blow, cuff, hit, smack, buff; (*v*) beat, batter, knock, punch; (*n*) restaurant, canteen.
cultivated: (*adj*) cultured, refined, tame, educated, sophisticated, elegant, urbane, polished, accomplished, civil, polite.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) wild, untamed,

uncouth, coarse, graceless.
deed: (*n*) accomplishment, act, feat, behavior, action, exploit, covenant, doing, document, title, fact.
ANTONYM: (*n*) failure.
dozen: (*adj, n*) XII; (*n*) dozens, boxcars.
orchard: (*n*) park, garden, plantation, arboretum, avenue, pinetum, shrubbery, woodlet, parterre, pinery, copse.
radiated: (*adj*) radial, stellar, stelliform, penciled, diffuse.

and pasture, and to decide what fine **oaks** or pines should be left to stand before the door, and **whence** each blasted tree could be seen to the best advantage; and then I let it lie, **fallow**, perchance, for a man is rich in proportion to the number of things which he can afford to let alone.

My imagination carried me so far that I even had the refusal of several farms -- the refusal was all I wanted -- but I never got my fingers burned by actual possession. The nearest that I came to actual possession was when I bought the Hollowell place, and had **begun** to sort my seeds, and collected materials with which to make a **wheelbarrow** to carry it on or off with; but before the owner gave me a deed of it, his wife -- every man has such a wife -- changed her mind and wished to keep it, and he offered me ten dollars to release him. Now, to speak the truth, I had but ten cents in the world, and it surpassed my **arithmetic** to tell, if I was that man who had ten cents, or who had a farm, or ten dollars, or all together. However, I let him keep the ten dollars and the farm too, for I had carried it far enough; or rather, to be generous, I sold him the farm for just what I gave for it, and, as he was not a rich man, made him a present of ten dollars, and still had my ten cents, and seeds, and materials for a wheelbarrow left. I found thus that I had been a rich man without any damage to my poverty. But I retained the landscape, and I have since annually carried off what it **yielded** without a wheelbarrow. With respect to landscapes,

"I am monarch of all I survey,
My right there is none to dispute."

I have frequently seen a poet withdraw, having enjoyed the most valuable part of a farm, while the **crusty** farmer supposed that he had got a few wild apples only. Why, the owner does not know it for many years when a poet has put his farm in **rhyme**, the most admirable kind of invisible fence, has fairly impounded it, milked it, **skimmed** it, and got all the cream, and left the farmer only the skimmed milk.

Thesaurus

arithmetic: (*adj*) arithmetical, numerical; (*n*) calculation, computation, algorism, mathematics, math, estimate, weighing up; (*v*) fluxions, geometry.
begun: (*adj*) present.
crusty: (*adj*) brusque, crotchety, crabbed, crusted, curt, gruff, cantankerous, cross, churlish, abrupt, rough. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) soft, pleasant, bendable, cheerful, easygoing, elastic, flexible, happy,

pliable, pliant, friendly.
fallow: (*adj*) dormant, yellow, unbroken, uncultivated, citrine, aureate, idle, unplanted, unseeded; (*n*) tillage, tilth. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) planted, fertile, cultivated, active, prolific, creative.
oaks: (*n*) beech family, Castanopsis, Nothofagus, Lithocarpus, genus Quercus, Genera Castanea, family Fagaceae, Fagus, Fagaceae, chestnuts.
rhyme: (*n*) poetry, verse, poem, song,

alliteration, numbers, rhythm; (*n, v*) rime, measure; (*v*) poetize, versify.
skimmed: (*v*) flet, flotten.
wheelbarrow: (*n*) barrow, handcart, pushcart, lawn cart, garden cart, tumulus, burial mound, truck, barrowful, grave mound.
whence: (*adv*) wherefrom, hence, because, for, why, wherefore, how, then, then thence so, how comes it, how happens it.
yielded: (*v*) yold, yolden.

The real attractions of the Hollowell farm, to me, were: its complete retirement, being, about two miles from the village, half a mile from the nearest neighbor, and separated from the highway by a broad field; its **bounding** on the river, which the owner said protected it by its fogs from frosts in the spring, though that was nothing to me; the gray color and **ruinous** state of the house and barn, and the **dilapidated** fences, which put such an interval between me and the last **occupant**; the hollow and lichen-covered apple trees, nawed by rabbits, showing what kind of neighbors I should have; but above all, the recollection I had of it from my earliest voyages up the river, when the house was concealed behind a dense grove of red maples, through which I heard the house-dog bark. I was in haste to buy it, before the proprietor finished getting out some rocks, cutting down the hollow apple trees, and **grubbing** up some young birches which had sprung up in the pasture, or, in short, had made any more of his improvements. To enjoy these advantages I was ready to carry it on; like Atlas, to take the world on my shoulders -- I never heard what compensation he received for that -- and do all those things which had no other motive or excuse but that I might pay for it and be **unmolested** in my possession of it; for I knew all the while that it would yield the most abundant crop of the kind I wanted, if I could only afford to let it alone. But it turned out as I have said.

All that I could say, then, with respect to farming on a large scale -- I have always cultivated a garden -- was, that I had had my seeds ready. Many think that seeds improve with age. I have no doubt that time discriminates between the good and the bad; and when at last I shall plant, I shall be less likely to be disappointed. But I would say to my fellows, once for all, As long as possible live free and **uncommitted**. It makes but little difference whether you are committed to a farm or the county jail.

Old Cato, whose "De Re Rustica" is my "Cultivator," says -- and the only translation I have seen makes sheer nonsense of the passage -- "When you think of getting a farm turn it thus in your mind, not to buy **greedily**; nor spare your pains to look at it, and do not think it enough to go round it once. The oftener you go there the more it will please you, if it is good." I think I shall not buy

Thesaurus

bounding: (*n*) jumping, confinement; (*v*) confine, salient; (*adj*) terminal, moving, subsultory.

dilapidated: (*adj, v*) bedraggled, frayed; (*adj*) decayed, decrepit, derelict, shabby, worn out, rickety, broken, ragged, damaged.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pristine, elegant, trim, tidy, thriving, sound, solid, intact, sturdy, habitable.

greedily: (*adv*) covetously, avidly, voraciously, ravenously, rapaciously,

acquisitively, gluttonously, hungrily, graspingly, eagerly, enviously.
ANTONYM: (*adv*) sparingly.

grubbing: (*adj*) studious.

occupant: (*n*) tenant, inhabitant, dweller, denizen, occupier, inmate, holder, citizen, householder, dalesman, coaster.

ruinous: (*adj*) harmful, baleful, disastrous, calamitous, injurious, deleterious, dilapidated, blasting, baneful, pernicious; (*adj, n*)

subversive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) beneficial, fortunate, harmless.

uncommitted: (*adj*) free, available, neutral, weak, not busy, unpromised, lax, detached, unengaged, desultory, unpledged. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) devoted, attached, resolute, pious, involved, loyal, wholehearted.

unmolested: (*adj*) undisturbed, untroubled, unthreatened, peaceable, tranquil, still, smooth, safe, quiet; (*v*) unafflicted, unplagued.

greedily, but go round and round it as long as I live, and be buried in it first, that it may please me the more at last.

The present was my next experiment of this kind, which I purpose to describe more at length, for convenience putting the experience of two years into one. As I have said, I do not propose to write an ode to **dejection**, but to brag as **lustily** as **chanticleer** in the morning, standing on his **roost**, if only to wake my neighbors up.

When first I took up my abode in the woods, that is, began to spend my nights as well as days there, which, by accident, was on Independence Day, or the Fourth of July, 1845, my house was not finished for winter, but was merely a defence against the rain, without plastering or chimney, the walls being of rough, weather-stained boards, with wide chinks, which made it cool at night. The upright white **hewn** studs and freshly **planed** door and window casings gave it a clean and airy look, especially in the morning, when its timbers were **saturated** with dew, so that I fancied that by noon some sweet gum would **exude** from them. To my imagination it retained throughout the day more or less of this **auroral** character, reminding me of a certain house on a mountain which I had visited a year before. This was an airy and unplastered cabin, fit to entertain a travelling god, and where a goddess might trail her garments. The winds which passed over my dwelling were such as sweep over the ridges of mountains, bearing the broken strains, or celestial parts only, of terrestrial music. The morning wind forever blows, the poem of creation is uninterrupted; but few are the ears that hear it. Olympus is but the outside of the earth everywhere.

The only house I had been the owner of before, if I except a boat, was a tent, which I used occasionally when making excursions in the summer, and this is still rolled up in my garret; but the boat, after passing from hand to hand, has gone down the stream of time. With this more substantial shelter about me, I had made some progress toward settling in the world. This frame, so slightly clad, was a sort of **crystallization** around me, and reacted on the builder. It was suggestive somewhat as a picture in outlines. I did not need to go outdoors to

Thesaurus

auroral: (*adj*) bright.

chanticleer: (*n*) dunghill cock, partlet, rooster, barn door fowl, hen, poultry, chicken, fowl.

crystallization: (*n*) crystallisation, crystal, crystallizing, condensation, chemical phenomenon, crystallurgy, efflorescence, formation; (*adj*) precipitation; (*v*) crystallize.

dejection: (*n*) discouragement, depression, sadness, despair, sorrow, woe, grief, melancholy, blues,

desolation, despondency.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) cheerfulness, ecstasy, encouragement, hopefulness, joy, cheer.

exude: (*v*) ooze, excrete, secrete, sweat, exudate, discharge, show, transude, seep, release, transpire.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) conceal, hide, absorb.

hewn: (*adj*) downed.

lustily: (*adv*) stoutly, energetically, robustly, powerfully, vigorously,

mightily, halely, strappingly, potently, sturdily, heartily.

planed: (*adj*) smooth, varnished, level, glossed, buffed, finished.

roost: (*adj, v*) lodge, reside, stay, abide, dwell, inhabit, live; (*v*) rest, settle; (*n*) henroost, resort.

saturated: (*adj, v*) sodden; (*adj*) drenched, concentrated, sopping, soaked, full, soggy, soppy, wet through, pure; (*v*) impregnate. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unsaturated.

take the air, for the atmosphere within had lost none of its freshness. It was not so much within doors as behind a door where I sat, even in the rainiest weather. The Harivansa says, "An abode without birds is like a meat without seasoning." Such was not my abode, for I found myself suddenly neighbor to the birds; not by having imprisoned one, but having caged myself near them. I was not only nearer to some of those which commonly frequent the garden and the orchard, but to those smaller and more thrilling songsters of the forest which never, or rarely, **serenade** a **villager** -- the wood thrush, the **veery**, the scarlet **tanager**, the field sparrow, the whip-poor-will, and many others.

I was seated by the shore of a small pond, about a mile and a half south of the village of Concord and somewhat higher than it, in the midst of an extensive wood between that town and Lincoln, and about two miles south of that our only field known to fame, Concord Battle Ground; but I was so low in the woods that the opposite shore, half a mile off, like the rest, covered with wood, was my most distant horizon. For the first week, whenever I looked out on the pond it impressed me like a **tarn** high up on the side of a mountain, its bottom far above the surface of other lakes, and, as the sun arose, I saw it throwing off its nightly clothing of mist, and here and there, by degrees, its soft ripples or its smooth reflecting surface was revealed, while the mists, like ghosts, were **stealthily** withdrawing in every direction into the woods, as at the breaking up of some nocturnal **convective**. The very dew seemed to hang upon the trees later into the day than usual, as on the sides of mountains.

This small lake was of most value as a neighbor in the intervals of a gentle rain-storm in August, when, both air and water being perfectly still, but the sky **overcast**, mid-afternoon had all the serenity of evening, and the wood thrush sang around, and was heard from shore to shore. A lake like this is never **smoother** than at such a time; and the clear portion of the air above it being, shallow and darkened by clouds, the water, full of light and reflections, becomes a lower heaven itself so much the more important. From a hill-top near by, where the wood had been recently cut off, there was a pleasing vista **southward** across the pond, through a wide **indentation** in the hills which form the shore

Thesaurus

convective: (*n*) meetinghouse, clique, assembly, caucus, meeting, tabernacle, cathedral, Bethel, kirk, convention, church.

indentation: (*n*) pit, depression, hollow, impression, indent, dip, notch, impress, concavity; (*n, v*) nick; (*adj*) concave. ANTONYMS: (*n*) lump, bump.

overcast: (*adj*) dark, cloudy, dim, dull, gloomy, heavy, muddy, dismal; (*n, v*) cloud; (*adj, v*) obscure; (*v*) darken.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sunny, clear.

serenade: (*n*) divertimento, chivaree, cheer, canon, callithump, callathump, bellring, charivari, song, opus; (*v*) court.

smoother: (*n*) drum sander, electric sander, sander, power tool.

southward: (*adv*) southwards, southernly; (*adj*) southbound, southern.

stealthily: (*adv*) furtively, sneakily, surreptitiously, covertly,

clandestinely, underhandly, underhandedly, in secret, privately, sneakingly; (*adj, adv*) noiselessly.

ANTONYM: (*adv*) brazenly.

tanager: (*n*) redbird, firebird.
tarn: (*n*) mere, lake, loch, pond, lough, well, pool, puddle, slab, tairn, mountain lake.

veery: (*n*) thrush, Hylocichla, hermit thrush.

villager: (*n*) denizen, dweller, inhabitant.

there, where their opposite sides sloping toward each other suggested a stream flowing out in that direction through a wooded valley, but stream there was none. That way I looked between and over the near green hills to some distant and higher ones in the horizon, **tinged** with blue. Indeed, by standing on **tiptoe** I could catch a glimpse of some of the peaks of the still bluer and more distant mountain ranges in the northwest, those **true-blue** coins from heaven's own mint, and also of some portion of the village. But in other directions, even from this point, I could not see over or beyond the woods which surrounded me. It is well to have some water in your neighborhood, to give buoyancy to and float the earth. One value even of the smallest well is, that when you look into it you see that earth is not continent but **insular**. This is as important as that it keeps butter cool. When I looked across the pond from this peak toward the Sudbury meadows, which in time of flood I distinguished elevated perhaps by a **mirage** in their **seething** valley, like a coin in a basin, all the earth beyond the pond appeared like a thin crust **insulated** and floated even by this small sheet of interverting water, and I was reminded that this on which I dwelt was but dry land.

Though the view from my door was still more contracted, I did not feel crowded or confined in the least. There was pasture enough for my imagination. The low shrub oak plateau to which the opposite shore arose stretched away toward the prairies of the West and the steppes of Tartary, affording ample room for all the **roving** families of men. "There are none happy in the world but beings who enjoy freely a vast horizon" -- said Damodara, when his herds required new and larger pastures.

Both place and time were changed, and I dwelt nearer to those parts of the universe and to those eras in history which had most attracted me. Where I lived was as far off as many a region viewed nightly by astronomers. We are wont to imagine rare and **delectable** places in some remote and more celestial corner of the system, behind the constellation of Cassiopeia's Chair, far from noise and disturbance. I discovered that my house actually had its site in such a withdrawn, but forever new and unprofaned, part of the universe. If it were

Thesaurus

delectable: (*adj*) luscious, tasty, scrumptious, dainty, savory, charming, appetizing, palatable, delightful, lovely; (*adj, v*) sweet. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) nauseating, offensive, sickening, tasteless, unpleasant, disagreeable, disgusting, unappealing, detestable.

insular: (*adj*) parochial, secluded, blinkered, discrete, isolated, narrow, adrift, detached, lonely, seagirt, circumscribed. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

tolerant, broadminded.

insulated: (*adj*) cloistered.

mirage: (*n, v*) illusion; (*n*) delusion, fancy, vision, fantasy, phantom, misconception; (*v*) distortion, anamorphosis, false light, phasma. ANTONYM: (*n*) reality.

roving: (*adj, v*) itinerant, Peripatetic, ambulatory; (*v*) roam; (*adj, n*) wandering; (*adj*) rambling, mobile, migratory, peregrine, unsettled, vagabond.

seething: (*v*) ebullient; (*adj*) irate, raging, enraged, spitting mad, beside yourself, teed off, packed; (*n*) ebullition, tumult, digestion.

tinged: (*adj*) plausible, bright, painted, fey, touched, specious, colorful, stained, tined, dyed, tinct.

tiptoe: (*v*) tip, tippytoe, creep, patter, skirt, skip, tilt, sidle, lean; (*adj*) alert; (*n*) quieter. ANTONYM: (*v*) clump.

true-blue: (*adj*) staunch, true, loyal, steadfast, tried.

worth the while to settle in those parts near to the Pleiades or the Hyades, to Aldebaran or Altair, then I was really there, or at an equal remoteness from the life which I had left behind, dwindled and **twinkling** with as fine a ray to my nearest neighbor, and to be seen only in moonless nights by him. Such was that part of creation where I had squatted;

"There was a shepherd that did live,
And held his thoughts as high
As were the mounts whereon his flocks
Did hourly feed him by."

What should we think of the shepherd's life if his flocks always wandered to higher pastures than his thoughts?

Every morning was a cheerful invitation to make my life of equal simplicity, and I may say innocence, with Nature herself. I have been as sincere a **worshipper** of Aurora as the Greeks. I got up early and bathed in the pond; that was a religious exercise, and one of the best things which I did. They say that characters were engraven on the bathing tub of King Tchingthang to this effect: "Renew thyself completely each day; do it again, and again, and forever again." I can understand that. Morning brings back the heroic ages. I was as much affected by the faint hum of a mosquito making its invisible and **unimaginable** tour through my apartment at earliest dawn, when I was sitting with door and windows open, as I could be by any trumpet that ever sang of fame. It was Homer's **requiem**; itself an Iliad and Odyssey in the air, singing its own wrath and **wanderings**. There was something **cosmical** about it; a standing advertisement, till forbidden, of the everlasting **vigor** and fertility of the world. The morning, which is the most memorable season of the day, is the awakening hour. Then there is least **somnolence** in us; and for an hour, at least, some part of us awakes which slumbers all the rest of the day and night. Little is to be expected of that day, if it can be called a day, to which we are not awakened by our Genius, but by the mechanical nudgings of some **servitor**, are not awakened

Thesaurus

cosmical: (*adj*) systematical.

requiem: (*n*) lament, elegy, epicedium, threnody, song, funeral song, lamentation, plaint; (*adj, n*) coronach; (*adj*) nenia, deep death song.

servitor: (*n*) retainer, henchman, manservant, follower, lackey, footman, attache, housemaid, employe, maidservant; (*v*) beadle.

somnolence: (*n*) drowsiness, sleepiness, somnolency, drowse, lethargy, coma, rest, stupor,

hypersomnia.

twinkling: (*n*) moment, jiffy, minute, second, flash, trice, twinkle, wink, split second, breath; (*adj*) sparkling. ANTONYM: (*adj*) dull.

unimaginable: (*adj*) impossible, unthinkable, incredible, unbelievable, out of the question, unspeakable, miraculous, untold, unsolicited, unlikely; (*adj, v*) unimaginable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) describable, believable.

vigor: (*n, v*) energy; (*adj, n*) intensity; (*n*) spirit, vitality, force, life, strength, power, might, vim, stamina.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) weakness, apathy, frailty, laziness, enervation, inactivity, indifference, illness, lifelessness, sluggishness, tardiness.

wanderings: (*n*) peregrination.

worshipper: (*n*) admirer, monotheist, theosophist, theist, pilgrim, mystic, believer, pantheist, adorer, devotee, fan.

by our own newly acquired force and aspirations from within, accompanied by the undulations of celestial music, instead of factory bells, and a fragrance filling the air -- to a higher life than we fell asleep from; and thus the darkness bear its fruit, and prove itself to be good, no less than the light. That man who does not believe that each day contains an earlier, more sacred, and auroral hour than he has yet **profaned**, has despaired of life, and is **pursuing** a descending and darkening way. After a partial cessation of his sensuous life, the soul of man, or its organs rather, are **reinvigorated** each day, and his Genius tries again what noble life it can make. All memorable events, I should say, **transpire** in morning time and in a morning atmosphere. The Vedas say, "All intelligences awake with the morning." Poetry and art, and the fairest and most memorable of the actions of men, date from such an hour. All poets and heroes, like Memnon, are the children of Aurora, and emit their music at sunrise. To him whose elastic and vigorous thought keeps pace with the sun, the day is a perpetual morning. It matters not what the clocks say or the attitudes and labors of men. Morning is when I am awake and there is a dawn in me. Moral reform is the effort to throw off sleep. Why is it that men give so poor an account of their day if they have not been **slumbering**? They are not such poor calculators. If they had not been overcome with **drowsiness**, they would have performed something. The millions are awake enough for physical labor; but only one in a million is awake enough for effective intellectual exertion, only one in a hundred millions to a poetic or divine life. To be awake is to be alive. I have never yet met a man who was quite awake. How could I have looked him in the face?

We must learn to **reawaken** and keep ourselves awake, not by mechanical aids, but by an infinite expectation of the dawn, which does not forsake us in our soundest sleep. I know of no more encouraging fact than the **unquestionable** ability of man to **elevate** his life by a conscious endeavor. It is something to be able to paint a particular picture, or to carve a statue, and so to make a few objects beautiful; but it is far more glorious to carve and paint the very atmosphere and medium through which we look, which morally we can do. To affect the quality of the day, that is the highest of arts. Every man is tasked to make his life, even in its details, worthy of the contemplation of his most

Thesaurus

drowsiness: (*n*) sleepiness, lethargy, dullness, doziness, laziness, somnolency, inertia, drowse, lassitude, languor, sluggishness.
ANTONYM: (*n*) alertness.
elevate: (*v*) advance, lift, hoist, erect, exalt, boost, rear, cheer, promote, dignify, uphold. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) demote, drop, downgrade, depress, decrease, reduce.
profaned: (*adj*) defiled, impure, unclean.

pursuing: (*n*) pursuit, search, hunt; (*adj*) coming, engaged.
reawaken: (*v*) revive, rejuvenate, reproduce, arouse, restart, stimulate, breathe life into, awaken, bring back, reanimate, revitalize. **ANTONYM:** (*v*) calm.
reinvigorated: (*adj*) invigorated, fresh, clean, refreshing, refreshful, overbold, novel, new, impertinent, bracing, energising.
slumbering: (*adj*) dormant, asleep,

latent. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) awake.
transpire: (*v*) occur, pass, evaporate, exhale, befall, come out, come about, arise, fume, exude, ensue.
unquestionable: (*adj*) incontrovertible, indisputable, sure, incontestable, indubitable, certain, unequivocal, irrefutable, undoubted, definite; (*v*) unimpeachable. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) dubious, uncertain, doubtful, indefinite, tenuous, provisional, debatable, disputable.

elevated and critical hour. If we refused, or rather used up, such **paltry** information as we get, the oracles would distinctly inform us how this might be done.

I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived. I did not wish to live what was not life, living is so dear; nor did I wish to practise resignation, unless it was quite necessary. I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so **sturdily** and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life, to cut a broad **swath** and shave close, to drive life into a corner, and reduce it to its lowest terms, and, if it proved to be mean, why then to get the whole and genuine **meanness** of it, and publish its meanness to the world; or if it were sublime, to know it by experience, and be able to give a true account of it in my next excursion. For most men, it appears to me, are in a strange uncertainty about it, whether it is of the devil or of God, and have somewhat hastily concluded that it is the chief end of man here to "glorify God and enjoy him forever."

Still we live **meanly**, like ants; though the fable tells us that we were long ago changed into men; like pygmies we fight with cranes; it is error upon error, and clout upon clout, and our best virtue has for its occasion a superfluous and **evitable wretchedness**. Our life is frittered away by detail. An honest man has hardly need to count more than his ten fingers, or in extreme cases he may add his ten toes, and lump the rest. Simplicity, simplicity, simplicity! I say, let your affairs be as two or three, and not a hundred or a thousand; instead of a million count half a dozen, and keep your accounts on your thumb-nail. In the midst of this **chopping** sea of civilized life, such are the clouds and storms and quicksands and thousand-and-one items to be allowed for, that a man has to live, if he would not founder and go to the bottom and not make his port at all, by dead reckoning, and he must be a great calculator indeed who succeeds. Simplify, simplify. Instead of three meals a day, if it be necessary eat but one; instead of a hundred dishes, five; and reduce other things in proportion. Our life is like a German Confederacy, made up of petty states, with its boundary forever

Thesaurus

chopping: (*adj*) jolly.

evitable: (*adj*) avoidable, avertible, avertable.

meanly: (*adv*) poorly, nastily, averagely, humbly, ungenerously, tightly, rudely, stingily, parsimoniously, scurvily, mediocrelly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) generously, sympathetically, compassionately, genially, respectfully, pleasantly, affluently.

meanness: (*n*) parsimony, closeness,

pettiness, avarice, selfishness, baseness, stinginess, niggardliness, miserliness, nastiness; (*adj, n*) degeneracy. ANTONYMS: (*n*) generosity, extravagance, decency.

paltry: (*adj, n*) mean; (*adj*) contemptible, measly, trifling, abject, insignificant, inconsiderable, puny, little, trivial, low. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) generous, substantial, plentiful, enormous, important, profound.

sturdily: (*adv*) strongly, firmly, stoutly,

solidly, robustly, hardily, powerfully, soundly, hardly, substantially, stalwartly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) lightly, flimsily, slightly.

swath: (*n*) swathe, band, track, windrow, swarth, short grass, space, bandage, swath width, swath, smash.

wretchedness: (*n*) unhappiness, grief, distress, desolation, woe, sorrow, anguish, infelicity, tribulation, affliction, misfortune.

fluctuating, so that even a German cannot tell you how it is **bounded** at any moment. The nation itself, with all its so-called internal improvements, which, by the way are all external and superficial, is just such an **unwieldy** and overgrown establishment, cluttered with furniture and tripped up by its own traps, ruined by luxury and **heedless** expense, by want of calculation and a worthy aim, as the million households in the land; and the only cure for it, as for them, is in a rigid economy, a stern and more than Spartan simplicity of life and elevation of purpose. It lives too fast. Men think that it is essential that the Nation have commerce, and export ice, and talk through a telegraph, and ride thirty miles an hour, without a doubt, whether they do or not; but whether we should live like **baboons** or like men, is a little uncertain. If we do not get out **sleepers**, and forge rails, and devote days and **nights** to the work, but go to tinkering upon our lives to improve them, who will build railroads? And if railroads are not built, how shall we get to heaven in season? But if we stay at home and mind our business, who will want railroads? We do not ride on the railroad; it rides upon us. Did you ever think what those sleepers are that underlie the railroad? Each one is a man, an Irishman, or a Yankee man. The rails are laid on them, and they are covered with sand, and the cars run smoothly over them. They are sound sleepers, I assure you. And every few years a new lot is laid down and run over; so that, if some have the pleasure of riding on a rail, others have the misfortune to be ridden upon. And when they run over a man that is walking in his sleep, a **supernumerary** sleeper in the wrong position, and wake him up, they suddenly stop the cars, and make a hue and cry about it, as if this were an exception. I am glad to know that it takes a gang of men for every five miles to keep the sleepers down and level in their beds as it is, for this is a sign that they may sometime get up again.

Why should we live with such hurry and waste of life? We are determined to be **starved** before we are hungry. Men say that a stitch in time saves nine, and so they take a thousand stitches today to save nine tomorrow. As for work, we haven't any of any consequence. We have the Saint Vitus' dance, and cannot possibly keep our heads still. If I should only give a few pulls at the parish bell-rope, as for a fire, that is, without setting the bell, there is hardly a man on his

Thesaurus

baboons: (*n*) Papio, genus Papio.

bounded: (*adj*) restricted, limited, delimited, encircled, enclosed, confined, leap, spring, bordered, circumscribed, constrained.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unbounded, unconfined, unlimited, free.

heedless: (*adj*) careless, reckless, inattentive, neglectful, negligent, thoughtless, rash, regardless, unwary, indifferent; (*adj, v*) wanton.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) heedful, attentive,

mindful, conscientious, prudent, careful, cautious.

nights: (*adj*) nightly; (*n*) night.

sleeper: (*n*) railroad tie, crosstie, tie, noctambulist, baggage car, slumberer, dreamer, Pullman car, freight car, parlor car, express car.

starved: (*adj*) famished, starving, ravenous, meager, emaciated, malnourished, thin, esurient, hungerly, lean, starveling.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) healthy.

supernumerary: (*adj, v*) spare; (*adj, n*) additional; (*adj*) redundant, superfluous, supererogatory, surplus, excess, otiose; (*n*) super, spear carrier, increment.

unwieldy: (*adj*) clumsy, cumbersome, unmanageable, heavy, bulky, ponderous, gawky, massive, ungainly, lumbering; (*v*) cumbrous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) convenient, manageable, wieldy, compact, handy, dainty, light.

farm in the outskirts of Concord, notwithstanding that press of engagements which was his excuse so many times this morning, nor a boy, nor a woman, I might almost say, but would forsake all and follow that sound, not mainly to save property from the flames, but, if we will confess the truth, much more to see it burn, since burn it must, and we, be it known, did not set it on fire -- or to see it put out, and have a hand in it, if that is done as **handsomely**; yes, even if it were the parish church itself. Hardly a man takes a half-hour's nap after dinner, but when he wakes he holds up his head and asks, "What's the news?" as if the rest of mankind had stood his sentinels. Some give directions to be waked every half-hour, doubtless for no other purpose; and then, to pay for it, they tell what they have dreamed. After a night's sleep the news is as indispensable as the breakfast. "Pray tell me anything new that has happened to a man anywhere on this globe" -- and he reads it over his coffee and rolls, that a man has had his eyes gouged out this morning on the Wachito River; never dreaming the while that he lives in the dark **unfathomed mammoth** cave of this world, and has but the **rudiment** of an eye himself.

For my part, I could easily do without the post-office. I think that there are very few important communications made through it. To speak critically, I never received more than one or two letters in my life -- I wrote this some years ago -- that were worth the **postage**. The penny-post is, commonly, an institution through which you seriously offer a man that penny for his thoughts which is so often safely offered in **jest**. And I am sure that I never read any memorable news in a newspaper. If we read of one man **robbed**, or murdered, or killed by accident, or one house burned, or one vessel wrecked, or one **steamboat** blown up, or one cow run over on the Western Railroad, or one mad dog killed, or one lot of grasshoppers in the winter -- we never need read of another. One is enough. If you are acquainted with the principle, what do you care for a **myriad** instances and applications? To a philosopher all news, as it is called, is gossip, and they who edit and read it are old women over their tea. Yet not a few are greedy after this gossip. There was such a rush, as I hear, the other day at one of the **offices** to learn the foreign news by the last arrival, that several large squares of plate glass belonging to the establishment were broken by the pressure -- news

Thesaurus

handsomely: (*adv*) liberally, prettily, magnanimously, bonnily, largely, lovely, charmingly, finely, generously, good-lookingly, smartly.
ANTONYM: (*adv*) poorly.
jest: (*n*) gag, gibe, quip, game; (*n, v*) jape; (*v*) banter, jeer, deride, gird, sneer, clown.
mammoth: (*adj*) gigantic, jumbo, huge, colossal, immense, enormous, monstrous, gargantuan, vast, great; (*adj, n*) monster. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*)

tiny, small.
myriad: (*adj*) innumerable, countless, multitudinous, numerous, numberless, infinite, untold, many; (*adj, n*) legion, scads; (*n*) ten thousand.
offices: (*n*) kitchen, pantry, scullery.
postage: (*n*) postage stamp, token, seal, cast, postage expense, value or prepayment, mold, item, franking, pestle, impression.
robbed: (*adj*) plundered, rubato,

fleeced, borrowed, bereft.
rudiment: (*n*) basis, fundamental, germ, element, egg, principle, essential, embryo, bedrock, fundamentals, vestige.
steamboat: (*n*) liner, steamer, steam boat, steamship, cruise ship, ocean liner.
unfathomed: (*adj*) complete, deep, fundamental, heavy, silent, sound, unfathomable, unlimited, unplumbed, unsounded.

which I seriously think a ready wit might write a twelve-month, or twelve years, beforehand with sufficient accuracy. As for Spain, for instance, if you know how to throw in Don Carlos and the Infanta, and Don Pedro and Seville and Granada, from time to time in the right proportions -- they may have changed the names a little since I saw the papers -- and serve up a bull-fight when other entertainments fail, it will be true to the letter, and give us as good an idea of the exact state or ruin of things in Spain as the most **succinct** and lucid reports under this head in the newspapers: and as for England, almost the last significant scrap of news from that quarter was the revolution of 1649; and if you have learned the history of her crops for an average year, you never need attend to that thing again, unless your speculations are of a merely pecuniary character. If one may judge who rarely looks into the newspapers, nothing new does ever happen in foreign parts, a French revolution not excepted.

What news! how much more important to know what that is which was never old! "Kieou-he-yu (great **dignitary** of the state of Wei) sent a man to Khoung-tseu to know his news. Khoung-tseu caused the messenger to be seated near him, and questioned him in these terms: What is your master doing? The messenger answered with respect: My master desires to diminish the number of his faults, but he cannot come to the end of them. The messenger being gone, the philosopher remarked: What a worthy messenger! What a worthy messenger!" The **preacher**, instead of **vexing** the ears of **drowsy** farmers on their day of rest at the end of the week -- for Sunday is the fit conclusion of an ill-spent week, and not the fresh and brave beginning of a new one -- with this one other draggle-tail of a sermon, should shout with **thundering** voice, "Pause! Avast! Why so seeming fast, but deadly slow?"

Shams and **delusions** are esteemed for soundest truths, while reality is fabulous. If men would steadily observe realities only, and not allow themselves to be **deluded**, life, to compare it with such things as we know, would be like a fairy tale and the Arabian Nights' Entertainments. If we respected only what is inevitable and has a right to be, music and poetry would resound along the streets. When we are **unhurried** and wise, we perceive that only great and

Thesaurus

deluded: (*adj*) besotted, mistaken.

delusions: (*n*) delusion, mental illness.

dignitary: (*n*) notable, celebrity, big shot, dignity, officer, grandee, very important person, public figure, personage, person, panjandrum.

drowsy: (*adj, n*) sleepy; (*adj*) lazy, comatose, somnolent, slow, lethargic, sluggish, dull, indolent, soporific, listless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) energetic, awake, lively, vigorous, vivacious, refreshed.

preacher: (*n*) missionary, parson, lecturer, clergyman, evangelist, pastor, priest, sermonizer, revivalist, gospeler, preachers.

succinct: (*adj*) concise, brief, compendious, short, summary, pithy, laconic, condensed, compact, curt, sententious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) long, convoluted.

thundering: (*adj*) thumping, whopping, lumpish, gaunt, hulky, lubberly, spanking, big, loud, striking

terror; (*n*) thunder.

unhurried: (*adj*) slow, gradual, deliberate, calm, languid, easy, sluggish, measured, torpid, lenient, blas. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rushed, vigorous, strict, fast, thoughtless, speedy.

vexing: (*adj*) irritating, infuriating, maddening, annoying, galling, troublesome, bothersome, aggravating, exasperating, irksome, pestiferous.

worthy things have any permanent and absolute existence, that petty **fears** and petty **pleasures** are but the shadow of the reality. This is always exhilarating and sublime. By closing the eyes and slumbering, and **consenting** to be **deceived** by shows, men establish and confirm their daily life of routine and habit everywhere, which still is built on purely illusory foundations. Children, who play life, discern its true law and relations more clearly than men, who fail to live it **worthily**, but who think that they are wiser by experience, that is, by failure. I have read in a Hindoo book, that "there was a king's son, who, being expelled in infancy from his native city, was brought up by a forester, and, growing up to maturity in that state, imagined himself to belong to the barbarous race with which he lived. One of his father's ministers having discovered him, revealed to him what he was, and the **misconception** of his character was removed, and he knew himself to be a prince. So soul," continues the Hindoo philosopher, "from the circumstances in which it is placed, mistakes its own character, until the truth is revealed to it by some holy teacher, and then it knows itself to be Brahme." I perceive that we inhabitants of New England live this mean life that we do because our vision does not penetrate the surface of things. We think that that is which appears to be. If a man should walk through this town and see only the reality, where, think you, would the "Mill-dam" go to? If he should give us an account of the realities he **beheld** there, we should not recognize the place in his description. Look at a meeting-house, or a court-house, or a jail, or a shop, or a dwelling-house, and say what that thing really is before a true gaze, and they would all go to pieces in your account of them. Men esteem truth remote, in the outskirts of the system, behind the **farthest** star, before Adam and after the last man. In eternity there is indeed something true and sublime. But all these times and places and occasions are now and here. God himself culminates in the present moment, and will never be more divine in the lapse of all the ages. And we are enabled to **apprehend** at all what is sublime and noble only by the perpetual **instilling** and **drenching** of the reality that surrounds us. The universe constantly and obediently answers to our conceptions; whether we travel fast or slow, the track is laid for us. Let us spend our lives in conceiving

Thesaurus

apprehend: (*v*) arrest, comprehend, grasp, catch, understand, fathom, realize, sense, follow, nail; (*adj*, *v*) conceive. ANTONYMS: (*v*) misunderstand, discharge, free, liberate.
beheld: (*adj*) visual.
consenting: (*adj*) agreeable, yielding, submissive, consentant, compliant, affirmative, accepting; (*v*) complying, chosen.
deceived: (*adj*) mistaken, misguided.

drenching: (*adj*, *n*) soaking; (*n*) wetting, dipsomaniac, sousing, dip, boozier, alcoholic.
farthest: (*adj*) ultimate, extreme, farthestmost, utmost, uttermost, last, furthestmost, endmost, greatest, most distant; (*adj*, *adv*) remotest. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) closest, nearest.
fears: (*n*) worries, uncertainties, doubts, qualms, misgivings.
instilling: (*n*) inculcation, ingraining, indoctrination.

misconception: (*n*) misapprehension, error, mistake, fallacy, delusion, illusion, mirage, fantasy, fancy, misinterpretation, paralogism. ANTONYMS: (*n*) concept, fact.
pleasures: (*n*) pleasure.
worthily: (*adv*) excellently, honorably, becomingly, praiseworthy, deservedly, splendidly, generously, meritoriously, virtuously, uprightly, goodly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) badly, dishonorably.

then. The poet or the artist never yet had so fair and noble a design but some of his posterity at least could accomplish it.

Let us spend one day as deliberately as Nature, and not be thrown off the track by every **nutshell** and mosquito's wing that falls on the rails. Let us rise early and fast, or break fast, gently and without **perturbation**; let company come and let company go, let the bells ring and the children cry -- determined to make a day of it. Why should we knock under and go with the stream? Let us not be upset and overwhelmed in that terrible rapid and **whirlpool** called a dinner, situated in the **meridian shallows**. Weather this danger and you are safe, for the rest of the way is down hill. With **unrelaxed** nerves, with morning vigor, sail by it, looking another way, tied to the mast like Ulysses. If the engine whistles, let it whistle till it is hoarse for its pains. If the bell rings, why should we run? We will consider what kind of music they are like. Let us settle ourselves, and work and wedge our feet downward through the mud and **slush** of opinion, and prejudice, and tradition, and delusion, and appearance, that **alluvion** which covers the globe, through Paris and London, through New York and Boston and Concord, through Church and State, through poetry and philosophy and religion, till we come to a hard bottom and rocks in place, which we can call reality, and say, This is, and no mistake; and then begin, having a point d'appui, below **freshet** and frost and fire, a place where you might find a wall or a state, or set a lamp-post safely, or perhaps a gauge, not a Nilometer, but a Realometer, that future ages might know how deep a freshet of shams and appearances had gathered from time to time. If you stand right **fronting** and face to face to a fact, you will see the sun glimmer on both its surfaces, as if it were a **cimeter**, and feel its sweet edge dividing you through the heart and marrow, and so you will happily conclude your mortal career. Be it life or death, we crave only reality. If we are really dying, let us hear the rattle in our throats and feel cold in the extremities; if we are alive, let us go about our business.

Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in. I drink at it; but while I drink I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. Its thin current slides away, but eternity remains. I would drink deeper; fish in the sky, whose bottom is pebbly

Thesaurus

alluvion: (*n*) alluvium, flood, inundation, alluvio, drift, flowage, overflow, catastrophe, debacle, placer, alluvial sediment.
cimeter: (*n*) scimitar, sword, broadsword, saber, falchion.
freshet: (*n, v*) fresh; (*v*) deluge; (*n*) spate, stream, inundation, landflood, flock, deal, batch, flash flood.
fronting: (*n*) facing; (*adj*) apparent, evident, exposed, obvious; (*prep*) against, toward.

meridian: (*n*) culmination, line of longitude, zenith, peak, top, apex, acme, pinnacle, climax, clime; (*v*) glassy.
nutshell: (*n*) summary; (*v*) summarize, sum up, abridge, digest, simplify, shorten, reduce, distill, concentrate, abbreviate.
perturbation: (*n*) commotion, agitation, fuss, emotion, excitement, confusion, dislocation, discomposure, interruption; (*adj, n, v*) trepidation;

(*adj, n*) flutter.
shallows: (*n*) shelf, shoals.
slush: (*adj, n*) sludge, mire, squash; (*v*) slosh, slop, splash, plash; (*adj*) slime, silt, quagmire, alluvium.
unrelaxed: (*adj*) strained, stiff, ill at ease.
whirlpool: (*n, v*) vortex, whirl, swirl, gurge; (*n*) maelstrom, verticity, whir; (*v*) undercurrent, indraught, reflux, purl.

with stars. I cannot count one. I know not the first letter of the **alphabet**. I have always been regretting that I was not as wise as the day I was born. The **intellect** is a **cleaver**; it discerns and rifts its way into the secret of things. I do not wish to be any more busy with my hands than is necessary. My head is hands and feet. I feel all my best faculties concentrated in it. My **instinct** tells me that my head is an **organ** for burrowing, as some creatures use their **snout** and **fore** paws, and with it I would mine and burrow my way through these **hills**. I think that the richest **vein** is somewhere hereabouts; so by the divining-rod and thin rising **vapors** I judge; and here I will begin to mine.

Thesaurus

alphabet: (*n*) rudiments, rudiment, elements, grammar, ABC, fundamentals, basics, first rudiment, first principle, outlines, abecedary.
cleaver: (*n*) riving knife, bramble, hatchet, cleaver knife, chop, meat cleaver, ax; (*adj*) billhook, cutter.
fore: (*adv*) ahead, before; (*adj, adv*) forward; (*n*) bow, head, forefront, stem; (*adj, n*) front; (*adj*) anterior, foremost, frontal. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) aft, behind, rear; (*adj*) back.

hills: (*n*) home, dry land, foothills, earth, ground.
instinct: (*n*) impulse, urge, aptitude, gift, feeling, sixth sense, inherent aptitude, knack, inspiration, talent, genius.
intellect: (*n*) mind, intelligence, understanding, reason, brains, head, intellectual, apprehension, psyche, genius, brainpower. ANTONYM: (*n*) stupidity.
organ: (*n*) instrument, member, limb,

apparatus, harmonium, agency, part, mechanism, medium, means, journal.
snout: (*n*) proboscis, beak, neb, nozzle, hooter, rostrum, snoot, trunk, schnozzle, honker; (*v*) muzzle.
vapors: (*n*) megrims, mist, blues, blue devils, fog, depression, hypochondriasis, pessimism, spleen, brume, horrors.
vein: (*n*) vena, strain, nervure, mine, temper, blood vessel, tone; (*adj, n*) mood, humor, strip, frame of mind.

READING

With a little more **deliberation** in the choice of their pursuits, all men would perhaps become essentially students and observers, for certainly their nature and destiny are interesting to all alike. In accumulating property for ourselves or our **posterity**, in founding a family or a state, or acquiring fame even, we are mortal; but in dealing with truth we are immortal, and need fear no change nor accident. The oldest Egyptian or Hindoo philosopher raised a corner of the veil from the statue of the **divinity**; and still the trembling robe remains raised, and I gaze upon as fresh a glory as he did, since it was I in him that was then so bold, and it is he in me that now reviews the vision. No dust has settled on that robe; no time has **elapsed** since that divinity was revealed. That time which we really improve, or which is **improvable**, is neither past, present, nor future.

My residence was more **favorable**, not only to thought, but to serious reading, than a university; and though I was beyond the range of the ordinary **circulating** library, I had more than ever come within the influence of those books which circulate round the world, whose sentences were first written on bark, and are now merely copied from time to time on to linen paper. Says the poet Mr Udd, "Being seated, to run through the region of the spiritual world; I have had this advantage in books. To be **intoxicated** by a single glass of wine; I have experienced this pleasure when I have drunk the liquor of the esoteric doctrines." I kept Homer's Iliad on my table through the summer, though I

Thesaurus

circulating: (*v*) circulate; (*adj*) cyclic, circulative, moving; (*n*) distribution.
deliberation: (*n*) cogitation, counsel, debate, caution, thought, advisement, attention, contemplation, consultation; (*adj, n*) calculation, circumspection. ANTONYMS: (*n*) thoughtlessness, carelessness, impetuosity, distraction, rashness.
divinity: (*n*) God, theology, divineness, immortal, godship, godhead, spirit, demiurge,

apologetics, demigod; (*adj, n*) the Deity. ANTONYM: (*n*) devil.
elapsed: (*adj*) gone, forgotten, lapsed, back, beyond, onwards, over and done.
favorable: (*adj*) lucky, fortunate, propitious, prosperous, convenient, advantageous, encouraging, happy, helpful; (*adj, v*) friendly; (*adj, n*) kindly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) adverse, negative, ominous, disapproving, inauspicious, detrimental,

unfriendly, disagreeable, hindering, harmful, untimely.
improvable: (*adj*) curable.
intoxicated: (*adj*) drunken, drunk, inebriate, tipsy, elated, stimulated, intoxicate, infatuated, fuddled, loaded, plastered. ANTONYM: (*adj*) sober.
posterity: (*n*) race, descendants, issue, offspring, descendant, future, generation, progeny, breed, descendent, spat.

looked at his page only now and then. Incessant labor with my hands, at first, for I had my house to finish and my beans to hoe at the same time, made more study impossible. Yet I sustained myself by the prospect of such reading in future. I read one or two shallow books of travel in the intervals of my work, till that employment made me ashamed of myself, and I asked where it was then that I lived.

The student may read Homer or AEschylus in the Greek without danger of **dissipation** or **luxuriousness**, for it implies that he in some measure emulate their heroes, and consecrate morning hours to their pages. The heroic books, even if printed in the character of our mother tongue, will always be in a language dead to degenerate times; and we must **laboriously** seek the meaning of each word and line, conjecturing a larger sense than common use permits out of what wisdom and **valor** and generosity we have. The modern cheap and fertile press, with all its translations, has done little to bring us nearer to the heroic writers of antiquity. They seem as solitary, and the letter in which they are printed as rare and curious, as ever. It is worth the expense of youthful days and costly hours, if you learn only some words of an ancient language, which are raised out of the trivialness of the street, to be perpetual suggestions and provocations. It is not in vain that the farmer remembers and repeats the few Latin words which he has heard. Men sometimes speak as if the study of the classics would at length make way for more modern and practical studies; but the adventurous student will always study classics, in whatever language they may be written and however ancient they may be. For what are the classics but the noblest recorded thoughts of man? They are the only oracles which are not **decayed**, and there are such answers to the most modern inquiry in them as Delphi and Dodona never gave. We might as well **omit** to study Nature because she is old. To read well, that is, to read true books in a true spirit, is a noble exercise, and one that will task the reader more than any exercise which the customs of the day esteem. It requires a training such as the athletes underwent, the steady intention almost of the whole life to this object. Books must be read as deliberately and **reservedly** as they were written. It is not enough even to be able to speak the language of that nation by which they are written, for there is a

Thesaurus

decayed: (*adj*) spoiled, corrupt, dilapidated, rank, rusty, rotting, decaying, rotted, putrid; (*adj, v*) wasted; (*v*) stale. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) matured, restored, strengthened.
dissipation: (*n*) waste, dissolution, licentiousness, extravagance, excess, profligacy, consumption, decomposition, disintegration; (*n, v*) diffusion, dissemination. ANTONYMS: (*n*) appearance, growth, restraint, moderation,

decency, uprightness.
laboriously: (*adv*) painstakingly, toilsomely, toughly, onerously, arduously, strenuously, heavily, painfully, stiffly, diligently, hard. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) briskly, easily.
luxuriousness: (*n*) sumptuousness, opulence, sybaritism, extravagance, grandeur, lavishness, lewdness, lushness, effeminacy, splendor, sensuality. ANTONYMS: (*n*) shabbiness, bareness.

omit: (*adv, v*) neglect, disregard; (*adj, v*) miss, skip, jump, pretermit; (*v*) delete, forget, exclude, except, leave. ANTONYMS: (*v*) add, remember.
reservedly: (*adv*) reticently, aloofly, standoffishly, uncommunicatively, diffidently, retiringly, restrainedly, shily, coldly, coolly, demurely.
valor: (*n*) bravery, courage, heroism, valiancy, daring, spirit, pluck, audacity, boldness; (*adj, n*) gallantry, prowess.

memorable interval between the spoken and the written language, the language heard and the language read. The one is commonly transitory, a sound, a tongue, a dialect merely, almost **brutish**, and we learn it unconsciously, like the brutes, of our mothers. The other is the maturity and experience of that; if that is our mother tongue, this is our father tongue, a reserved and select expression, too significant to be heard by the ear, which we must be born again in order to speak. The crowds of men who merely spoke the Greek and Latin tongues in the Middle Ages were not entitled by the accident of birth to read the works of genius written in those languages; for these were not written in that Greek or Latin which they knew, but in the select language of literature. They had not learned the nobler dialects of Greece and Rome, but the very materials on which they were written were waste paper to them, and they prized instead a cheap contemporary literature. But when the several nations of Europe had acquired distinct though rude written languages of their own, sufficient for the purposes of their rising literatures, then first learning revived, and scholars were enabled to discern from that **remoteness** the treasures of antiquity. What the Roman and Grecian multitude could not hear, after the lapse of ages a few scholars read, and a few scholars only are still reading it.

However much we may admire the **orator's** occasional bursts of **eloquence**, the noblest written words are commonly as far behind or above the **fleeting** spoken language as the firmament with its stars is behind the clouds. There are the stars, and they who can may read them. The astronomers forever comment on and observe them. They are not exhalations like our daily colloquies and vaporous breath. What is called eloquence in the forum is commonly found to be rhetoric in the study. The orator yields to the inspiration of a transient occasion, and **speaks** to the mob before him, to those who can hear him; but the writer, whose more equable life is his occasion, and who would be distracted by the event and the crowd which inspire the orator, speaks to the intellect and health of mankind, to all in any age who can understand him.

No wonder that Alexander carried the Iliad with him on his expeditions in a precious **casket**. A written word is the **choicest** of **relics**. It is something at once

Thesaurus

brutish: (*adj*) brutal, barbarous, bestial, brute, savage, fierce, boorish, ferocious, cruel, indelicate; (*adj, adv*) beastly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) gentle, humane, refined.
casket: (*n*) box, coffin, chest, sarcophagus, coffer, caddy, bier, gasket, reliquary, desk; (*v*) enclose.
choicest: (*adj*) optimum, best.
eloquence: (*n*) style, fluency, oratory, rhetoric, articulateness, expression, volubility, persuasiveness, articulacy,

facundity, way with words.
 ANTONYM: (*n*) inarticulateness.
fleeting: (*adj*) brief, momentary, ephemeral, passing, transient, short, fugitive, evanescent, transitory, temporal, short-lived. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) permanent, lasting, enduring, unforgettable, thorough, lengthy, long, slow.
orator: (*n*) elocutionist, speechmaker, speaker, lecturer, Cicero, speechifier, demagog, demagogue, eulogist; (*v*)

oratrix, oratress.
relics: (*n*) relic, rood, rosary, thurible, reliquary, remainder, remain, leavings, remains, remnants, patera.
remoteness: (*n*) aloofness, detachment, farawayness, remotion, loneliness, longinquity, reserve, abstraction, separation, standoffishness; (*adj, n*) farness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) warmth, accessibility, inclusion, friendliness, closeness, approachability.
speaks: (*n*) talks.

more intimate with us and more universal than any other work of art. It is the work of art nearest to life itself. It may be translated into every language, and not only be read but actually breathed from all human lips; -- not be represented on canvas or in marble only, but be carved out of the breath of life itself. The symbol of an ancient man's thought becomes a modern man's speech. Two thousand summers have imparted to the monuments of Grecian literature, as to her marbles, only a **maturer** golden and **autumnal tint**, for they have carried their own serene and celestial atmosphere into all lands to protect them against the corrosion of time. Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generations and nations. Books, the oldest and the best, stand naturally and **rightfully** on the shelves of every cottage. They have no cause of their own to plead, but while they **enlighten** and sustain the reader his common sense will not refuse them. Their authors are a natural and irresistible aristocracy in every society, and, more than kings or emperors, exert an influence on mankind. When the illiterate and perhaps **scornful** trader has earned by enterprise and industry his coveted leisure and independence, and is admitted to the circles of wealth and fashion, he turns inevitably at last to those still higher but yet inaccessible circles of intellect and genius, and is sensible only of the **imperfection** of his culture and the vanity and **insufficiency** of all his riches, and further proves his good sense by the pains which he takes to secure for his children that intellectual culture whose want he so keenly feels; and thus it is that he becomes the founder of a family.

Those who have not learned to read the ancient classics in the language in which they were written must have a very imperfect knowledge of the history of the human race; for it is remarkable that no transcript of them has ever been made into any modern tongue, unless our civilization itself may be regarded as such a transcript. Homer has never yet been printed in English, nor AEschylus, nor Virgil even -- works as refined, as solidly done, and as beautiful almost as the morning itself; for later writers, say what we will of their genius, have rarely, if ever, equalled the elaborate beauty and finish and the lifelong and heroic literary labors of the ancients. They only talk of forgetting them who never knew them. It will be soon enough to forget them when we have the learning and the genius

Thesaurus

autumnal: (*adj*) maturer, vespertine.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) summery, vernal, wintry.
enlighten: (*v*) advise, edify, educate, inform, clarify, apprise, instruct, illuminate, clear, notify; (*adj, v*) lighten. ANTONYMS: (*v*) puzzle, obfuscate, mystify, confound, cloud, brutalize, bewilder, muddle.
imperfection: (*adj, n*) frailty; (*n*) fault, blemish, defect, deficiency, flaw, weakness, disadvantage, vice, foible,

shortcoming. ANTONYMS: (*n*) perfection, strength.
insufficiency: (*n*) imperfection, deficit, deficiency, shortage, absence, failure, lack, inadequateness, inability, scarcity, dearth. ANTONYMS: (*n*) adequacy, abundance, sufficiency, surplus, excess.
maturer: (*adj*) overripe, ripe, ripened.
rightfully: (*adv*) lawfully, legitimately, legally, justifiably, duly, correctly, properly, deservedly, righteously,

fairly, rightly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) unduly.
scornful: (*adj*) disdainful, haughty, arrogant, sarcastic, disparaging, derisive, mocking, abusive, scathing, opprobrious, insulting. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) approving, complimentary, humble, sympathetic, admiring.
tint: (*n, v*) color, tinge, hue, stain, dye, tinct; (*n*) shade, tincture, tone, cast; (*v*) paint. ANTONYMS: (*n*) white, pallor; (*v*) whiten, pale.

which will enable us to attend to and appreciate them. That age will be rich indeed when those relics which we call Classics, and the still older and more than classic but even less known Scriptures of the nations, shall have still further accumulated, when the Vaticans shall be filled with Vedas and Zendavestas and Bibles, with Homers and Dantes and Shakespeares, and all the centuries to come shall have successively deposited their trophies in the forum of the world. By such a pile we may hope to scale heaven at last.

The works of the great poets have never yet been read by mankind, for only great poets can read them. They have only been read as the multitude read the stars, at most astrologically, not **astronomically**. Most men have learned to read to serve a paltry convenience, as they have learned to **cipher** in order to keep accounts and not be **cheated** in trade; but of reading as a noble intellectual exercise they know little or nothing; yet this only is reading, in a high sense, not that which lulls us as a luxury and suffers the nobler faculties to sleep the while, but what we have to stand on tip-toe to read and devote our most alert and **wakeful** hours to.

I think that having learned our letters we should read the best that is in literature, and not be forever repeating our a-b-abs, and words of one syllable, in the fourth or fifth classes, sitting on the lowest and foremost form all our lives. Most men are satisfied if they read or hear read, and perchance have been convicted by the wisdom of one good book, the Bible, and for the rest of their lives **vegetate** and **dissipate** their faculties in what is called easy reading. There is a work in several volumes in our Circulating Library entitled "Little Reading," which I thought referred to a town of that name which I had not been to. There are those who, like **cormorants** and ostriches, can digest all sorts of this, even after the fullest dinner of meats and vegetables, for they suffer nothing to be wasted. If others are the machines to provide this **provender**, they are the machines to read it. They read the nine **thousandth** tale about Zebulon and Sophronia, and how they loved as none had ever loved before, and neither did the course of their true love run smooth -- at any rate, how it did run and stumble, and get up again and go on! how some poor unfortunate got up on to a

Thesaurus

astronomically: (*adv*) vastly, celestially, astrologically, galactically.

cheated: (*adj*) embittered, resentful.

cipher: (*n*) zero, nothing, number, nil, nobody, null; (*n, v*) figure, cypher, code; (*v*) calculate; (*adj, n*) nonentity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) infinity; (*v*) encode, decode, code, scramble.

cormorants: (*n*) order Pelecaniformes, Pelecaniformes, Phalacrocoracidae, sea bird, seafowl, albatrosses,

seabird.

dissipate: (*adj, v*) waste; (*v*) disperse, squander, disappear, diffuse, consume, scatter, disseminate, break, evaporate, spend. ANTONYMS: (*v*) save, conserve, appear, collect, hoard, absorb, gather.

provender: (*n*) provisions, food, nourishment, pasturage, victuals, viands, sustenance, commissariat, cud, eatage; (*n, v*) nurture.

thousandth: (*adj*) millesimal; (*n*)

simple fraction.

vegetate: (*v*) sprout, germinate, bud, shoot, put forth, bourgeon, idle, burgeon; (*n*) find oneself, pass the time; (*adj*) lead an easy life. ANTONYM: (*v*) do.

wakeful: (*adj*) vigilant, sleepless, awake, observant, restless, light, wary, psychologically light, lightheaded, tripping; (*v*) wistful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unaware, asleep, inattentive, relaxed.

steeple, who had better never have gone up as far as the belfry; and then, having needlessly got him up there, the happy novelist rings the bell for all the world to come together and hear, O dear! how he did get down again! For my part, I think that they had better **metamorphose** all such aspiring heroes of universal noveldom into man weather-cocks, as they used to put heroes among the constellations, and let them swing round there till they are rusty, and not come down at all to bother honest men with their **pranks**. The next time the novelist rings the bell I will not stir though the meeting-house burn down. "The Skip of the Tip-Toe-Hop, a Romance of the Middle Ages, by the celebrated author of 'Tittle-Tol-Tan,' to appear in monthly parts; a great rush; **don't** all come together." All this they read with saucer eyes, and erect and primitive curiosity, and with **unwearied gizzard**, whose corrugations even yet need no sharpening, just as some little four-year-old **bencher** his two-cent gilt-covered edition of Cinderella -- without any improvement, that I can see, in the pronunciation, or accent, or emphasis, or any more skill in extracting or inserting the moral. The result is **dulness** of sight, a stagnation of the vital circulations, and a general **deliquium** and **sloughing** off of all the intellectual faculties. This sort of gingerbread is baked daily and more **sedulously** than pure wheat or rye-and-Indian in almost every oven, and finds a surer market.

The best books are not read even by those who are called good readers. What does our Concord culture amount to? There is in this town, with a very few exceptions, no taste for the best or for very good books even in English literature, whose words all can read and spell. Even the college-bred and so-called liberally educated men here and elsewhere have really little or no acquaintance with the English classics; and as for the recorded wisdom of mankind, the ancient classics and Bibles, which are accessible to all who will know of them, there are the **feeblest efforts** anywhere made to become acquainted with them. I know a woodchopper, of middle age, who takes a French paper, not for news as he says, for he is above that, but to "keep himself in practice," he being a Canadian by birth; and when I ask him what he considers the best thing he can do in this world, he says, beside this, to keep up and add to his English. This is about as much as the college-bred generally do or aspire to do, and they take an English

Thesaurus

bencher: (*n*) leader.

deliquium: (*n*) collapse, lipothymy, swoon, fainting, faint; (*adj*) apoplexy, exhaustion, inanition, syncope, palsy, sideration.

don't: (*adv*) not; (*n*) taboo, prohibition.

dulness: (*n*) dullness, matt, dreariness, dimness, bluntness, flatness, boringness, vapidness, jejunity, mat, tedium. ANTONYMS: (*n*) brightness, asperity.

efforts: (*n*) pains.

feeblest: (*adj*) least.

gizzard: (*n*) gastric mill, craw, crop, pocket, pouch, ventricle, breadbasket, paunch, ventriculus, maw, venter.

metamorphose: (*v*) alter, change, convert, transfigure, turn, transmute, transmogrify, translate, become, reverse, ring the changes.

pranks: (*n*) trouble.

sedulously: (*adv*) industriously, assiduously, studiously, earnestly, attentively, intently, painstakingly,

perseveringly, laboriously, fixedly, eagerly.

sloughing: (*n*) moult, shedding, molt, ecdysis, abscission, peeling, organic process, desquamation, biological process, moulting.

unwearied: (*adj*) indefatigable, untiring, tireless, untired, indomitable, unflagging, industrious, tolerant, persistent, persevering, laborious. ANTONYM: (*adj*) impatient.

paper for the purpose. One who has just come from reading perhaps one of the best English books will find how many with whom he can converse about it? Or suppose he comes from reading a Greek or Latin classic in the original, whose praises are familiar even to the so-called **illiterate**; he will find nobody at all to speak to, but must keep silence about it. Indeed, there is hardly the professor in our colleges, who, if he has **mastered** the difficulties of the language, has proportionally mastered the difficulties of the wit and poetry of a Greek poet, and has any sympathy to **impart** to the alert and heroic reader; and as for the sacred Scriptures, or Bibles of mankind, who in this town can tell me even their titles? Most men do not know that any nation but the Hebrews have had a **scripture**. A man, any man, will go considerably out of his way to pick up a silver dollar; but here are golden words, which the wisest men of antiquity have uttered, and whose worth the wise of every succeeding age have assured us of; -- and yet we learn to read only as far as Easy Reading, the primers and class-books, and when we leave school, the "Little Reading," and story-books, which are for boys and beginners; and our reading, our conversation and thinking, are all on a very low level, worthy only of pygmies and manikins.

I **aspire** to be acquainted with wiser men than this our Concord soil has produced, whose names are hardly known here. Or shall I hear the name of Plato and never read his book? As if Plato were my **townsman** and I never saw him -- my next neighbor and I never heard him speak or attended to the wisdom of his words. But how actually is it? His Dialogues, which contain what was immortal in him, lie on the next shelf, and yet I never read them. We are **underbred** and low-lived and illiterate; and in this respect I confess I do not make any very broad distinction between the illiterateness of my townsman who cannot read at all and the illiterateness of him who has learned to read only what is for children and feeble intellects. We should be as good as the worthies of antiquity, but partly by first knowing how good they were. We are a race of tit-men, and **soar** but little higher in our intellectual flights than the columns of the daily paper.

Thesaurus

aspire: (*v*) aim, lust, hanker, crave, plan, hope, want, rise, purpose, wish, long. ANTONYM: (*v*) wallow.
illiterate: (*adj*) uneducated, rude, unschooled, unlearned, untaught, empty, green, letterless, uninstructed, unread; (*n*) analphabetic. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) educated, economical.
impart: (*v*) give, convey, disclose, communicate, announce, grant, reveal, hand, bestow, divulge, confer.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) withhold, withdraw.
mastered: (*adj*) down pat, low, downhearted, perfecter, dispirited, depressed, declining, downcast, down in the mouth, cut down, beaten.
scripture: (*adj, n*) gospel; (*n*) bible, book, Holy Writ, canon, writ, inscription, writing, Vulgate, fact, Holy Scripture.
soar: (*v*) climb, hover, fly, mount,

glide, leap, jump, lift, billow; (*n, v*) rise, increase. ANTONYMS: (*v*) decrease, drop, descend, collapse, sink.

townsman: (*n*) burgher, burgess, townner, cockney, oppidan, cit, townie, compeer, equal, knobstick, match.

underbred: (*adj*) rude, boulderish, cur, lowbred, mongrel, mixed, scrub, uncivil, integrated, miscellaneous, amalgamated.

It is not all books that are as dull as their readers. There are probably words addressed to our condition exactly, which, if we could really hear and understand, would be more salutary than the morning or the spring to our lives, and possibly put a new aspect on the face of things for us. How many a man has dated a new era in his life from the reading of a book! The book exists for us, perchance, which will explain our miracles and reveal new ones. The at present **unutterable** things we may find somewhere uttered. These same questions that disturb and puzzle and **confound** us have in their turn occurred to all the wise men; not one has been omitted; and each has answered them, according to his ability, by his words and his life. Moreover, with wisdom we shall learn **liberality**. The solitary hired man on a farm in the outskirts of Concord, who has had his second birth and peculiar religious experience, and is driven as he believes into the silent gravity and **exclusiveness** by his faith, may think it is not true; but Zoroaster, thousands of years ago, travelled the same road and had the same experience; but he, being wise, knew it to be universal, and treated his neighbors accordingly, and is even said to have invented and established worship among men. Let him humbly commune with Zoroaster then, and through the **liberalizing** influence of all the worthies, with Jesus Christ himself, and let "our church" go by the board.

We boast that we belong to the Nineteenth Century and are making the most rapid strides of any nation. But consider how little this village does for its own culture. I do not wish to flatter my townsmen, nor to be flattered by them, for that will not advance either of us. We need to be provoked -- **goaded** like oxen, as we are, into a trot. We have a comparatively decent system of common schools, schools for infants only; but excepting the half-starved Lyceum in the winter, and latterly the puny beginning of a library suggested by the State, no school for ourselves. We spend more on almost any article of bodily **aliment** or **ailment** than on our mental aliment. It is time that we had uncommon schools, that we did not leave off our education when we begin to be men and women. It is time that villages were universities, and their elder inhabitants the fellows of universities, with leisure -- if they are, indeed, so well off -- to pursue liberal studies the rest of their lives. Shall the world be confined to one Paris or one

Thesaurus

aliment: (*n*) complaint, affection, disease, trouble, condition, ill, disorder, sickness, affliction; (*adj, n*) infirmity; (*v*) distemper.
aliment: (*n*) meal, sustenance, food, nutriment, diet, maintenance, meat, alimation, eating, nutrition, nourishment.
confound: (*v*) bewilder, baffle, nonplus, perplex, astonish, puzzle, amaze, astound, mistake; (*adj, v*) confuse, stupefy. ANTONYMS: (*v*)

explain, clarify, comfort, lose, distinguish; (*n*) understanding.
exclusiveness: (*n*) clannishness, cliquishness, snobbishness, exclusivity, stylishness, sophistication, refinement, insularity, elegance, exclusivism.
goaded: (*adj*) provoked, forced, motivated, involuntary, aggravated, compulsive, determined, involuntary.
liberality: (*n, v*) charity, almsgiving;

(*adj, n*) bounty; (*n*) largess, munificence, benevolence, beneficence, generosity, tolerance; (*adj*) largesse, gift. ANTONYM: (*n*) illiberality.
liberalizing: (*adj*) cultural.
unutterable: (*adj*) indescribable, unspeakable, inexpressible, unpronounceable, indefinable, untellable, unnameable, unapproachable, beyond description, incommunicable, terrible.

Oxford forever? Cannot students be boarded here and get a liberal education under the **skies** of Concord? Can we not hire some Abelard to lecture to us? Alas! what with foddering the cattle and **tending** the store, we are kept from school too long, and our education is sadly neglected. In this country, the village should in some respects take the place of the **nobleman** of Europe. It should be the patron of the fine arts. It is rich enough. It wants only the magnanimity and refinement. It can spend money enough on such things as farmers and traders value, but it is thought Utopian to propose spending money for things which more intelligent men know to be of far more worth. This town has spent **seventeen** thousand dollars on a town-house, thank fortune or politics, but probably it will not spend so much on living wit, the true meat to put into that shell, in a hundred years. The one hundred and twenty-five dollars annually subscribed for a Lyceum in the winter is better spent than any other equal sum raised in the town. If we live in the Nineteenth Century, why should we not enjoy the advantages which the Nineteenth Century offers? Why should our life be in any respect provincial? If we will read newspapers, why not skip the gossip of Boston and take the best newspaper in the world at once? -- not be **sucking** the pap of "neutral family" papers, or **browsing** "Olive Branches" here in New England. Let the reports of all the learned **societies** come to us, and we will see if they know anything. Why should we leave it to Harper & Brothers and Redding & Co. to select our reading? As the nobleman of cultivated taste surrounds himself with whatever conduces to his culture -- genius -- learning -- wit -- books -- paintings -- **statuary** -- music -- philosophical instruments, and the like; so let the village do -- not stop short at a **pedagogue**, a **parson**, a **sexton**, a parish library, and three selectmen, because our Pilgrim forefathers got through a cold winter once on a bleak rock with these. To act collectively is according to the spirit of our institutions; and I am confident that, as our circumstances are more **flourishing**, our means are greater than the nobleman's. New England can hire all the wise men in the world to come and teach her, and board them round the while, and not be provincial at all. That is the uncommon school we want. Instead of noblemen, let us have noble villages of men. If it is necessary, omit

Thesaurus

browsing: (*n*) feeding, eating, reading, bruting.

flourishing: (*adj*) thriving, palmy, healthy, successful, luxuriant, booming, verdant, lush, auspicious, favorable, rich. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) arid, declining, fading, poor, unhealthy.

nobleman: (*n*) patrician, aristocrat, lord, peer, marquis, nobility, grandee, baron, duke, armiger, burgrave.

parson: (*n*) cleric, clergyman, rector, pastor, curate, preacher, ecclesiastic, divine, priest, vicar, father.

pedagogue: (*n*) dominie, teacher, schoolmaster, educator, pedagogue, academician, lecturer, lector, master; (*n, v*) pedant; (*v*) purist.

seventeen: (*n*) large integer.

sexton: (*n*) beadle, verger, almoner, Anne sexton, Suisse, gravedigger, church officer, caretaker.

skies: (*n*) heavens, firmament,

expanse.

societies: (*n*) society, community.

statuary: (*n*) sculptor, carver, figuriste, modeler, chaser, statue, sculptress, assemblage, accumulation, aggregation, collection.

sucking: (*n*) suck, intake, uptake, aspiration, ingestion, consumption.

tending: (*n*) care, hairdressing, aid, treatment, attention, babysitting, incubation; (*adj*) apt, conducive, prone, disposed.

one **bridge** over the **river**, go round a little there, and **throw** one **arch** at **least** over the darker **gulf** of **ignorance** which surrounds us.

Thesaurus

arch: (*n, v*) curve, bow, bend; (*n*) dome, curvature, acute; (*adj*) wily, shrewd, sly; (*v*) vault; (*adj, n, v*) round. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) smallest, petty, modest, minor, frank, least, lesser, inferior, forthright, guileless, humble.

bridge: (*n, v*) span, stretch; (*n*) pontoon, tie, nosepiece, footbridge, crossing; (*v*) bridge over, connect, link, traverse. ANTONYMS: (*n*) split, separation, chasm, break, division; (*v*)

unlink, detach, disjoin.

gulf: (*n*) abyss, depth, creek, vortex, bay, loch, cove, abysm, gap, gorge, bight.

ignorance: (*n*) illiteracy, nescience, folly, unwisdom, innocence, denseness, ignorancy, stupidity, obtuseness, tabula rasa, unawareness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) intelligence, acquaintance, education.

least: (*n*) minimum; (*adj*) smallest, minimal, littlest, lowest, insignificant,

minutest, negligible; (*adj, n*) smallest amount; (*adv*) at least, fully. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) maximum, greatest; (*adj, adv*) most.

river: (*n, v*) brook, stream; (*n*) flow, waterway, current, watercourse, Amazon; (*v*) burn, beck, bayou; (*adj*) water.

throw: (*n, v*) cast, pitch, push; (*v*) shed, hurl, heave, chuck, flip, pass, hurtle; (*n*) shot. ANTONYMS: (*v*) explain, help, receive, clarify, encourage.

SOUNDS

But while we are confined to books, though the most select and classic, and read only particular written languages, which are themselves but dialects and provincial, we are in danger of **forgetting** the language which all things and events speak without metaphor, which alone is **copious** and standard. Much is published, but little printed. The rays which stream through the **shutter** will be no longer remembered when the shutter is wholly removed. No method nor discipline can **supersede** the necessity of being forever on the alert. What is a course of history or philosophy, or poetry, no matter how well selected, or the best society, or the most admirable routine of life, compared with the discipline of looking always at what is to be seen? Will you be a reader, a student merely, or a seer? Read your fate, see what is before you, and walk on into futurity.

I did not read books the first summer; I hoed beans. Nay, I often did better than this. There were times when I could not afford to sacrifice the bloom of the present moment to any work, whether of the head or hands. I love a broad margin to my life. Sometimes, in a summer morning, having taken my accustomed bath, I sat in my sunny doorway from **sunrise** till noon, **rapt** in a **revery**, **amidst** the pines and hickories and sumachs, in undisturbed solitude and stillness, while the birds sing around or flitted **noiseless** through the house, until by the sun falling in at my west window, or the noise of some traveller's wagon on the distant highway, I was reminded of the lapse of time. I grew in those

Thesaurus

amidst: (*adv, prep*) among; (*adv*) amongst; (*prep*) between, midst, into.
copious: (*adj*) bountiful, ample, affluent, plentiful, rich, plenteous, much, many, generous, large; (*adj, n*) luxuriant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) small, meager, sparse, lacking, rare, scant, scanty, thin, few; (*adv*) partially.
forgetting: (*v*) forget; (*adj*) oblivious; (*n*) disregard.
noiseless: (*adj*) quiet, silent, soundless, hushed, voiceless, mute, stealthy,

dumb, soft, calm, tranquil.
 ANTONYM: (*adj*) heavy.
rapt: (*adj*) engrossed, intent, ecstatic, preoccupied, spellbound, captive, enthralled, attentive, fixed, enraptured; (*v*) engrossed in.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) detached, inattentive, uninterested, bored.
revery: (*n*) dream, daydream, castle in Spain, air castle, castle in the air, imagine, dreaming; (*v*) low spirits, melancholy, ill humor, despondency.

shutter: (*n, v*) close, shade; (*n*) curtain, shut, blind, window, skylight, deadlight, lid, louver, jalousie.
sunrise: (*n*) dawn, sunup, daybreak, daylight, aurora, first light, dayspring, twilight, dawning, break of day, crack of dawn. ANTONYMS: (*n*) sunset, sundown, nightfall.
supersede: (*n, v*) supplant, displace; (*v*) substitute, replace, succeed, commute, annul, deputize, cut out, overrule; (*n*) remove.

seasons like corn in the night, and they were far better than any work of the hands would have been. They were not time subtracted from my life, but so much over and above my usual allowance. I realized what the Orientals mean by contemplation and the **forsaking** of works. For the most part, I minded not how the hours went. The day advanced as if to light some work of mine; it was morning, and lo, now it is evening, and nothing memorable is accomplished. Instead of singing like the birds, I silently smiled at my incessant good fortune. As the sparrow had its **trill**, sitting on the hickory before my door, so had I my chuckle or suppressed **warble** which he might hear out of my nest. My days were not days of the week, bearing the stamp of any heathen deity, nor were they **minced** into hours and **fretted** by the ticking of a clock; for I lived like the Puri Indians, of whom it is said that "for yesterday, today, and tomorrow they have only one word, and they express the variety of meaning by pointing backward for yesterday forward for tomorrow, and overhead for the passing day." This was sheer **idleness** to my fellow-townsmen, no doubt; but if the birds and flowers had tried me by their standard, I should not have been found wanting. A man must find his occasions in himself, it is true. The natural day is very calm, and will hardly **reprove** his indolence.

I had this advantage, at least, in my mode of life, over those who were obliged to look abroad for amusement, to society and the theatre, that my life itself was become my amusement and never **ceased** to be novel. It was a drama of many scenes and without an end. If we were always, indeed, getting our living, and regulating our lives according to the last and best mode we had learned, we should never be troubled with ennui. Follow your genius closely enough, and it will not fail to show you a fresh prospect every hour. Housework was a pleasant pastime. When my floor was dirty, I rose early, and, setting all my furniture out of doors on the grass, bed and **bedstead** making but one budget, dashed water on the floor, and **sprinkled** white sand from the pond on it, and then with a broom scrubbed it clean and white; and by the time the villagers had broken their fast the morning sun had dried my house sufficiently to allow me to move in again, and my **meditations** were almost uninterrupted. It was pleasant to see my whole household effects out on the grass, making a little

Thesaurus

bedstead: (*n*) bed, berth, cot, bedframe, furniture, shakedown, pallet, stretcher, tester, stead, hatch.
ceased: (*adj*) finished.
forsaking: (*n*) abandonment, desertion, apostasy, exposure, defection, bolt, renunciation, surrender, leaving, acquiescence, neglect.
fretted: (*adj*) latticed, haggard, magged, latticelike, reticulated, reticular, interlaced. ANTONYM:

(*adj*) unfretted.
idleness: (*n*) lethargy, laziness, torpor, inactivity, idling, unemployment, sloth, inaction, inertia, fainance, idlesse. ANTONYMS: (*n*) energy, activity, bustle, liveliness, responsibility.
meditations: (*n*) contemplation, consideration, cogitation.
minced: (*adj*) ground, crushed, broken up.
reprove: (*n, v*) censure, blame, chide,

rebuke, reprehend; (*v*) admonish, reproach, lecture, condemn, warn, castigate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) praise, approve, commend.
sprinkled: (*adj*) scattered, speckled, wet, dotted.
trill: (*v*) warble, quaver, sing, hum, drip, drop, dribble, chirp, cheep, spirtle; (*n, v*) shake.
warble: (*n, v*) chant, trill; (*v*) chirp, chirrup, descant, twitter, quaver, yodel, carol, pipe, hum.

pile like a gypsy's pack, and my three-legged table, from which I did not remove the books and pen and ink, standing amid the pines and hickories. They seemed glad to get out themselves, and as if unwilling to be brought in. I was sometimes tempted to stretch an **awning** over them and take my seat there. It was worth the while to see the sun shine on these things, and hear the free wind blow on them; so much more interesting most familiar objects look out of doors than in the house. A bird **sits** on the next bough, life-everlasting grows under the table, and blackberry vines run round its legs; pine cones, chestnut burs, and strawberry leaves are strewn about. It looked as if this was the way these forms came to be transferred to our furniture, to tables, chairs, and bedsteads -- because they once stood in their midst.

My house was on the side of a hill, immediately on the edge of the larger wood, in the midst of a young forest of pitch pines and hickories, and half a dozen rods from the pond, to which a narrow footpath led down the hill. In my front yard grew the strawberry, blackberry, and life-everlasting, johnswort and **goldenrod**, shrub oaks and sand cherry, **blueberry** and **groundnut**. Near the end of May, the sand cherry (*Cerasus pumila*) adorned the sides of the path with its delicate flowers arranged in umbels cylindrically about its short stems, which last, in the fall, weighed down with goodsized and handsome cherries, fell over in wreaths like rays on every side. I tasted them out of compliment to Nature, though they were scarcely palatable. The sumach (*Rhus glabra*) grew **luxuriantly** about the house, pushing up through the embankment which I had made, and growing five or six feet the first season. Its broad **pinnate** tropical leaf was pleasant though strange to look on. The large buds, suddenly pushing out late in the spring from dry sticks which had seemed to be dead, developed themselves as by magic into graceful green and tender boughs, an inch in diameter; and sometimes, as I sat at my window, so **heedlessly** did they grow and tax their weak joints, I heard a fresh and tender bough suddenly fall like a fan to the ground, when there was not a breath of air stirring, broken off by its own weight. In August, the large masses of berries, which, when in flower, had attracted many wild bees, gradually assumed their bright **velvety** crimson hue, and by their weight again bent down and broke the tender limbs.

Thesaurus

awning: (*n*) screen, shade, tilt, sunblind, marquee, umbrella, blind, canopy, cover, tarpaulin, shelter.

blueberry: (*n*) whortleberry, huckleberry, swamp-blueberry, blaeberry, whinberry, deerberry, blueberry bush, blueberries.

goldenrod: (*n*) Asteraceae, aster family, masking paper, family Compositae, solidago, family Asteraceae, dandelion, daisy, compositae, genus solidago.

groundnut: (*n*) goober, monkey nut, earthnut, goober pea, Indian potato, *Apios americana*, tuber, vine, conopodium denudatum, dwarf ginseng, giant sunflower.

heedlessly: (*adv*) inattentively, thoughtlessly, negligently, recklessly, neglectfully, unthinkingly, hastily, rashly, inadvertently, incautiously, imprudently. ANTONYM: (*adv*) carefully.

luxuriantly: (*adv*) abundantly,

opulently, plentifully, richly, profusely, generously, bountifully, thickly, riotously, exuberantly, copiously.

pinnate: (*adj*) ternatopinnate, quadripinnate, compound, compounder, featherlike.

sits: (*n*) sat.

velvety: (*adj*) smooth, soft, velvet, silky, fluffy, woolly, supple, creamy, delicate, furry; (*v*) lanate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) croaky, watery.

As I sit at my window this summer afternoon, hawks are circling about my clearing; the **tantivy** of wild pigeons, flying by two and threes **athwart** my view, or **perching** restless on the white pine boughs behind my house, gives a voice to the air; a fish hawk dimples the glassy surface of the pond and brings up a fish; a mink **steals** out of the marsh before my door and seizes a frog by the shore; the **sedge** is bending under the weight of the reed-birds **flitting hither** and **thither**; and for the last half-hour I have heard the rattle of railroad **cars**, now dying away and then reviving like the beat of a **partridge**, conveying travellers from Boston to the country. For I did not live so out of the world as that boy who, as I hear, was put out to a farmer in the east part of the town, but ere long ran away and came home again, quite down at the heel and **homesick**. He had never seen such a dull and **out-of-the-way** place; the folks were all gone off; why, you couldn't even hear the whistle! I doubt if there is such a place in Massachusetts now:--

"In truth, our village has become a butt
For one of those fleet railroad shafts, and **o'er**
Our peaceful plain its soothing sound is -- Concord."

The Fitchburg Railroad touches the pond about a hundred rods south of where I dwell. I usually go to the village along its **causeway**, and am, as it were, related to society by this link. The men on the freight trains, who go over the whole length of the road, bow to me as to an old acquaintance, they pass me so often, and apparently they take me for an employee; and so I am. I too would fain be a track-repairer somewhere in the orbit of the earth.

The whistle of the locomotive penetrates my woods summer and winter, sounding like the scream of a hawk sailing over some farmer's yard, informing me that many restless city merchants are arriving within the circle of the town, or adventurous country traders from the other side. As they come under one horizon, they shout their warning to get off the track to the other, heard sometimes through the circles of two towns. Here come your groceries, country;

Thesaurus

athwart: (*adj, adv, n, prep*) across; (*adv, prep*) aslant, cross; (*adj, adv, prep*) thwart; (*adj, adv*) crosswise; (*adv*) sideways, obliquely, transversely, traverse, overthwart, crossways.
cars: (*n*) train.
causeway: (*n*) pathway, sidewalk, path, track, alley, footpath, jetty, causey, walkway; (*v*) furnish, provide.
flitting: (*adj*) fleeting, fugitive, momentary, transient, ephemeral; (*v*)

migration.
hither: (*adv*) here, whither, hitherward, thither.
homesick: (*adj*) nostalgic, longing, wistful, unhappy, lonesome.
o'er: (*adv*) on, upon, across.
out-of-the-way: (*adj*) strange, singular, remote, devious, secluded, outlying, distant, obscure, unusual, peculiar, far.
partridge: (*n*) grouse, bobwhite, bobwhite quail, wildfowl, phasianid,

quail, game bird, tinamou, ruffed grouse.
perching: (*adj*) insessorial.
sedge: (*n*) rush, nutsedge, papyrus, nutgrass, chufa, galingale, galangal, weed, rush nut, nut sedge, nut grass.
steals: (*adj*) stolen; (*n*) stealing.
tantivy: (*n*) posthaste.
thither: (*adv*) hither, whither, on that point, in that respect, at that place, in that location; (*adj*) further, ulterior, remoter, succeeding, more distant.

your rations, countrymen! Nor is there any man so independent on his farm that he can say them nay. And here's your pay for them! screams the countryman's whistle; timber like long battering-rams going twenty miles an hour against the city's walls, and chairs enough to seat all the weary and heavy-laden that dwell within them. With such huge and lumbering civility the country hands a chair to the city. All the Indian huckleberry hills are stripped, all the **cranberry** meadows are raked into the city. Up comes the cotton, down goes the woven cloth; up comes the silk, down goes the woollen; up come the books, but down goes the wit that writes them.

When I meet the engine with its train of cars moving off with planetary motion -- or, rather, like a comet, for the **beholder** knows not if with that velocity and with that direction it will ever **revisit** this system, since its orbit does not look like a returning curve -- with its steam cloud like a banner streaming behind in golden and silver wreaths, like many a **downy** cloud which I have seen, high in the heavens, unfolding its masses to the light -- as if this **traveling demigod**, this cloud-compeller, would ere long take the sunset sky for the livery of his train; when I hear the iron horse make the hills echo with his snort like thunder, shaking the earth with his feet, and breathing fire and smoke from his **nostrils** (what kind of winged horse or fiery dragon they will put into the new Mythology I don't know), it seems as if the earth had got a race now worthy to inhabit it. If all were as it seems, and men made the elements their servants for noble ends! If the cloud that hangs over the engine were the perspiration of heroic deeds, or as **beneficent** as that which floats over the farmer's fields, then the elements and Nature herself would cheerfully accompany men on their **errands** and be their escort.

I watch the passage of the morning cars with the same feeling that I do the rising of the sun, which is hardly more regular. Their train of clouds stretching far behind and rising higher and higher, going to heaven while the cars are going to Boston, conceals the sun for a minute and casts my distant field into the shade, a celestial train beside which the petty train of cars which hugs the earth is but the **barb** of the spear. The stabler of the iron horse was up early this winter

Thesaurus

barb: (*adj, n*) point; (*n*) jag, arrow, fluke, prick, gibe, quill, spine, spike; (*adj*) spur, aculeate. ANTONYMS: (*n*) praise, kindness.

beholder: (*n*) witness, looker, observer, onlooker, viewer, eyewitness, bystander, auditor, audile, passer by, watcher.

beneficent: (*adj*) benevolent, kind, philanthropic, good, gracious, munificent, merciful, generous, eleemosynary, bounteous; (*n*) kindly.

cranberry: (*n*) shrub, foxberry, lingonberry, bacca, simple fruit; (*adj*) maroon, deep red, claret, crimson, burgundy, ruby.

demigod: (*adj, n*) hero; (*n*) daemon, Ubermensch, Adonis, leader, divinity, seraph, undergod, superman, heroine, God.

downy: (*adj*) flossy, fuzzy, soft, hairy, fleecy, silken, nappy, furry, downlike; (*v*) flocculent, flaccid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) coarse, hard.

errands: (*n*) everyday Jobs, farm duties.

nostrils: (*n*) naris, nose.

revisit: (*v*) go back, get back, frequent, come back, review, revise, flood back, return to, go home, hang around in, have a second look at. ANTONYM: (*v*) depart.

traveling: (*n*) travel, journey, travelling, commuting, commutation, peregrination, circumnavigation; (*adj*) riding, touring, nomadic, road.

morning by the light of the stars amid the mountains, to fodder and harness his **steed**. Fire, too, was awakened thus early to put the vital heat in him and get him off. If the enterprise were as innocent as it is early! If the snow lies deep, they strap on his snowshoes, and, with the giant plow, plow a **furrow** from the mountains to the **seaboard**, in which the cars, like a following drill-barrow, **sprinkle** all the restless men and floating merchandise in the country for seed. All day the fire-steed flies over the country, stopping only that his master may rest, and I am awakened by his tramp and defiant **snort** at midnight, when in some remote glen in the woods he fronts the elements **incased** in ice and snow; and he will reach his stall only with the morning star, to start once more on his travels without rest or **slumber**. Or perchance, at evening, I hear him in his stable blowing off the superfluous energy of the day, that he may calm his nerves and cool his liver and brain for a few hours of iron slumber. If the enterprise were as heroic and commanding as it is protracted and unwearied!

Far through unfrequented woods on the confines of towns, where once only the hunter **penetrated** by day, in the darkest night dart these bright saloons without the knowledge of their inhabitants; this moment stopping at some brilliant station-house in town or city, where a social crowd is gathered, the next in the Dismal Swamp, **scaring** the owl and fox. The startings and arrivals of the cars are now the epochs in the village day. They go and come with such regularity and precision, and their whistle can be heard so far, that the farmers set their clocks by them, and thus one well-conducted institution regulates a whole country. Have not men improved somewhat in **punctuality** since the railroad was invented? Do they not talk and think faster in the depot than they did in the stage-office? There is something **electrifying** in the atmosphere of the former place. I have been astonished at the miracles it has wrought; that some of my neighbors, who, I should have prophesied, once for all, would never get to Boston by so prompt a conveyance, are on hand when the bell rings. To do things "railroad fashion" is now the **byword**; and it is worth the while to be warned so often and so sincerely by any power to get off its track. There is no stopping to read the riot act, no firing over the heads of the mob, in this case. We have constructed a fate, an Atropos, that never turns aside. (Let that be the name

Thesaurus

byword: (*n*) aphorism, saw, saying, maxim, personification, proverb, sentence, motto, slogan, expression, catchphrase.

electrifying: (*adj*) exciting, vibrant, unexpected, stimulating, stirring, charming, striking, dramatic, electric, sensational, electric effects.

furrow: (*n, v*) fold, crinkle, crease, groove, line, chamfer, rut; (*n*) channel, cut, ditch, trough.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) ridge; (*v*) smooth.

incased: (*adj*) cased, sheathed.

penetrated: (*adj*) perforated, entered.

punctuality: (*n*) accuracy, precision, nicety, exactitude, truth, fidelity, exactness, promptitude, steadiness; (*adj*) rigor, mathematical precision.

ANTONYM: (*n*) tardiness.

scaring: (*adj*) appalling.

seaboard: (*n*) beach, seaside, shore, seashore, bank, coastline, shoreline, shores, littoral, seacoast, seabeach.

slumber: (*n, v*) rest, doze, snooze, nap,

drowse, repose, catnap; (*v*) be asleep, kip, take a nap; (*n*) siesta.

snort: (*v*) snore, huff, inhale; (*n, v*) snicker, hoot, chuckle, sneer; (*n*) bird, Bronx cheer, boo, razzing.

ANTONYM: (*v*) exhale.

sprinkle: (*v*) splash, drizzle, moisten, cast, dot, spatter, spray, spill; (*adj, v*) besprinkle; (*n, v*) dash, rain.

steed: (*n*) horse, mount, charger, knight, courser, warhorse, pony, stallion, mare.

of your engine.) Men are advertised that at a certain hour and minute these bolts will be shot toward particular points of the compass; yet it interferes with no man's business, and the children go to school on the other track. We live the steadier for it. We are all educated thus to be sons of Tell. The air is full of invisible bolts. Every path but your own is the path of fate. Keep on your own track, then.

What recommends commerce to me is its enterprise and bravery. It does not **clasp** its hands and pray to Jupiter. I see these men every day go about their business with more or less courage and content, doing more even than they suspect, and perchance better employed than they could have consciously devised. I am less affected by their **heroism** who stood up for half an hour in the front line at Buena Vista, than by the steady and cheerful valor of the men who inhabit the **snowplow** for their winter quarters; who have not merely the three-o'clock-in-the-morning courage, which Bonaparte thought was the rarest, but whose courage does not go to rest so early, who go to sleep only when the storm sleeps or the sinews of their iron steed are frozen. On this morning of the Great Snow, perchance, which is still raging and chilling men's blood, I bear the muffled tone of their engine bell from out the fog bank of their chilled breath, which announces that the cars are coming, without long delay, notwithstanding the veto of a New England northeast snow-storm, and I **behold** the plowmen covered with snow and **rime**, their heads peering, above the mould-board which is turning down other than daisies and the nests of field mice, like bowlders of the Sierra Nevada, that occupy an outside place in the universe.

Commerce is unexpectedly confident and serene, alert, adventurous, and unwearied. It is very natural in its methods **withal**, far more so than many fantastic enterprises and sentimental experiments, and hence its singular success. I am refreshed and expanded when the freight train rattles past me, and I smell the stores which go **dispensing** their odors all the way from Long Wharf to Lake Champlain, reminding me of foreign parts, of coral **reefs**, and Indian oceans, and tropical climes, and the extent of the globe. I feel more like a citizen of the world at the sight of the palm-leaf which will cover so many **flaxen** New England

Thesaurus

behold: (*v*) see, view, contemplate, regard, perceive, observe, look, consider, discern, descry, watch.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) Miss, disregard, ignore, overlook.

clasp: (*n, v*) embrace, hug, grip, grasp, squeeze, clutch, buckle, brooch; (*adj, n, v*) pin; (*v*) stick, cling.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) unbuckle, loose, unclasp, relax, detach.

dispensing: (*n*) dispensation, distribution, giving out, supply,

administration, dispensary, provision, central weighing.

flaxen: (*adj*) flaxy, fair, blond, light, pale, golden, arenaceous, sandy, farinaceous; (*n*) blonde.

heroism: (*n*) bravery, courage, valor, daring, boldness, chivalry, valiancy, valour, valiance, courageousness; (*adj, n*) prowess. ANTONYMS: (*n*) cowardliness, fearfulness.

reefs: (*n*) sunken rocks, rocks, coral reef.

rime: (*n, v*) rhyme; (*n*) hoarfrost, hoar, cleft, rift, chink, crack, assonance, alliteration, consonance; (*v*) alliterate.

snowplow: (*n*) snowplough, cardiograph, recapper, votograph, tenpenny.

withal: (*adv*) nevertheless, notwithstanding, however, even so, all the same, nonetheless, with; (*adj*) likewise; (*n*) sufficiency, adequacy, enough.

heads the next summer, the Manilla **hemp** and **cocoanut** husks, the old junk, **gunny** bags, scrap iron, and rusty nails. This carload of torn sails is more legible and interesting now than if they should be wrought into paper and printed books. Who can write so graphically the history of the storms they have weathered as these rents have done? They are proof-sheets which need no correction. Here goes **lumber** from the Maine woods, which did not go out to sea in the last freshet, risen four dollars on the thousand because of what did go out or was split up; pine, spruce, cedar -- first, second, third, and fourth qualities, so lately all of one quality, to wave over the bear, and **moose**, and **caribou**. Next rolls Thomaston lime, a prime lot, which will get far among the hills before it gets slacked. These rags in bales, of all hues and qualities, the lowest condition to which cotton and linen descend, the final result of dress -- of patterns which are now no longer cried up, unless it be in Milwaukee, as those splendid articles, English, French, or American prints, ginghams, muslins, etc., gathered from all quarters both of fashion and poverty, going to become paper of one color or a few shades only, on which, forsooth, will be written tales of real life, high and low, and founded on fact! This closed car smells of salt fish, the strong New England and commercial scent, reminding me of the Grand Banks and the fisheries. Who has not seen a salt fish, thoroughly cured for this world, so that nothing can spoil it, and putting, the perseverance of the saints to the blush? with which you may sweep or pave the streets, and split your kindlings, and the teamster shelter himself and his **lading** against sun, wind, and rain behind it -- and the trader, as a Concord trader once did, hang it up by his door for a sign when he commences business, until at last his oldest customer cannot tell surely whether it be animal, vegetable, or mineral, and yet it shall be as pure as a **snowflake**, and if it be put into a pot and boiled, will come out an excellent dun-fish for a Saturday's dinner. Next Spanish hides, with the tails still preserving their twist and the angle of elevation they had when the oxen that wore them were careering over the **pampas** of the Spanish Main -- a type of all **obstinacy**, and evincing how almost hopeless and incurable are all constitutional vices. I confess, that practically speaking, when I have learned a man's real disposition, I have no hopes of changing it for the better or worse in this state of existence. As

Thesaurus

caribou: (*n*) reindeer, Greenland caribou, cervid, sambar, elk, moose, musk ox, coyote, deer, Barren ground caribou.

cocoanut: (*n*) coco, cocoa-nut, coconut palm, coco palm, cocoa palm.

gunny: (*n*) burlap, bagging, gunny-cloth, gunney, gunny-bags, sacking, hessian sack.

hemp: (*n*) cannabis, dope, ganja, grass, flax, halter, rope, abaca, gage; (*adj*) marijuana, pot.

lading: (*n, v*) load, burden, weight; (*n*) freight, consignment, shipment, loading, shipping, freightage, product, wares.

lumber: (*n*) timber, wood; (*adj, n*) jumble, rubbish; (*v*) log, trail; (*adv, v*) plod; (*adj*) junk, litter, huddle, disarray.

moose: (*n*) European elk, coyote, caribou, Alces Alces, sambar, musk ox, deer, cervid.

obstinacy: (*n*) stubbornness, firmness,

bullheadedness, determination, contumacy, mulishness, impenitence, resolve, resoluteness, impenitency, pertinacity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) cooperation, compliance.

pampas: (*n*) downs, desert, wold, savanna, veldt, weary waste, geographical region, grassland, heath, plain, geographic region.

snowflake: (*n*) flake, snow bunting, snowbird, fleck, bit, junco, scrap, crystal, bunting, chip; (*adj*) snow.

the Orientals say, "A cur's tail may be **warmed**, and pressed, and bound round with ligatures, and after a twelve years' labor bestowed upon it, still it will retain its natural form." The only **effectual** cure for such inveteracies as these tails exhibit is to make glue of them, which I believe is what is usually done with them, and then they will stay put and stick. Here is a **hogshhead** of molasses or of brandy directed to John Smith, Cuttingsville, Vermont, some trader among the Green Mountains, who imports for the farmers near his clearing, and now perchance stands over his **bulkhead** and thinks of the last arrivals on the coast, how they may affect the price for him, telling his customers this moment, as he has told them twenty times before this morning, that he expects some by the next train of prime quality. It is advertised in the Cuttingsville Times.

While these things go up other things come down. Warned by the whizzing sound, I look up from my book and see some tall pine, hewn on far northern hills, which has **winged** its way over the Green Mountains and the Connecticut, shot like an arrow through the **township** within ten minutes, and scarce another eye beholds it; going

"to be the mast
Of some great ammiral."

And **hark!** here comes the cattle-train bearing the cattle of a thousand hills, shepcots, stables, and cow-yards in the air, drovers with their sticks, and shepherd boys in the midst of their flocks, all but the mountain pastures, whirled along like leaves blown from the mountains by the September gales. The air is filled with the **bleating** of calves and sheep, and the **hustling** of oxen, as if a pastoral valley were going by. When the old bell-wether at the head rattles his bell, the mountains do indeed skip like rams and the little hills like lambs. A carload of drovers, too, in the midst, on a level with their droves now, their **vocation** gone, but still clinging to their useless sticks as their badge of office. But their dogs, where are they? It is a **stampede** to them; they are quite thrown out; they have lost the scent. Methinks I hear them **barking** behind the Peterboro'

Thesaurus

barking: (*adj*) latrant; (*n*) abay, latration.

bleating: (*n*) bleat, baaing.

bulkhead: (*n*) isolating curtain, dissepiment, septum, divider, chine bulkhead, cofferdam, fire wall, after peak, bulkhead rib; (*v*) bulkhead in.

effectual: (*adj*, *n*) efficient, efficacious, able; (*adj*) forceful, telling,

authoritative, operative, potent, adequate, impressive, powerful.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ineffectual,

incapable, weak, impotent, ineffective, unproductive, unsuccessful, useless.

hark: (*v*) harken, hear, hearken, heed, listen in; (*n*) look here, look you, look.

hogshhead: (*n*) cask, barrel, vat.

hustling: (*n*) jostlement, haste, crowding; (*adj*) enterprising.

stampede: (*n*, *v*) panic; (*v*) dash, charge; (*n*) run, influx, assembly, departure, concourse, consternation, change of location, onrush.

township: (*n*) parish, municipality, county, community, shire, country, city, arrondissement, settlement, area, province.

vocation: (*n*, *v*) calling, profession, employment; (*n*) occupation, job, trade, business, career, line, mission, line of work.

warmed: (*adj*) warmer, warm, baked.

winged: (*adj*) swift, rapid, speedy, quick, flying, alate, sublime, lofty, alated, aligerous, composed.

Hills, or **panting** up the western slope of the Green Mountains. They will not be in at the death. Their vocation, too, is gone. Their fidelity and **sagacity** are below par now. They will **slink** back to their kennels in disgrace, or perchance run wild and strike a league with the wolf and the fox. So is your pastoral life whirled past and away. But the bell rings, and I must get off the track and let the cars go by;--

What's the railroad to me?
 I never go to see
 Where it ends.
 It fills a few hollows,
 And makes banks for the **swallows**,
 It sets the sand a-blowing,
 And the blackberries a-growing,

but I cross it like a cart-path in the woods. I will not have my eyes put out and my ears spoiled by its smoke and steam and hissing.

Now that the cars are gone by and all the restless world with them, and the **fishes** in the pond no longer feel their **rumbling**, I am more alone than ever. For the rest of the long afternoon, perhaps, my meditations are interrupted only by the faint rattle of a carriage or team along the distant highway.

Sometimes, on Sundays, I heard the bells, the Lincoln, Acton, Bedford, or Concord bell, when the wind was favorable, a faint, sweet, and, as it were, natural melody, worth **importing** into the wilderness. At a sufficient distance over the woods this sound acquires a certain **vibratory** hum, as if the pine needles in the horizon were the strings of a **harp** which it swept. All sound heard at the greatest possible distance produces one and the same effect, a vibration of the universal **lyre**, just as the intervening atmosphere makes a distant ridge of earth interesting to our eyes by the **azure** tint it imparts to it. There came to me in this case a melody which the air had strained, and which had conversed with every leaf and needle of the wood, that portion of the sound

Thesaurus

azure: (*adj, n*) cerulean, blue; (*n*)

sapphire, blueness, indigo, lazuline, heaven; (*adj*) chromatic, bright blue, azurn, azureous.

fishes: (*n*) amphibians, Craniata, Subphylum Vertebrata, Vertebrata, birds.

harp: (*n*) lyre, harmonica, harper, lute, mouth harp; (*v*) dwell, ingeminate, iterate, restate, reiterate, retell.

importing: (*n*) importation, mercantilism, commercialism,

commerce.

lyre: (*n*) lira, archlute, lute.

panting: (*adj*) gasping, breathless, blown, winded, puffed; (*v*) palpitation; (*n*) heaving, gasp, asthma, heave, puff.

rumbling: (*adj, n*) grumbling; (*n*) grumble, noise, boom, thunder, roll, roar; (*adj*) hollow, low; (*v*) bombination, berloque.

sagacity: (*n, v*) discernment, judgment, penetration; (*n*) judiciousness, sense,

prudence, gumption, acumen, perspicacity; (*adj, n*) discretion, wisdom. ANTONYM: (*n*) foolishness.

slink: (*n, v*) sneak; (*v*) creep, lurk, slip, prow, steal, glide, slide; (*n*) flinch, fight shy, shy.

swallows: (*n*) sparrows, rooks, robins, Passeriformes, Hirundinidae, etc, order Passeriformes.

vibratory: (*adj*) vibratile, vibrating, oscillatory, vibrative, oscillating, oscillative, swinging, moving.

which the elements had taken up and modulated and echoed from vale to vale. The echo is, to some extent, an original sound, and **therein** is the magic and charm of it. It is not merely a repetition of what was worth repeating in the bell, but partly the voice of the wood; the same trivial words and notes sung by a wood-nymph.

At evening, the distant **lowing** of some cow in the horizon beyond the woods sounded sweet and melodious, and at first I would mistake it for the voices of certain minstrels by whom I was sometimes serenaded, who might be **straying** over hill and dale; but soon I was not **unpleasantly** disappointed when it was prolonged into the cheap and natural music of the cow. I do not mean to be satirical, but to express my appreciation of those youths' singing, when I state that I perceived clearly that it was akin to the music of the cow, and they were at length one articulation of Nature.

Regularly at half-past seven, in one part of the summer, after the evening train had gone by, the whip-poor-wills chanted their **vespers** for half an hour, sitting on a stump by my door, or upon the ridge-pole of the house. They would begin to sing almost with as much precision as a clock, within five minutes of a particular time, referred to the setting of the sun, every evening. I had a rare opportunity to become acquainted with their habits. Sometimes I heard four or five at once in different parts of the wood, by accident one a bar behind another, and so near me that I distinguished not only the **cluck** after each note, but often that singular buzzing sound like a fly in a spider's web, only proportionally louder. Sometimes one would circle round and round me in the woods a few feet distant as if **tethered** by a string, when probably I was near its eggs. They sang at intervals throughout the night, and were again as musical as ever just before and about dawn.

When other birds are still, the screech owls take up the strain, like mourning women their ancient u-lu-lu. Their dismal scream is truly Ben Jonsonian. Wise midnight hags! It is no honest and blunt tu-whit tu-who of the poets, but, without jesting, a most solemn graveyard **ditty**, the mutual consolations of suicide lovers remembering the **pangs** and the **delights** of **supernal** love in the

Thesaurus

cluck: (*v*) cackle, clack, click, chuckle, utter, emit, chuck, fuss, blab, clatter; (*n, v*) cry.

delights: (*n*) delicies.

ditty: (*n*) ballad, canzonet, canticle, bravura, cantata, carol, tune, pastoral, recitative, recitativo, solfeggio.

lowing: (*adj*) mugient.

pangs: (*n*) anguish, compunction, contrition, distress.

straying: (*n*) digression, departure, error; (*adj*) errant, mistaking,

containing error, incorrect, misleading, astray, mistaken, erroneous.

supernal: (*adj*) heavenly, celestial, ethereal, lofty, unearthly, spiritual, unworldly; (*v*) head, capital, polar, topgallant. ANTONYM: (*adj*) infernal.

tethered: (*v*) on a rock, moored, anchored, at anchor, bound.

therein: (*adv*) in this, in there.

unpleasantly: (*adv*) distastefully,

disagreeably, rudely, obnoxiously, bitterly, painfully, awfully, troublesomely, offensively, hardly, displeasingly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) delightfully, agreeably, kindly, politely, graciously, attractively, sweetly, well, humbly.

vespers: (*n*) matins, mass, divine service, canonical hour, early evening, Evening Prayer, placebo, religious service, service, nightfall, worship.

infernal groves. Yet I love to hear their wailing, their **doleful** responses, **trilled** along the woodside; reminding me sometimes of music and singing birds; as if it were the dark and tearful side of music, the regrets and sighs that would fain be sung. They are the spirits, the low spirits and melancholy forebodings, of fallen souls that once in human shape night-walked the earth and did the deeds of darkness, now expiating their sins with their wailing hymns or threnodies in the scenery of their transgressions. They give me a new sense of the variety and capacity of that nature which is our common dwelling. Oh-o-o-o-o that I never had been bor-r-r-r-n! sighs one on this side of the pond, and circles with the restlessness of despair to some new perch on the gray oaks. Then -- that I never had been bor-r-r-r-n! echoes another on the farther side with **tremulous** sincerity, and -- bor-r-r-r-n! comes faintly from far in the Lincoln woods.

I was also serenaded by a hooting owl. Near at hand you could fancy it the most melancholy sound in Nature, as if she meant by this to stereotype and make permanent in her choir the dying moans of a human being -- some poor weak relic of mortality who has left hope behind, and howls like an animal, yet with human sobs, on entering the dark valley, made more awful by a certain gurgling **melodiousness** -- I find myself beginning with the letters *gl* when I try to imitate it -- expressive of a mind which has reached the **gelatinous**, **mildewy** stage in the **mortification** of all healthy and courageous thought. It reminded me of ghouls and idiots and insane howlings. But now one answers from far woods in a strain made really melodious by distance -- Hoo hoo hoo, hooser hoo; and indeed for the most part it suggested only pleasing associations, whether heard by day or night, summer or winter.

I rejoice that there are owls. Let them do the idiotic and **maniacal** hooting for men. It is a sound admirably suited to swamps and twilight woods which no day illustrates, suggesting a vast and undeveloped nature which men have not recognized. They represent the stark twilight and unsatisfied thoughts which all have. All day the sun has shone on the surface of some savage swamp, where the single spruce stands hung with usnea lichens, and small hawks circulate above, and the **chickadee** lisps amid the evergreens, and the partridge and rabbit

Thesaurus

chickadee: (*n*) titmouse, tit, chicken.
doleful: (*adj*) mournful, sorrowful, sad, disconsolate, melancholy, miserable, piteous, dolorous, somber, woeful; (*adj, v*) dolesome.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) gleeful, happy, glad, cheery, elated, euphoric.
gelatinous: (*adj*) jellylike, gluey, glutinous, viscous, gelatinlike, mucilaginous, albuminous, gooey, heavy, adhesive, liquid.
infernal: (*adj*) devilish, fiendish,

diabolical, demonic, damned, cursed, blasted, unholy, wicked; (*adj, v*) diabolic, satanic.
maniacal: (*adj*) demented, lunatic, manic, mad, delirious, crazy, frenzied, insane, violent, homicidal, demonic.
melodiousness: (*n*) melody, tunefulness, euphony.
mildewy: (*adj*) moldy, mouldy.
mortification: (*n*) chagrin, embarrassment, shame, gangrene,

disappointment, disgrace, corruption, necrosis, degradation; (*adj, n*) vexation; (*adj*) grievance.
tremulous: (*adj*) shaky, trembling, shaking, fearful, apprehensive, quavering, fidgety, shivering; (*n*) nervous, diffident, coy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) stable, confident, steady.
trilled: (*adj*) rolling, involute, furred, billowing, reverberating, resounding, resonating, resonant, pronounceable, reverberative.

skulk beneath; but now a more dismal and fitting day dawns, and a different race of creatures awakes to express the meaning of Nature there.

Late in the evening I heard the distant rumbling of wagons over bridges -- a sound heard farther than almost any other at night -- the baying of dogs, and sometimes again the lowing of some **disconsolate** cow in a distant barn-yard. In the mean-while all the shore rang with the trump of bullfrogs, the sturdy spirits of ancient wine-bibbers and wassailers, still unrepentant, trying to sing a catch in their Stygian lake -- if the Walden nymphs will pardon the comparison, for though there are almost no weeds, there are frogs there -- who would fain keep up the hilarious rules of their old **festal** tables, though their voices have waxed hoarse and solemnly grave, mocking at mirth, and the wine has lost its flavor, and become only liquor to **distend** their paunches, and sweet intoxication never comes to drown the memory of the past, but mere saturation and waterloggedness and **distention**. The most **aldermanic**, with his chin upon a heart-leaf, which serves for a napkin to his drooling **chaps**, under this northern shore quaffs a deep draught of the once scorned water, and passes round the cup with the ejaculation tr-r-r-oonk, tr-r-r--oonk, tr-r-r-oonk! and straightway comes over the water from some distant cove the same password repeated, where the next in seniority and girth has gulped down to his mark; and when this observance has made the circuit of the shores, then ejaculates the master of ceremonies, with satisfaction, tr-r-r-oonk! and each in his turn repeats the same down to the least **distended**, leakiest, and flabbiest paunched, that there be no mistake; and then the howl goes round again and again, until the sun disperses the morning mist, and only the patriarch is not under the pond, but vainly bellowing troonk from time to time, and pausing for a reply.

I am not sure that I ever heard the sound of cock-crowing from my clearing, and I thought that it might be worth the while to keep a **cockerel** for his music merely, as a singing bird. The note of this once wild Indian pheasant is certainly the most remarkable of any bird's, and if they could be **naturalized** without being domesticated, it would soon become the most famous sound in our woods, surpassing the **clangor** of the goose and the hooting of the owl; and then imagine

Thesaurus

aldermanic: (*adj*) legislative.

chaps: (*n*) chops, fauces, crack.

clangor: (*n, v*) clang, clangour; (*n*) din, crash, clash, clank, clatter, uproar, racket, roll, ring.

cockerel: (*n*) rooster, chicken.

disconsolate: (*adj*) inconsolable, blue, cheerless, melancholy, dejected, depressed, sad, miserable, dark, crestfallen, gloomy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) happy, joyous, euphoric, consolable, enthusiastic.

distend: (*v*) expand, bulge, inflate, bloat, blow up, balloon, enlarge, swell, widen; (*adj, v*) stretch, extend. ANTONYMS: (*v*) shrink, constrict, contract, compress.

distended: (*adj*) inflated, bloated, turgid, puffed, bombastic, distent, expanded, enlarged; (*adj, v*) puffy; (*v*) blowzy, bigswoln.

distention: (*n*) dilatation, dilation, swelling, inflation, bulge, extension, expansion, enlargement, conceit,

stress, rise.

festal: (*adj*) convivial, gala, solemn, festival, cheery, joyous, jovial, merry, gay, ceremonious, happy.

naturalized: (*adj*) established, vernacular, accomplished, constituted, conventional, domesticated, exotic, foreign, planted, firm, effected.

skulk: (*v*) prowl, sneak, creep, lie in wait, steal, malinge, shirk, conceal, slink; (*adj*) hide; (*n, v*) cower.

the cackling of the hens to fill the pauses when their lords' clarions **rested!** No wonder that man added this bird to his tame stock -- to say nothing of the eggs and drumsticks. To walk in a winter morning in a wood where these birds abounded, their native woods, and hear the wild cockerels crow on the trees, clear and shrill for miles over the **resounding** earth, drowning the feebler notes of other birds -- think of it! It would put nations on the alert. Who would not be early to rise, and rise earlier and earlier every successive day of his life, till he became **unspeakably** healthy, wealthy, and wise? This foreign bird's note is celebrated by the poets of all countries along with the notes of their native songsters. All climates agree with brave Chanticleer. He is more indigenous even than the natives. His health is ever good, his lungs are sound, his spirits never flag. Even the sailor on the Atlantic and Pacific is awakened by his voice; but its shrill sound never roused me from my slumbers. I kept neither dog, cat, cow, pig, nor hens, so that you would have said there was a deficiency of domestic sounds; neither the **churn**, nor the spinning-wheel, nor even the singing of the kettle, nor the hissing of the urn, nor children crying, to comfort one. An old-fashioned man would have lost his senses or died of ennui before this. Not even rats in the wall, for they were starved out, or rather were never baited in -- only squirrels on the roof and under the floor, a whip-poor-will on the ridge-pole, a blue jay screaming beneath the window, a hare or woodchuck under the house, a **screech** owl or a cat owl behind it, a flock of wild geese or a laughing loon on the pond, and a fox to bark in the night. Not even a lark or an **oriole**, those mild plantation birds, ever visited my clearing. No cockerels to crow nor hens to **cackle** in the yard. No yard! but unfenced nature reaching up to your very **sills**. A young forest growing up under your meadows, and wild sumachs and blackberry vines breaking through into your cellar; sturdy pitch pines rubbing and **creaking** against the shingles for want of room, their roots reaching quite under the house. Instead of a **scuttle** or a blind blown off in the gale -- a pine tree snapped off or torn up by the roots behind your house for fuel. Instead of no path to the front-yard gate in the Great Snow -- no gate -- no front-yard -- and no path to the civilized world.

Thesaurus

cackle: (*n, v*) giggle, snicker, chatter; (*v*) gaggle, crow, chortle; (*adj*) prattle, prate; (*n*) laugh, yack, laughter.
churn: (*v*) seethe, agitate, toss, bubble, eddy, whirl, roil, shake, stir, buffet; (*n*) butter churn.
creaking: (*adj, v*) creaky; (*adj*) squeaking, harsh, squeaky, noisy, arthritic; (*v*) rickety; (*n*) scream.
oriole: (*n*) cacique, bobolink, old world oriole, blackbird, cazique, meadowlark, lark, American oriole,

oscine, northern oriole, American songbird.
resounding: (*adj*) booming, ringing, reverberating, loud, rolling, vibrant, emphatic, resonating, reverberant; (*v*) resound; (*adv*) resoundingly.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) qualified, marginal.
rested: (*adj*) comfortable.
screech: (*n, v*) cry, shout, shriek, yell, scream, yelp, yowl, roar; (*n*) screaming; (*v*) squawk, pipe.

scuttle: (*v*) scurry, scamper, hasten, hurry, sink, post; (*n, v*) run; (*n*) hatchway, coal scuttle, opening, bucket.
sills: (*n*) drop structure, Beverly Sills.
unspeakably: (*adv*) indescribably, horrifically, horrifyingly, staggeringly, inexcusably, unbearably, unkindly, unpleasantly, unutterably, offensively, horrendously. ANTONYM: (*adv*) pleasantly.

SOLITUDE

This is a delicious evening, when the whole body is one sense, and imbibes delight through every pore. I go and come with a strange liberty in Nature, a part of herself. As I walk along the stony shore of the pond in my shirt-sleeves, though it is cool as well as cloudy and windy, and I see nothing special to attract me, all the elements are unusually congenial to me. The bullfrogs **trump** to usher in the night, and the note of the whip-poor-will is borne on the **rippling** wind from over the water. Sympathy with the fluttering **alder** and **poplar** leaves almost takes away my breath; yet, like the lake, my serenity is **rippled** but not ruffled. These small waves raised by the evening wind are as remote from storm as the smooth reflecting surface. Though it is now dark, the wind still blows and roars in the wood, the waves still dash, and some creatures lull the rest with their notes. The **repose** is never complete. The wildest animals do not repose, but seek their prey now; the fox, and **skunk**, and rabbit, now roam the fields and woods without fear. They are Nature's watchmen -- links which connect the days of animated life.

When I return to my house I find that **visitors** have been there and left their cards, either a bunch of flowers, or a wreath of **evergreen**, or a name in pencil on a yellow walnut leaf or a chip. They who come rarely to the woods take some little piece of the forest into their hands to play with by the way, which they leave, either intentionally or accidentally. One has peeled a willow **wand**, woven

Thesaurus

alder: (*n*) wood, alder tree.

evergreen: (*n*) tracheophyte, evergreen plant, pet, favorite; (*adj*) immortal, unfading, sempervirent, indeciduous, amaranthine; (*v*) macrobiotic, longeval. ANTONYM: (*adj*) deciduous.

poplar: (*n*) poplar tree, abele, cottonwood, hackmatack, wood, white poplar, angiospermous tree, gray poplar, flowering tree, black poplar, balsam poplar.

repose: (*n, v*) recline, peace, lie, calm; (*n*) composure, ease, quiet, leisure, recreation, relaxation; (*v*) lay.

ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) work; (*n*) activity, panic, agitation.

rippled: (*adj*) crinkly, having a ripple, uneven, wavelike, in waves, wavy, frilly, frilled, billowy, agitated, ruffled.

rippling: (*n*) ripple, wave, riffle, corrugation, moving ridge, wavelet, ripple formation; (*adj*) flowing,

billowy.

skunk: (*n*) rotter, rat, rascal, stinker, marijuana, bum, cannabis, puke, crumb, lowlife; (*v*) lurch.

trump: (*n*) trump card, brick; (*adj*) truepenny, quell, silence, stalemate, checkmate, nonplus; (*v*)

outmaneuver, crossruff, scoop.

visitors: (*n*) visitation.

wand: (*n, v*) stick, rod; (*n*) scepter, verge, mace, pole, baton, sceptre, fasces, rod of empire; (*v*) staff.

it into a ring, and dropped it on my table. I could always tell if visitors had called in my absence, either by the **bended twigs** or grass, or the print of their shoes, and generally of what sex or age or quality they were by some slight trace left, as a flower dropped, or a bunch of grass **plucked** and thrown away, even as far off as the railroad, half a mile distant, or by the **lingering** odor of a cigar or pipe. Nay, I was frequently notified of the passage of a traveller along the highway sixty rods off by the scent of his pipe.

There is commonly sufficient space about us. Our horizon is never quite at our elbows. The thick wood is not just at our door, nor the pond, but somewhat is always clearing, familiar and worn by us, **appropriated** and **fenced** in some way, and **reclaimed** from Nature. For what reason have I this vast range and circuit, some square miles of unfrequented forest, for my privacy, abandoned to me by men? My nearest neighbor is a mile distant, and no house is visible from any place but the hill-tops within half a mile of my own. I have my horizon bounded by woods all to myself; a distant view of the railroad where it touches the pond on the one hand, and of the fence which skirts the woodland road on the other. But for the most part it is as solitary where I live as on the prairies. It is as much Asia or Africa as New England. I have, as it were, my own sun and moon and **stars**, and a little world all to myself. At night there was never a traveller passed my house, or knocked at my door, more than if I were the first or last man; unless it were in the spring, when at long intervals some came from the village to fish for pouts -- they plainly fished much more in the Walden Pond of their own natures, and baited their **hooks** with darkness -- but they soon **retreated**, usually with light baskets, and left "the world to darkness and to me," and the black **kernel** of the night was never profaned by any human neighborhood. I believe that men are generally still a little afraid of the dark, though the witches are all hung, and Christianity and candles have been introduced.

Yet I experienced sometimes that the most sweet and tender, the most innocent and encouraging society may be found in any natural object, even for the poor **misanthrope** and most **melancholy** man. There can be no very black

Thesaurus

appropriated: (*adj*) taken, destined, taken over, confiscate, confiscated, condemned, seized, reserved.
bended: (*adj*) bent, bowed.
fenced: (*adj*) hedged in, provisional, guarded, bounded.
hooks: (*n*) maulers, meat hooks.
kernel: (*n*) gist, heart, essence, center, inwardness, quintessence, grain, marrow, substance, content, nucleus.
lingering: (*adj*) long, chronic, extended, dilatory, protracted,

prolonged, residual, lengthy, inactive, dull; (*n*) delay. ANTONYM: (*adj*) quick.
melancholy: (*adj, v*) dreary; (*adj, n*) gloom, melancholic; (*adj*) depressed, dejected, dismal, gloomy, doleful; (*n, v*) low spirits; (*n*) gloominess, depression. ANTONYMS: (*n*) happiness, cheerfulness, hopefulness, optimism; (*adj*) happy, bright, cheery, satisfied.
misanthrope: (*n*) misanthropist, cynic,

pessimist, skeptic, misogynist, misanthropos, Timon, grump, man hater, hermit, egotist.
plucked: (*v*) ploughed; (*adj*) pulled, unfeathered, featherless, moulting, pilled.
reclaimed: (*adj*) cultivated, tame, domestic, rescued, disciplined, domesticated.
retreated: (*adj*) withdrawn, people.
stars: (*n*) heavenly bodies, fate.
twigs: (*n*) sprays.

melancholy to him who lives in the midst of Nature and has his senses still. There was never yet such a storm but it was AEolian music to a healthy and innocent ear. Nothing can rightly **compel** a simple and brave man to a vulgar sadness. While I enjoy the friendship of the seasons I trust that nothing can make life a burden to me. The gentle rain which waters my beans and keeps me in the house today is not **drear** and melancholy, but good for me too. Though it prevents my hoeing them, it is of far more worth than my hoeing. If it should continue so long as to cause the seeds to rot in the ground and destroy the potatoes in the low lands, it would still be good for the grass on the uplands, and, being good for the grass, it would be good for me. Sometimes, when I compare myself with other men, it seems as if I were more **favored** by the gods than they, beyond any deserts that I am conscious of; as if I had a warrant and **surety** at their hands which my fellows have not, and were especially guided and guarded. I do not flatter myself, but if it be possible they flatter me. I have never felt lonesome, or in the least oppressed by a sense of solitude, but once, and that was a few weeks after I came to the woods, when, for an hour, I doubted if the near neighborhood of man was not essential to a serene and healthy life. To be alone was something unpleasant. But I was at the same time conscious of a slight insanity in my mood, and seemed to foresee my recovery. In the midst of a gentle rain while these thoughts prevailed, I was suddenly sensible of such sweet and beneficent society in Nature, in the very pattering of the drops, and in every sound and sight around my house, an infinite and **unaccountable** friendliness all at once like an atmosphere sustaining me, as made the fancied advantages of human neighborhood insignificant, and I have never thought of them since. Every little pine needle expanded and **swelled** with sympathy and befriended me. I was so distinctly made aware of the presence of something kindred to me, even in scenes which we are accustomed to call wild and dreary, and also that the nearest of blood to me and humanest was not a person nor a villager, that I thought no place could ever be strange to me again.

"Mourning **untimely** consumes the sad;
Few are their days in the land of the living,

Thesaurus

compel: (*v*) force, coerce, pressure, necessitate, enforce, command, oblige, require, make, obligate, press. ANTONYMS: (*v*) impede, deter, check, block, request, prevent.
drear: (*adj*) dreary, dingy, drab, disconsolate, distressing, sad, lamentable, bleak, cheerless, darkening, gloomy.
favored: (*adj*) advantaged, preferred, lucky, advantageous, pet, favorite, blessed, privileged, favorable; (*adj, n*)

happy, prosperous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) disliked, unpopular, Standard.
surety: (*n*) collateral, pledge, hostage, guarantee, earnest, guaranty, guarantor, certainty, assurance, sponsor, bail.
swelled: (*adj*) big, inflated, bloated, swollen, adult, boastful, bighearted, bad, fully grown, crowing, elder.
unaccountable: (*adj*) incomprehensible, inexplicable, strange, unintelligible, unexplainable,

mysterious, impenetrable, undiscoverable, undecipherable, unknowable, unnatural. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) accountable, explainable, responsible, explicable.
untimely: (*adj*) early, unseasonable, inopportune, inappropriate, awkward, immature, previous, ill timed, inconvenient, improper, belated. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) timely, appropriate, opportune, convenient, overdue.

Beautiful daughter of Toscar."

Some of my pleasantest hours were during the long rain-storms in the spring or fall, which confined me to the house for the afternoon as well as the **forenoon**, **soothed** by their ceaseless roar and **pelting**; when an early twilight ushered in a long evening in which many thoughts had time to take root and unfold themselves. In those driving northeast rains which tried the village houses so, when the maids stood ready with mop and **pail** in front entries to keep the **deluge** out, I sat behind my door in my little house, which was all entry, and thoroughly enjoyed its protection. In one heavy thunder-shower the lightning struck a large pitch pine across the pond, making a very conspicuous and perfectly regular spiral groove from top to bottom, an inch or more deep, and four or five inches wide, as you would groove a walking-stick. I passed it again the other day, and was struck with awe on looking up and beholding that mark, now more distinct than ever, where a terrific and **resistless** bolt came down out of the harmless sky eight years ago. Men frequently say to me, "I should think you would feel lonesome down there, and want to be nearer to folks, rainy and snowy days and nights especially." I am tempted to reply to such -- This whole earth which we inhabit is but a point in space. How far apart, think you, dwell the two most distant inhabitants of **yonder** star, the breadth of whose disk cannot be appreciated by our instruments? Why should I feel lonely? is not our planet in the Milky Way? This which you put seems to me not to be the most important question. What sort of space is that which separates a man from his fellows and makes him solitary? I have found that no exertion of the legs can bring two minds much nearer to one another. What do we want most to dwell near to? Not to many men surely, the depot, the post-office, the bar-room, the meeting-house, the school-house, the grocery, Beacon Hill, or the Five Points, where men most **congregate**, but to the perennial source of our life, whence in all our experience we have found that to issue, as the willow stands near the water and sends out its roots in that direction. This will vary with different natures, but this is the place where a wise man will dig his cellar.... I one evening **overtook** one of my townsmen, who has accumulated what is called "a handsome

Thesaurus

congregate: (*v*) gather, assemble, concentrate, convene, meet, crowd, come together, get together, amass, accumulate, compile. ANTONYMS: (*v*) disperse, separate, scatter, divide, part, disband, diverge.

deluge: (*adj, v*) inundate; (*n*) cataclysm, downpour, cloudburst, torrent, debacle; (*v*) overrun, overwhelm; (*n, v*) overflow, surge, stream. ANTONYMS: (*n*) drought, abatement, trickle, lack; (*v*) drain,

capitulate, desiccate, surrender, parch, dry, dehydrate.

forenoon: (*n*) morning, morn, am, period, daybreak, break of the day, morning time, first light, dayspring, a, cockcrow.

overtook: (*v*) overtake.

pail: (*n*) bucketful, jug, tub, pailful, cannikin, pails, skeel, tankard, pot, pipkin, vessel.

pelting: (*n*) successiveness, chronological sequence,

chronological succession, hail, rain.

resistless: (*adj*) overpowering, overwhelming, unquenchable, unconquerable, supine, invincible, inextinguishable, indomitable, inactive, impregnable; (*v*) avoidless. ANTONYM: (*adj*) resistible.

soothed: (*adj*) composed.

yonder: (*adv*) beyond, further, farther, abroad, thither, further away, at that place; (*adj*) distant, yond, furious, fierce.

property" -- though I never got a fair view of it -- on the Walden road, driving a pair of cattle to market, who inquired of me how I could bring my mind to give up so many of the comforts of life. I answered that I was very sure I liked it **passably** well; I was not joking. And so I went home to my bed, and left him to pick his way through the darkness and the mud to Brighton -- or Bright-town -- which place he would reach some time in the morning.

Any prospect of awakening or coming to life to a dead man makes indifferent all times and places. The place where that may occur is always the same, and **indescribably** pleasant to all our senses. For the most part we allow only **outlying** and transient circumstances to make our occasions. They are, in fact, the cause of our distraction. Nearest to all things is that power which fashions their being. Next to us the grandest laws are continually being executed. Next to us is not the workman whom we have hired, with whom we love so well to talk, but the workman whose work we are.

"How vast and profound is the influence of the **subtile** powers of Heaven and of Earth!"

"We seek to perceive them, and we do not see them; we seek to hear them, and we do not hear them; identified with the substance of things, they cannot be separated from them."

"They cause that in all the universe men **purify** and **sanctify** their hearts, and clothe themselves in their holiday garments to offer sacrifices and oblations to their ancestors. It is an ocean of subtile intelligences. They are everywhere, above us, on our left, on our right; they **environ** us on all sides."

We are the subjects of an experiment which is not a little interesting to me. Can we not do without the society of our gossips a little while under these circumstances -- have our own thoughts to cheer us? Confucius says truly, "Virtue does not remain as an abandoned **orphan**; it must of necessity have neighbors."

With thinking we may be beside ourselves in a sane sense. By a conscious effort of the mind we can stand aloof from actions and their consequences; and

Thesaurus

environ: (*adv, v*) encompass, surround, beset, compass; (*v*) besiege, enclose, circle, envelop, gird, circumvent, beleaguer.

indescribably: (*adv*) unspeakably, incredibly, inconceivably, beyond words, unbelievably, unutterably, unthinkable.

orphan: (*n*) waif, caterpillar, nymph, nymph, cocoon, Aurelia, tyke, staddle, youngster, shaver; (*adj*) orphaned.

outlying: (*adj*) faraway, remote, far, outer, isolated, outdoor, outward, exterior, peripheral, outstanding, secluded. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) central, metropolitan, nearby, neighboring.

passably: (*adv*) reasonably, middling, moderately, tolerably, adequately, enough, well enough, okay, impartially, indifferent; (*adj*) pretty well. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) insufficiently, intolerably, unsatisfactorily, inadequately.

purify: (*adj, v*) clear, cleanse; (*v*) purge, disinfect, refine, distill, sanctify, clarify, deurate, lustrate, chasten.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) pollute, dilute, soil, cloud, desecrate.

sanctify: (*v*) purify, hallow, enshrine, anoint, honor, reconsecrate, lustrate; (*adj, v*) ordain, bless; (*n*) edify, convert.

subtile: (*adj*) fine, delicate, rare, light, guileful, astute, acute, cunning, subtle, artful, crafty.

all things, good and bad, go by us like a torrent. We are not wholly involved in Nature. I may be either the driftwood in the stream, or Indra in the sky looking down on it. I may be affected by a theatrical exhibition; on the other hand, I may not be affected by an actual event which appears to concern me much more. I only know myself as a human entity; the scene, so to speak, of thoughts and affections; and am sensible of a certain **doubleness** by which I can stand as remote from myself as from another. However intense my experience, I am conscious of the presence and criticism of a part of me, which, as it were, is not a part of me, but spectator, sharing no experience, but taking note of it, and that is no more I than it is you. When the play, it may be the tragedy, of life is over, the spectator goes his way. It was a kind of fiction, a work of the imagination only, so far as he was concerned. This doubleness may easily make us poor neighbors and friends sometimes.

I find it **wholesome** to be alone the greater part of the time. To be in company, even with the best, is soon **wearisome** and **dissipating**. I love to be alone. I never found the companion that was so **companionable** as solitude. We are for the most part more lonely when we go abroad among men than when we stay in our chambers. A man thinking or working is always alone, let him be where he will. Solitude is not measured by the miles of space that intervene between a man and his fellows. The really **diligent** student in one of the crowded **hives** of Cambridge College is as solitary as a **dervish** in the desert. The farmer can work alone in the field or the woods all day, hoeing or chopping, and not feel lonesome, because he is employed; but when he comes home at night he cannot sit down in a room alone, at the mercy of his thoughts, but must be where he can "see the folks," and recreate, and, as he thinks, **remunerate** himself for his day's solitude; and hence he wonders how the student can sit alone in the house all night and most of the day without ennui and "the blues"; but he does not realize that the student, though in the house, is still at work in his field, and chopping in his woods, as the farmer in his, and in turn seeks the same recreation and society that the latter does, though it may be a more condensed form of it.

Thesaurus

companionable: (*adj*) sociable, affable, convivial, gregarious, cordial, clubbable, congenial, friendly, jovial, genial, cosey. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) nasty, antagonistic, cold, unfriendly, different, frosty, shy, hostile.
dervish: (*n*) faquir, fakeer, faqir, fakir, whirler, mufti, hadji.
diligent: (*adj*) busy, active, assiduous, painstaking, careful, earnest, studious, attentive, laborious, industrious, zealous. ANTONYMS:

(*adj*) careless, negligent, dilatory, idle, inactive, languid, slack, sluggish, lethargic, weary, indolent.
dissipating: (*n*) distribution.
doubleness: (*n*) bad faith.
hives: (*n*) urticaria, rash, efflorescence, eruption, urtication, skin complaint.
remunerate: (*v*) pay, recompense, compensate, reimburse, indemnify, repay, recoup, requite, reward, refund, redress.
wearisome: (*adj, v*) tiresome, irksome,

troublesome; (*adj*) tedious, dull, monotonous, boring, laborious, trying, slow, annoying. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) satisfying, soothing, exciting, refreshing, easy.
wholesome: (*adj*) healthy, beneficial, salubrious, healthful, salutary, sound, good, nutritious, nourishing, pure, hale. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unwholesome, unhealthy, impure, indecent, sordid, warped, tainted, decadent, deadly, unsavory.

Society is commonly too cheap. We meet at very short intervals, not having had time to acquire any new value for each other. We meet at meals three times a day, and give each other a new taste of that old **musty** cheese that we are. We have had to agree on a certain set of rules, called etiquette and politeness, to make this frequent meeting tolerable and that we need not come to open war. We meet at the post-office, and at the sociable, and about the **fireside** every night; we live thick and are in each other's way, and **stumble** over one another, and I think that we thus lose some respect for one another. Certainly less frequency would suffice for all important and **hearty** communications. Consider the girls in a factory -- never alone, hardly in their dreams. It would be better if there were but one inhabitant to a square mile, as where I live. The value of a man is not in his skin, that we should touch him.

I have heard of a man lost in the woods and dying of famine and exhaustion at the foot of a tree, whose loneliness was relieved by the grotesque visions with which, owing to bodily weakness, his diseased imagination surrounded him, and which he believed to be real. So also, owing to bodily and mental health and strength, we may be continually cheered by a like but more normal and natural society, and come to know that we are never alone.

I have a great deal of company in my house; especially in the morning, when nobody calls. Let me suggest a few comparisons, that some one may convey an idea of my situation. I am no more lonely than the loon in the pond that laughs so loud, or than Walden Pond itself. What company has that lonely lake, I pray? And yet it has not the blue **devils**, but the blue angels in it, in the azure tint of its waters. The sun is alone, except in thick weather, when there sometimes appear to be two, but one is a mock sun. God is alone -- but the devil, he is far from being alone; he sees a great deal of company; he is legion. I am no more lonely than a single **mullein** or **dandelion** in a pasture, or a bean leaf, or **sorrel**, or a horse-fly, or a **bumblebee**. I am no more lonely than the Mill Brook, or a **weathercock**, or the north star, or the south wind, or an April shower, or a January thaw, or the first spider in a new house.

Thesaurus

bumblebee: (*n*) humblebee, bee, bombus.

dandelion: (*n*) herb, taraxacum, family Compositae, family Asteraceae, daisy, compositae, common dandelion, aster family, Asteraceae.

devils: (*n*) unclean spirits.

fireside: (*n*) fireplace, home, family, habitation, dwelling, abode, domicile, country, dwelling house, fire, habitat.

hearty: (*adj*) heartfelt, healthy, genial, sturdy, cheering, fervent,

wholehearted, lusty, enthusiastic, convivial; (*adj, n*) well. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unhealthy, frail, old, weak, sluggish, unwholesome, meager.

mullein: (*n*) great mullein, herb, flannel mullein, herbaceous plant, moth mullein, torch, common mullein, velvet plant, mullen.

musty: (*adj*) fusty, rancid, stale, mouldy, rank, bad, obsolete, antiquated, stuffy, threadbare, trite. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) airy, modern.

sorrel: (*n*) russet buff, shamrock, carrot, goatsfoot, oxalis, murrey, common sorrel, brown, pier, red sorrel, reddish brown.

stumble: (*adj, n, v*) slip; (*n, v*) lurch, fall, err, stagger; (*adj, v*) blunder, flounder, fumble; (*n*) misstep; (*v*) hit, falter.

weathercock: (*n*) vane, weather vane, hand, flagstaff, cairn, pointer, post, staff; (*adj*) chameleon, moon, Proteus.

I have occasional visits in the long winter evenings, when the snow falls fast and the wind howls in the wood, from an old **settler** and original proprietor, who is reported to have dug Walden Pond, and stoned it, and fringed it with pine woods; who tells me **stories** of old time and of new eternity; and between us we manage to pass a cheerful evening with social mirth and pleasant views of things, even without apples or cider -- a most wise and humorous friend, whom I love much, who keeps himself more secret than ever did Goffe or Whalley; and though he is thought to be dead, none can show where he is buried. An elderly dame, too, dwells in my neighborhood, invisible to most persons, in whose **odororous** herb garden I love to stroll sometimes, gathering **simples** and listening to her fables; for she has a genius of **unequaled** fertility, and her memory runs back farther than mythology, and she can tell me the original of every fable, and on what fact every one is founded, for the incidents occurred when she was young. A ruddy and lusty old dame, who delights in all weathers and seasons, and is likely to **outlive** all her children yet.

The indescribable innocence and beneficence of Nature -- of sun and wind and rain, of summer and winter -- such health, such cheer, they afford forever! and such sympathy have they ever with our race, that all Nature would be affected, and the sun's brightness fade, and the winds would sigh **humanely**, and the clouds rain tears, and the woods shed their leaves and put on mourning in midsummer, if any man should ever for a just cause grieve. Shall I not have intelligence with the earth? Am I not partly leaves and vegetable mould myself?

What is the pill which will keep us well, serene, contented? Not my or thy great-grandfather's, but our great-grandmother Nature's universal, vegetable, botanic medicines, by which she has kept herself young always, outlived so many old Parrs in her day, and fed her health with their decaying **fatness**. For my panacea, instead of one of those quack vials of a mixture dipped from Acheron and the Dead Sea, which come out of those long shallow black-schooner looking wagons which we sometimes see made to carry bottles, let me have a draught of undiluted morning air. Morning air! If men will not drink of this at the **fountainhead** of the day, why, then, we must even bottle up some and sell it

Thesaurus

fatness: (*n*) adiposity, fleshiness, avoirdupois, heaviness, adiposeness, obesity, greasiness, stoutness, fattiness, size, corpulence.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) leanness, thinness.

fountainhead: (*n*) source, well, head, wellspring, beginning, root, spring, headspring, origin, spring head, source or origin.

humanely: (*adv*) kindly, benevolently, humanitarianly, mercifully, benignly, sympathetically, compassionately,

beneficently, considerably, philanthropically, nicely.

ANTONYM: (*adv*) cruelly.

odororous: (*adj*) fragrant, odoriferous, aromatic, balmy, scented, sweet, redolent, perfumed, odorant, malodorous, fragrance. ANTONYM: (*adj*) smelly.

outlive: (*v*) survive, live, endure, overlive, live through, make it, overbide, overcome, remain, supervive, subsist.

settler: (*n*) migrant, colonist, immigrant, inhabitant, homesteader, squatter, planter, newcomer, colonizer, sockdolager, standish.

ANTONYM: (*n*) native.

simples: (*n*) galenicals, medicine, physic.

stories: (*n*) tale.

unequaled: (*adj*) unequaled, unique, alone, peerless, incomparable, matchless, unrivaled, unsurpassed, unrivalled, solitary, inimitable.

in the shops, for the benefit of those who have lost their **subscription ticket** to morning time in this world. But remember, it will not keep quite till **noonday** even in the coolest cellar, but drive out the stopples long ere that and follow **westward** the steps of Aurora. I am no worshipper of Hygeia, who was the daughter of that old herb-doctor AEsculapius, and who is represented on monuments holding a **serpent** in one hand, and in the other a cup out of which the serpent sometimes **drinks**; but rather of Hebe, cup-bearer to Jupiter, who was the daughter of Juno and wild **lettuce**, and who had the power of **restoring** gods and men to the vigor of youth. She was probably the only thoroughly sound-conditioned, healthy, and **robust** young lady that ever **walked** the **globe**, and wherever she came it was spring.

Thesaurus

drinks: (*n*) refreshments, food and drink.

globe: (*n*) earth, world, orb, circle, eyeball, round, planet, bolus, fireball, bulb; (*adj, n*) sphere.

lettuce: (*n*) celtuce, folding money, cabbage, dough, cos, leaf lettuce, boodle, bread, kale, iceberg lettuce, Chicago.

noonday: (*n*) noontide, noon, high noon, hour, twelve noon, afternoon; (*v*) tide; (*adj*) meridional.

restoring: (*n*) reinstatement, restoration; (*adj*) grateful, reffective, comforting, refreshing.

robust: (*adj, n*) hardy, firm, hard; (*adj*) strong, athletic, vigorous, powerful, muscular, brawny, lusty, mighty.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) slight, fragile, frail, delicate, flimsy, feeble, fickle.

serpent: (*n*) snake, ophidian, viper, snake in the grass, reptile, rattlesnake, colubrid, contrafagotto, cor anglais, hautboy; (*v*) goose.

subscription: (*n*) donation, agreement, approval, offering, reservation, registration, gift, entry; (*v*) allowance, subvention, subsidy.

ticket: (*n*) label, card, certificate, ballot, check, slate, tag, warrant, voucher, slip, mark. ANTONYM: (*n*) exclusion.

walked: (*adj*) exempt; (*v*) yode.

westward: (*adv*) west, westwards; (*adj, adv*) westerly; (*adj*) westbound, western; (*v*) to the west.

VISITORS

I think that I love society as much as most, and am ready enough to **fasten** myself like a **bloodsucker** for the time to any **full-blooded** man that comes in my way. I am naturally no **hermit**, but might possibly sit out the sturdiest **frequent**er of the bar-room, if my business called me thither.

I had three chairs in my house; one for solitude, two for friendship, three for society. When visitors came in larger and unexpected numbers there was but the third chair for them all, but they generally economized the room by standing up. It is surprising how many great men and women a small house will contain. I have had twenty-five or thirty souls, with their bodies, at once under my roof, and yet we often parted without being aware that we had come very near to one another. Many of our houses, both public and private, with their almost innumerable apartments, their huge halls and their cellars for the storage of wines and other munitions of peace, appear to be **extravagantly** large for their inhabitants. They are so vast and magnificent that the latter seem to be only **vermin** which **infest** them. I am surprised when the herald blows his summons before some Tremont or Astor or Middlesex House, to see come creeping out over the **piazza** for all inhabitants a ridiculous mouse, which soon again slinks into some hole in the pavement.

Thesaurus

bloodsucker: (*n*) vampire, gorilla, ogre, vulture, ghoul, extortioner, freeloader, hanger-on, hirudinean, scrounger, sponger.

extravagantly: (*adv*) excessively, immoderately, inordinately, luxuriously, prodigally, wastefully, profligately, profusely, ostentatiously, improvidently, unrestrainedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) economically, stingily, reasonably, meagerly, cheaply, modestly,

humbly.

fasten: (*adj, v*) attach, fix, affix; (*v*) connect, bind, tie, tack, pin, stick, clasp, anchor. ANTONYMS: (*v*) detach, undo, unlock, loosen, release, open, disconnect, untie, separate, unscrew.

frequent: (*n*) patron, regular, customer, habitue, attender, guest, client, resorter.

full-blooded: (*adj*) thoroughbred, flushed, ruddy, pedigree.

hermit: (*n*) anchorite, ascetic, solitary, anchoret, eremite, monk, troglodyte, solitaire, loner, caveman, cave man.

infest: (*v*) overrun, disturb, pester, beset, annoy, invade, harry, overwhelm, occupy, molest, harass.

piazza: (*n*) plaza, square, mall, circus, cloister, arcade, court, crescent, porch, space, veranda.

vermin: (*n*) bug, varmint, louse, trash, pest, brute, varment, scum, riffraff, ragtag and bobtail, rabble.

One inconvenience I sometimes experienced in so small a house, the difficulty of getting to a sufficient distance from my guest when we began to utter the big thoughts in big words. You want room for your thoughts to get into sailing trim and run a course or two before they make their port. The bullet of your thought must have overcome its lateral and **ricochet** motion and fallen into its last and steady course before it reaches the ear of the **hearer**, else it may plow out again through the side of his head. Also, our sentences wanted room to **unfold** and form their columns in the interval. Individuals, like nations, must have suitable broad and natural boundaries, even a considerable neutral ground, between them. I have found it a singular luxury to talk across the pond to a companion on the opposite side. In my house we were so near that we could not begin to hear -- we could not speak low enough to be heard; as when you throw two stones into calm water so near that they break each other's undulations. If we are merely **loquacious** and loud talkers, then we can afford to stand very near together, cheek by **jowl**, and feel each other's breath; but if we speak reservedly and thoughtfully, we want to be farther apart, that all animal heat and moisture may have a chance to **evaporate**. If we would enjoy the most intimate society with that in each of us which is without, or above, being spoken to, we must not only be silent, but commonly so far apart bodily that we cannot possibly hear each other's voice in any case. Referred to this standard, speech is for the convenience of those who are hard of hearing; but there are many fine things which we cannot say if we have to shout. As the conversation began to assume a loftier and grander tone, we gradually shoved our chairs farther apart till they touched the wall in opposite corners, and then commonly there was not room enough.

My "best" room, however, my **withdrawing** room, always ready for company, on whose carpet the sun rarely fell, was the pine wood behind my house. Thither in summer days, when distinguished guests came, I took them, and a **priceless** domestic **swept** the floor and dusted the furniture and kept the things in order.

Thesaurus

evaporate: (*v*) disappear, dissolve, dissipate, dry, melt away, exhale, vaporize, concentrate, pass; (*n*) vapor; (*adj, v*) fade. ANTONYMS: (*v*) appear, wet, dampen, soak, drench.
hearer: (*n*) audience, listener, eavesdropper, observer, perceiver, earwitness, attendant, attendee, attender, audient, beholder.
jowl: (*n*) cheek, jaw, lower jaw, mandible, chin, os, wing, mandibula, submaxilla, lower jawbone; (*v*) joul.

loquacious: (*adj*) talkative, chatty, gabby, wordy, verbose, talky, glib, voluble, linguacious, expansive, gossipy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) taciturn, reticent.
priceless: (*adj*) invaluable, rare, inestimable, incalculable, costly, beyond price, valuable, picked, best, choice, elect. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) worthless, cheap.
ricochet: (*n, v*) rebound, boom; (*v*) recoil, bound, jump, kick, glance,

reverberate, skip, leap; (*n*) carom.
swept: (*adj*) clean.
unfold: (*v*) spread, open, extend, develop, stretch, spread out, reveal, display, stretch out; (*adj, v*) expound, explain. ANTONYMS: (*v*) fold, block, stagnate, stop, hide, withhold, check, wrap, conceal.
withdrawing: (*adj*) receding, outgoing, retiring, moving back, modest, lowly; (*n*) departure, privacy, seclusion, cancellation.

If one guest came he sometimes partook of my **frugal** meal, and it was no interruption to conversation to be stirring a hasty-pudding, or watching the rising and **maturing** of a loaf of bread in the ashes, in the meanwhile. But if twenty came and sat in my house there was nothing said about dinner, though there might be bread enough for two, more than if eating were a **forsaken** habit; but we naturally practised **abstinence**; and this was never felt to be an offence against hospitality, but the most proper and considerate course. The waste and decay of physical life, which so often needs repair, seemed miraculously **retarded** in such a case, and the vital vigor stood its ground. I could entertain thus a thousand as well as twenty; and if any ever went away disappointed or hungry from my house when they found me at home, they may depend upon it that I sympathized with them at least. So easy is it, though many housekeepers doubt it, to establish new and better customs in the place of the old. You need not rest your reputation on the dinners you give. For my own part, I was never so **effectually** deterred from frequenting a man's house, by any kind of Cerberus whatever, as by the parade one made about dining me, which I took to be a very polite and roundabout hint never to trouble him so again. I think I shall never revisit those scenes. I should be proud to have for the motto of my cabin those lines of Spenser which one of my visitors **inscribed** on a yellow walnut leaf for a card:--

"Arrived there, the little house they fill,
 Ne looke for entertainment where none was;
 Rest is their feast, and all things at their will:
 The noblest mind the best contentment has."

When Winslow, afterward governor of the Plymouth Colony, went with a companion on a visit of ceremony to Massasoit on foot through the woods, and arrived tired and hungry at his lodge, they were well received by the king, but nothing was said about eating that day. When the night arrived, to quote their own words -- "He laid us on the bed with himself and his wife, they at the one

Thesaurus

abstinence: (*n*) temperance, abstention, forbearance, sobriety, chastity, soberness, celibacy, teetotalism, fast, abstinency, restraint.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) excess, intoxication, revelry, intemperance, drunkenness, dissipation, extravagance, wantonness.
effectually: (*adv*) efficaciously, effectively, validly, adequately, potently, tellingly, strongly, decisively; (*adj*) nicely, fully, head

and shoulders. **ANTONYM:** (*adv*) ineffectually.
forsaken: (*adj*) deserted, abandoned, lonely, forlorn, derelict, desert, empty, solitary, friendless; (*adj, v*) jilted; (*v*) crossed in love.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) unforsaken.
frugal: (*adj*) thrifty, abstemious, sparing, austere, prudent, careful, provident, moderate, parsimonious; (*adj, v*) chary; (*v*) scant. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) extravagant, luxurious, wasteful,

hedonistic, abundant, lavish.
inscribed: (*adj*) etched, incised, graven, written, carved, carven.
maturing: (*adj*) growing, budding, green, payable; (*n*) maturation, maturement, development, growth, ripening, firing range, biological process.
retarded: (*adj*) slow, tardy, imbecile, belated, delayed, simple, obtuse, leisurely, dull, deferred, defective.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) precocious.

end and we at the other, it being only planks laid a foot from the ground and a thin mat upon them. Two more of his chief men, for want of room, pressed by and upon us; so that we were worse weary of our **lodging** than of our journey." At one o'clock the next day Massasoit "brought two fishes that he had shot," about **thrice** as big as a **bream**. "These being boiled, there were at least forty looked for a share in them; the most eat of them. This meal only we had in two nights and a day; and had not one of us bought a partridge, we had taken our journey fasting." Fearing that they would be **light-headed** for want of food and also sleep, **owing** to "the savages' barbarous singing, (for they use to sing themselves asleep)," and that they might get home while they had strength to travel, they departed. As for lodging, it is true they were but poorly **entertained**, though what they found an inconvenience was no doubt intended for an honor; but as far as eating was concerned, I do not see how the Indians could have done better. They had nothing to eat themselves, and they were wiser than to think that **apologies** could supply the place of food to their **guests**; so they drew their belts tighter and said nothing about it. Another time when Winslow visited them, it being a season of plenty with them, there was no deficiency in this respect.

As for men, they will hardly fail one anywhere. I had more visitors while I lived in the woods than at any other period in my life; I mean that I had some. I met several there under more favorable circumstances than I could anywhere else. But fewer came to see me on trivial business. In this respect, my company was winnowed by my mere distance from town. I had withdrawn so far within the great ocean of **solitude**, into which the rivers of society empty, that for the most part, so far as my needs were concerned, only the finest sediment was deposited around me. Beside, there were wafted to me evidences of **unexplored** and **uncultivated** continents on the other side.

Who should come to my lodge this morning but a true Homeric or Paphlagonian man -- he had so suitable and poetic a name that I am sorry I cannot print it here -- a Canadian, a woodchopper and post-maker, who can hole fifty posts in a day, who made his last supper on a woodchuck which his dog

Thesaurus

apologies: (*n*) regret.

bream: (*n*) freshwater bream, percoid, percoidean, sunfish, centrarchid, bluegill, genus *Lepomis*, pomfret, porgy, black bream; (*v*) broom.

entertained: (*adj*) diverted, pleased.

guests: (*n*) guest, visitors.

light-headed: (*adj*) dizzy, flighty, skittish, queer, faint, lightheaded.

lodging: (*n*) abode, apartment, accommodation, housing, hostel, residence, quarter, home, lodgement,

address, hospice.

owing: (*adj*) due, unpaid, unsettled, outstanding, overdue, owed, payable, undischarged, indebted, fulfilling obligation, lawful. ANTONYM: (*adj*) settled.

solitude: (*n*) desolation, loneliness, seclusion, privacy, aloneness, isolation, retirement, lonesomeness, retreat, desert, solitariness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) companionship, closeness.

thrice: (*adv*) three times, thirdly.

uncultivated: (*adj*) savage, ignorant, uneducated, wild, fresh, uncivilized, rude, untutored, uncultured, artless, lowbrow. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cultivated, familiar, refined.

unexplored: (*adj*) unexplained, unapprehended, unascertained, undiscovered, unheard of; (*v*) unexamined, uninvented, unsearched, unstudied, unweighed, unsifted.

caught. He, too, has heard of Homer, and, "if it were not for books," would "not know what to do **rainy** days," though perhaps he has not read one wholly through for many rainy seasons. Some priest who could **pronounce** the Greek itself taught him to read his verse in the Testament in his native parish far away; and now I must translate to him, while he holds the book, Achilles' **reproof** to Patroclus for his sad countenance. --"Why are you in tears, Patroclus, like a young girl?" --

"Or have you alone heard some news from Phthia?
They say that Menoetius lives yet, son of Actor,
And Peleus lives, son of AEacus, among the Myrmidons,
Either of whom having died, we should greatly grieve."

He says, "That's good." He has a great bundle of white oak bark under his arm for a sick man, gathered this Sunday morning. "I suppose there's no harm in going after such a thing to-day," says he. To him Homer was a great writer, though what his writing was about he did not know. A more simple and natural man it would be hard to find. Vice and disease, which cast such a sombre moral hue over the world, seemed to have hardly any existence for him. He was about twenty-eight years old, and had left Canada and his father's house a dozen years before to work in the States, and earn money to buy a farm with at last, perhaps in his native country. He was cast in the coarsest mould; a stout but sluggish body, yet **gracefully** carried, with a thick **sunburnt** neck, dark **bushy** hair, and dull sleepy blue eyes, which were occasionally lit up with expression. He wore a flat gray cloth cap, a **dingy** wool-colored **greatcoat**, and cowhide boots. He was a great consumer of meat, usually carrying his dinner to his work a couple of miles past my house -- for he **chopped** all summer -- in a tin pail; cold meats, often cold woodchucks, and coffee in a stone bottle which dangled by a string from his belt; and sometimes he offered me a drink. He came along early, crossing my bean-field, though without anxiety or haste to get to his work, such as Yankees exhibit. He wasn't a-going to hurt himself. He didn't care if he only

Thesaurus

bushy: (*adj*) dense, shagged, shaggy, hairy, bearded, brushy, gross, bushes, pilous, pappous, hispid.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) bald, neat, unhealthy, tidy, thin, sparse, sleek.
chopped: (*adj*) shredded, sliced.
dingy: (*adj*) dark, black, drab, dull, muddy, impure, dim, seedy, dowdy, unclean, grimy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) immaculate, spotless, sparkling, bright, neat, brilliant, interesting, smart.

gracefully: (*adv*) prettily, graciously, neatly, delicately, smoothly, charmingly, refinedly, lithely, easily, daintily, nicely. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) awkwardly, ungraciously, clumsily, gracelessly, vigorously, unpleasantly, unkindly, heavily.
greatcoat: (*n*) coat, topcoat, capote, chesterfield, surcoat, Ulster.
pronounce: (*v*) articulate, declare, affirm, say, assert, express, vocalize, proclaim; (*n, v*) allege; (*adj, v*) deliver,

utter. ANTONYM: (*v*) mumble.
rainy: (*adj*) moist, pluvial, damp, pluvios, stormy, juicy, dirty, soppy, raining, drizzly; (*adj, v*) showery.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) pleasant.
reproof: (*n, v*) reprimand, censure, rebuke, lecture; (*n*) reproach, admonition, reprehension, blame, condemnation, objurcation, castigation.
sunburnt: (*adj*) brown, burnt, gloomy, fiery, sallow, adust.

earned his board. Frequently he would leave his dinner in the bushes, when his dog had caught a woodchuck by the way, and go back a mile and a half to dress it and leave it in the cellar of the house where he boarded, after **deliberating** first for half an hour whether he could not sink it in the pond safely till nightfall -- loving to dwell long upon these themes. He would say, as he went by in the morning, "How thick the pigeons are! If working every day were not my trade, I could get all the meat I should want by hunting-pigeons, woodchucks, rabbits, **partridges** -- by gosh! I could get all I should want for a week in one day."

He was a skilful chopper, and indulged in some **flourishes** and ornaments in his art. He cut his trees level and close to the ground, that the sprouts which came up afterward might be more vigorous and a **sled** might slide over the stumps; and instead of leaving a whole tree to support his **corded** wood, he would **pare** it away to a slender stake or splinter which you could break off with your hand at last.

He interested me because he was so quiet and solitary and so happy withal; a well of good **humor** and contentment which overflowed at his eyes. His mirth was without alloy. Sometimes I saw him at his work in the woods, **felling** trees, and he would greet me with a laugh of **inexpressible** satisfaction, and a **salutation** in Canadian French, though he spoke English as well. When I approached him he would suspend his work, and with half-suppressed mirth lie along the trunk of a pine which he had felled, and, peeling off the inner bark, roll it up into a ball and chew it while he laughed and talked. Such an exuberance of animal spirits had he that he sometimes tumbled down and rolled on the ground with laughter at anything which made him think and tickled him. Looking round upon the trees he would exclaim -- "By George! I can enjoy myself well enough here chopping; I want no better sport." Sometimes, when at leisure, he amused himself all day in the woods with a pocket pistol, firing salutes to himself at regular intervals as he walked. In the winter he had a fire by which at noon he warmed his coffee in a kettle; and as he sat on a log to eat his dinner the chickadees would sometimes come round and alight on his arm and peck at the

Thesaurus

corded: (*adj*) twilled, twill, pique, unsmooth, rough.

deliberating: (*adj*) deliberative, pondering.

felling: (*n*) harvesting.

flourishes: (*n*) added extras, trappings, superfluities, trimmings, accompaniments, additions, embellishments.

humor: (*n, v*) caprice, freak, humour; (*n*) temper, mood, disposition, wit; (*v*) indulge, gratify; (*adj, n*) spirit,

frame of mind. ANTONYMS: (*n*) seriousness, gravity, solemnity; (*v*) displease.

inexpressible: (*adj, v*) indescribable; (*adj*) ineffable, unspeakable, unutterable, indefinable, incommunicable, nameless, untold, beyond description, unexpressible, undefinable. ANTONYM: (*adj*) definite.

pare: (*v*) cut, peel, trim, truncate, flay, curtail, whittle, shave, skin, sharpen,

husk. ANTONYM: (*v*) expand.

partridges: (*n*) family Phasianidae, order Galliformes, curassows, Phasianidae, chickens, Galliformes, hoatzins, grouse.

salutation: (*n, v*) salute; (*n*) reception, hail, hello, welcome, address, compliment, hullo, recognition, interpellation, pax.

sled: (*n*) sledge, luge, toboggan, bobsleigh, pung, maul, jumper, dogsled, dog sleigh.

potato in his fingers; and he said that he "liked to have the little fellers about him."

In him the animal man chiefly was developed. In physical endurance and **contentment** he was cousin to the pine and the rock. I asked him once if he was not sometimes tired at night, after working all day; and he answered, with a sincere and serious look, "Gorrappit, I never was tired in my life." But the intellectual and what is called spiritual man in him were slumbering as in an infant. He had been instructed only in that innocent and **ineffectual** way in which the Catholic priests teach the **aborigines**, by which the pupil is never educated to the degree of consciousness, but only to the degree of trust and **reverence**, and a child is not made a man, but kept a child. When Nature made him, she gave him a strong body and contentment for his portion, and **propped** him on every side with reverence and reliance, that he might live out his **threescore** years and ten a child. He was so genuine and **unsophisticated** that no introduction would serve to introduce him, more than if you introduced a woodchuck to your neighbor. He had got to find him out as you did. He would not play any part. Men paid him wages for work, and so helped to feed and clothe him; but he never exchanged opinions with them. He was so simply and naturally humble -- if he can be called humble who never aspires -- that humility was no distinct quality in him, nor could he conceive of it. Wiser men were demigods to him. If you told him that such a one was coming, he did as if he thought that anything so grand would expect nothing of himself, but take all the responsibility on itself, and let him be forgotten still. He never heard the sound of praise. He particularly **reverenced** the writer and the preacher. Their performances were miracles. When I told him that I wrote considerably, he thought for a long time that it was merely the handwriting which I meant, for he could write a remarkably good hand himself. I sometimes found the name of his native parish handsomely written in the snow by the highway, with the proper French accent, and knew that he had passed. I asked him if he ever wished to write his thoughts. He said that he had read and written letters for those who could not, but he never tried to write thoughts -- no, he could not, he could not

Thesaurus

aborigines: (*n*) indigene, autochthones.

contentment: (*n*) content, happiness, pleasure, fulfillment, ease, delight, comfort, complacency, bliss, joy, contentedness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) dissatisfaction, sadness, discomfort, discontentment, misery, unhappiness, displeasure, discontent, panic, anxiety.

ineffectual: (*adj*) ineffective, futile, useless, feeble, abortive, powerless,

idle, weak, unable, void, vain.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) strong, effectual, effective, useful, viable, competent, invulnerable, helpful, decisive.

propped: (*adj*) fulcrate.

reverence: (*n, v*) respect, regard, fear, worship, honor, esteem, adore; (*n*) deference, adoration, admiration, awe. ANTONYMS: (*n*) despise, disrespect, irreverence, disdain, disparagement, contempt; (*v*) dishonor.

reverenced: (*adj*) revered, reverend, sacred, sublime, venerated, August, inspiring awe, emeritus, empyreal, empyrean, profoundly honored.

threescore: (*adj*) lx.

unsophisticated: (*adj*) artless, naive, unaffected, natural, ingenuous, innocent, pure, rustic, uncomplicated, green, callow. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) refined, complex, cultured, worldly, suave, mature, experienced, advanced, jaded.

tell what to put first, it would kill him, and then there was **spelling** to be attended to at the same time!

I heard that a distinguished wise man and **reformer** asked him if he did not want the world to be changed; but he answered with a **chuckle** of surprise in his Canadian accent, not knowing that the question had ever been entertained before, "No, I like it well enough." It would have suggested many things to a philosopher to have dealings with him. To a stranger he appeared to know nothing of things in general; yet I sometimes saw in him a man whom I had not seen before, and I did not know whether he was as wise as Shakespeare or as simply ignorant as a child, whether to suspect him of a fine poetic consciousness or of stupidity. A townsman told me that when he met him sauntering through the village in his small close-fitting cap, and whistling to himself, he reminded him of a prince in disguise.

His only books were an **almanac** and an arithmetic, in which last he was considerably expert. The former was a sort of **cyclopaedia** to him, which he supposed to contain an abstract of human knowledge, as indeed it does to a considerable extent. I loved to sound him on the various reforms of the day, and he never failed to look at them in the most simple and practical light. He had never heard of such things before. Could he do without factories? I asked. He had worn the home-made Vermont gray, he said, and that was good. Could he **dispense** with tea and coffee? Did this country afford any **beverage** beside water? He had soaked **hemlock** leaves in water and drank it, and thought that was better than water in warm weather. When I asked him if he could do without money, he showed the convenience of money in such a way as to suggest and coincide with the most philosophical accounts of the origin of this institution, and the very **derivation** of the word pecunia. If an ox were his property, and he wished to get needles and thread at the store, he thought it would be inconvenient and impossible soon to go on mortgaging some portion of the creature each time to that amount. He could defend many institutions better than any philosopher, because, in describing them as they concerned him, he gave the true reason for their prevalence, and speculation had not suggested

Thesaurus

almanac: (*n*) calendar, annual, year-book, schedule, yearbook, almanack, record, instruction book, index, address list, annual report.
beverage: (*n*) potable, alcohol, refresher, potion, drinkable, potation, draught, draft, libation; (*v*) broth, soup. ANTONYMS: (*n*) solid.
chuckle: (*n, v*) snicker, snigger, giggle, chortle, titter, crow; (*v*) chuck, laugh, cackle, exult; (*n*) laughter.
cyclopaedia: (*n*) encyclopedia,

encyclopaedia, book of facts, book of knowledge.
derivation: (*n*) ancestry, origin, birth, extraction, source, cause, lineage, derivative, foundation, descent, etymology. ANTONYMS: (*n*) result, outgrowth.
dispense: (*v*) allot, deal, administer, assign, deal out, apportion, dole out, give, issue, diffuse, furnish. ANTONYMS: (*v*) prohibit, receive, withhold.

hemlock: (*n*) hemlock spruce, poison hemlock, California fern, Nebraska fern, conium maculatum, eastern hemlock, wood, nightshade, henbane, Tsuga, poison parsley.
reformer: (*n*) emancipationist, abolitionist, activist, hippie, demonstrator, crusader, insurgent, prohibitionist, meliorist, rebel, radical.
spelling: (*n*) misspelling, spell, orthograph.

to him any other. At another time, hearing Plato's definition of a man -- a **biped** without feathers -- and that one **exhibited** a cock plucked and called it Plato's man, he thought it an important difference that the knees bent the wrong way. He would sometimes exclaim, "How I love to talk! By George, I could talk all day!" I asked him once, when I had not seen him for many months, if he had got a new idea this summer. "Good Lord" -- said he, "a man that has to work as I do, if he does not forget the ideas he has had, he will do well. May be the man you hoe with is inclined to race; then, by gorry, your mind must be there; you think of weeds." He would sometimes ask me first on such occasions, if I had made any improvement. One winter day I asked him if he was always satisfied with himself, wishing to suggest a substitute within him for the priest without, and some higher motive for living. "Satisfied!" said he; "some men are satisfied with one thing, and some with another. One man, perhaps, if he has got enough, will be satisfied to sit all day with his back to the fire and his belly to the table, by George!" Yet I never, by any manoeuvring, could get him to take the spiritual view of things; the highest that he appeared to conceive of was a simple **expediency**, such as you might expect an animal to appreciate; and this, practically, is true of most men. If I suggested any improvement in his mode of life, he merely answered, without expressing any regret, that it was too late. Yet he thoroughly believed in honesty and the like virtues.

There was a certain positive **originality**, however slight, to be detected in him, and I occasionally observed that he was thinking for himself and expressing his own opinion, a phenomenon so rare that I would any day walk ten miles to observe it, and it amounted to the re-origination of many of the institutions of society. Though he hesitated, and perhaps failed to express himself distinctly, he always had a **presentable** thought behind. Yet his thinking was so primitive and **immersed** in his animal life, that, though more promising than a merely learned man's, it rarely ripened to anything which can be reported. He suggested that there might be men of genius in the lowest grades of life, however permanently humble and illiterate, who take their own view always, or do not pretend to see at all; who are as **bottomless** even as Walden Pond was thought to be, though they may be dark and muddy.

Thesaurus

biped: (*adj, n*) bipedal, human; (*n*) creature, brute, fauna, animate being, beast.

bottomless: (*adj*) limitless, infinite, deep, unlimited, profound, immeasurable, fathomless, boundless, unfounded, groundless, unplumbed. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) shallow, bottomed, limited, restricted.

exhibited: (*adj*) ostensible, avowed, apparent, declared.

expediency: (*n*) utility, convenience, advantage, fitness, advisability, pertinence, expedient, benefit, effectiveness, value, pertinency. ANTONYMS: (*n*) impracticality, inconvenience, inexpedience, unsuitability, uselessness.

immersed: (*adj*) submerged, engrossed, deep, underwater, sunk, dipped, covered, engaged, profound, rapt, riveted. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) detached, superficial, bored.

originality: (*n*) novelty, imagination, ingenuity, initiative, freshness, newness, invention, creativity, heterodoxy, innovation; (*adj, n*) individuality. ANTONYMS: (*n*) normality, unoriginality.

presentable: (*adj*) decent, personable, satisfactory, acceptable, suitable, passable, comely, tidy, neat, becoming, sufficient. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unsatisfactory, untidy, inadequate.

Many a traveller came out of his way to see me and the inside of my house, and, as an excuse for calling, asked for a glass of water. I told them that I **drank** at the pond, and pointed thither, offering to lend them a dipper. Far off as I lived, I was not exempted from the annual **visitation** which occurs, **methinks**, about the first of April, when everybody is on the move; and I had my share of good luck, though there were some curious specimens among my visitors. **Half-witted** men from the almshouse and elsewhere came to see me; but I endeavored to make them exercise all the wit they had, and make their confessions to me; in such cases making wit the theme of our conversation; and so was compensated. Indeed, I found some of them to be wiser than the so-called overseers of the poor and selectmen of the town, and thought it was time that the tables were turned. With respect to wit, I learned that there was not much difference between the half and the whole. One day, in particular, an **inoffensive, simple-minded pauper**, whom with others I had often seen used as fencing stuff, standing or sitting on a bushel in the fields to keep cattle and himself from straying, visited me, and expressed a wish to live as I did. He told me, with the utmost simplicity and truth, quite superior, or rather inferior, to anything that is called humility, that he was "deficient in intellect." These were his words. The Lord had made him so, yet he supposed the Lord cared as much for him as for another. "I have always been so," said he, "from my childhood; I never had much mind; I was not like other children; I am weak in the head. It was the Lord's will, I suppose." And there he was to prove the truth of his words. He was a metaphysical puzzle to me. I have rarely met a fellowman on such promising ground -- it was so simple and sincere and so true all that he said. And, true enough, in proportion as he appeared to humble himself was he **exalted**. I did not know at first but it was the result of a wise policy. It seemed that from such a basis of truth and **frankness** as the poor weak-headed pauper had laid, our intercourse might go forward to something better than the intercourse of sages.

I had some guests from those not reckoned commonly among the town's poor, but who should be; who are among the world's poor, at any rate; guests

Thesaurus

drank: (*v*) absorb.

exalted: (*adj*) elevated, eminent, noble, high, August, elated, dignified, great, sublime, grand, big. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) belittled, condemned, criticized, debased, humble, humiliated, low, lowly, minor, ridiculed, base.

frankness: (*n*) honesty, truth, forthrightness, candidness, freedom, sincerity, candour, plainness, bluntness, outspokenness, ingenuousness. ANTONYMS: (*n*)

cunning, tact, delicacy, deceit, conformity, reticence, indirectness, evasiveness.

half-witted: (*adj*) imbecile, idiotic, foolish, weak-minded, simple, half-baked, dull, retarded, dense.

inoffensive: (*adj, n*) harmless, innocent; (*adj*) innocuous, innoxious, safe, unoffending, euphemistic, hurtless, pleasant, gentle, tame. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rude, unsavory, unpleasant, harmful, dysphemistic,

malicious, exciting.

methinks: (*adv*) meseems.

pauper: (*n*) poor man, mumper, bum, poor person, starveling; (*adj*) poor, indigent, penniless; (*v*) bust, fold.

simple-minded: (*adj*) silly, naive, stupid, foolish, guileless, dumb, plain, innocent, retarded, dull.

visitation: (*v*) visit, examination; (*n*) tribulation, calamity, annoyance, misfortune, irritation, infliction, inspection, test, ordeal.

who appeal, not to your hospitality, but to your hospitalality; who **earnestly** wish to be helped, and preface their appeal with the information that they are resolved, for one thing, never to help themselves. I require of a visitor that he be not actually starving, though he may have the very best appetite in the world, however he got it. Objects of charity are not guests. Men who did not know when their visit had terminated, though I went about my business again, answering them from greater and greater remoteness. Men of almost every degree of wit called on me in the **migrating** season. Some who had more wits than they knew what to do with; **runaway** slaves with plantation manners, who listened from time to time, like the fox in the **fable**, as if they heard the hounds a-baying on their track, and looked at me **beseechingly**, as much as to say, --

"O Christian, will you send me back?"

One real runaway slave, among the rest, whom I helped to forward toward the north star. Men of one idea, like a hen with one chicken, and that a duckling; men of a thousand ideas, and **unkempt** heads, like those hens which are made to take charge of a hundred chickens, all in pursuit of one bug, a score of them lost in every morning's dew -- and become **frizzled** and **mangy** in consequence; men of ideas instead of legs, a sort of intellectual **centipede** that made you crawl all over. One man proposed a book in which visitors should write their names, as at the White Mountains; but, alas! I have too good a memory to make that necessary.

I could not but notice some of the peculiarities of my visitors. Girls and boys and young women generally seemed glad to be in the woods. They looked in the pond and at the flowers, and improved their time. Men of business, even farmers, thought only of solitude and employment, and of the great distance at which I dwelt from something or other; and though they said that they loved a **ramble** in the woods occasionally, it was obvious that they did not. Restless committed men, whose time was an taken up in getting a living or keeping it; ministers who spoke of God as if they enjoyed a monopoly of the subject, who could not bear all kinds of opinions; doctors, lawyers, uneasy housekeepers who pried into my cupboard and bed when I was out -- how came Mrs. -- to know

Thesaurus

beseechingly: (*adv*) pleadingly, entreatingly, suppliantly, supplicatingly, importunately, beseeching, beggingly.

centipede: (*n*) arthropod.

earnestly: (*adj, adv*) seriously; (*adv*) eagerly, intently, zealously, solemnly, ardently, fervently, heartily, gravely, warmly, passionately. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) indifferently, insincerely, unconcernedly, jokingly.

fable: (*n*) legend, fiction, tale, story,

fabrication, fairy tale, lie, myth, anecdote; (*adj, n*) apologue, parable. ANTONYMS: (*n*) fact, history.

frizzled: (*adj*) kinky.

mangy: (*adj*) shabby, seedy, scruffy, scabby, squalid, paltry; (*v*) contaminated, tainted, peccant, vitiated, poisoned.

migrating: (*adj*) transient.

ramble: (*n, v*) journey, stroll, saunter, wander, roam, meander, excursion, hike, tramp, walk, promenade.

ANTONYM: (*v*) settle.

runaway: (*adj, n*) renegade, delinquent; (*n*) deserter, romp, walkaway, refugee, absconder, runagate, escapee, laugher; (*adj*) decided. ANTONYM: (*n*) challenge.

unkempt: (*adj*) shaggy, scruffy, grubby, ragged, messy, slovenly, sloppy, tousled, disheveled, dirty, dilapidated. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) tidy, smart, elegant, kempt, trim, sleek, fresh.

that my sheets were not as clean as hers? -- young men who had ceased to be young, and had concluded that it was safest to follow the beaten track of the professions -- all these generally said that it was not possible to do so much good in my position. Ay! there was the rub. The old and **infirm** and the **timid**, of whatever age or sex, thought most of sickness, and sudden accident and death; to them life seemed full of danger -- what danger is there if you don't think of any? -- and they thought that a **prudent** man would carefully select the safest position, where Dr. B. might be on hand at a moment's warning. To them the village was literally a community, a league for mutual defence, and you would suppose that they would not go a-huckleberrying without a medicine chest. The amount of it is, if a man is alive, there is always danger that he may die, though the danger must be allowed to be less in proportion as he is dead-and-alive to begin with. A man sits as many risks as he runs. Finally, there were the **self**-styled reformers, the greatest bores of all, who thought that I was forever singing,--

This is the house that I built;

This is the man that lives in the house that I built;

but they did not know that the third line was,

These are the **folks** that worry the man
That lives in the house that I built.

I did not fear the hen-harriers, for I kept no **chickens**; but I feared the men-harriers rather.

I had more **cheering** visitors than the last. Children come a-berrying, railroad men taking a Sunday morning walk in clean shirts, fishermen and hunters, poets and philosophers; in short, all honest pilgrims, who came out to the woods for freedom's sake, and really left the village behind, I was ready to **greet** with -- "Welcome, Englishmen! welcome, Englishmen!" for I had had communication with that race.

Thesaurus

cheering: (*adj, n*) encouraging, inspiring; (*adj*) comforting, hearty, exhilarating, heartening, amusing; (*n*) applause, acclaim, ovation, cheers.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) disheartening, heartbreaking, discouraging, depressing, dejecting, disturbing.
chickens: (*n*) Galliformes, order Galliformes.
folks: (*n*) people, folk, tribe, relations, household, house, relatives, relative, kindred, lineage, kin.

greet: (*n, v*) receive; (*v*) address, acknowledge, hail, welcome, cry, salute, bid, weep, meet, recognize.
infirm: (*adj, n, v*) feeble; (*adj, v*) faint, weak, sickly, debilitated; (*adj*) impotent, fragile, decrepit, ill, delicate, shaky. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) whole, well, hearty.
prudent: (*adj, v*) discreet; (*adj*) cautious, circumspect, reasonable, chary, economical, careful, frugal, deliberate, advisable, canny.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) imprudent, reckless, spendthrift, stupid, careless, unwise, unsafe, tactless.
self-styled: (*adj*) so-called.
timid: (*adj*) shy, afraid, diffident, coy, bashful, nervous, frightened, apprehensive, modest; (*adj, adv*) cowardly; (*adj, n*) cautious.
ANTONYMS: (*adj, n*) brave; (*adj*) confident, bold, fearless, resolute, forward, daring, brazen, extrovert, brash, talkative.

THE BEAN-FIELD

Meanwhile my beans, the length of whose rows, added together, was seven miles already **planted**, were **impatient** to be hoed, for the earliest had grown considerably before the latest were in the ground; indeed they were not easily to be put off. What was the meaning of this so steady and self-respecting, this small Herculean labor, I knew not. I came to love my rows, my beans, though so many more than I wanted. They attached me to the earth, and so I got strength like Antaeus. But why should I raise them? Only Heaven knows. This was my curious labor all summer -- to make this **portion** of the earth's surface, which had yielded only **cinquefoil**, blackberries, johnswort, and the like, before, sweet wild fruits and pleasant flowers, produce instead this **pulse**. What shall I learn of beans or beans of me? I cherish them, I hoe them, early and late I have an eye to them; and this is my day's work. It is a fine broad **leaf** to look on. My auxiliaries are the dews and **rains** which water this dry soil, and what fertility is in the soil itself, which for the most part is lean and **effete**. My enemies are worms, cool days, and most of all woodchucks. The last have nibbled for me a quarter of an acre clean. But what right had I to **oust** johnswort and the rest, and break up their ancient **herb** garden? Soon, however, the remaining beans will be too tough for them, and go forward to meet new foes.

When I was four years old, as I well remember, I was brought from Boston to this my native town, through these very woods and this field, to the pond. It is

Thesaurus

cinquefoil: (*n*) carving, silverweed.
effete: (*adj*) fruitless, barren, antiquated, feeble, decrepit, puny, sterile; (*adj, v*) spent, weak, wasted; (*v*) slack. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) lively, productive, prolific, tireless, vigorous, vital, alive.
herb: (*n*) plant, wort, herbage, amaranth, cottonweed, agueweed, drypis, dittany, dill, digitalis, dayflower.
impatient: (*adj*) eager, anxious,

petulant, fidgety, vexed, keen, edgy, quick, avid, irritable, fretful.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) patient, enduring, unenthusiastic, calm, happy, relaxed, slow.
leaf: (*n*) page, folio, foliage, petal, frond, leafage, slip, verdure, leaflet; (*n, v*) sheet; (*v*) leave.
oust: (*v*) eject, dismiss, depose, discharge, exclude, expel, kick out, dispossess, discard, boot out, overthrow. ANTONYMS: (*v*) restore,

appoint.
planted: (*adj*) ingrained, established, set, concealed.
portion: (*n, v*) division, lot, allot, dividend, divide; (*n*) piece, parcel, fragment, component, section; (*adj, n*) constituent. ANTONYM: (*n*) whole.
pulse: (*n, v*) throb; (*n*) pulsation, impulse, heartbeat, legume, rhythm, pounding, cadence; (*v*) pulsate, palpitate, pound.
rains: (*n*) wet.

one of the oldest scenes stamped on my memory. And now to-night my flute has waked the echoes over that very water. The pines still stand here older than I; or, if some have fallen, I have cooked my supper with their stumps, and a new growth is rising all around, preparing another aspect for new infant eyes. Almost the same johnswort springs from the same perennial root in this pasture, and even I have at length helped to clothe that fabulous landscape of my infant dreams, and one of the results of my presence and influence is seen in these bean leaves, corn blades, and potato vines.

I planted about two acres and a half of upland; and as it was only about fifteen years since the land was cleared, and I myself had got out two or three cords of stumps, I did not give it any manure; but in the course of the summer it appeared by the arrowheads which I turned up in hoeing, that an extinct nation had **anciently** dwelt here and planted corn and beans ere white men came to clear the land, and so, to some extent, had exhausted the soil for this very crop.

Before yet any woodchuck or squirrel had run across the road, or the sun had got above the shrub oaks, while all the dew was on, though the farmers warned me against it -- I would advise you to do all your work if possible while the dew is on -- I began to level the ranks of **haughty** weeds in my bean-field and throw dust upon their heads. Early in the morning I worked **barefooted**, **dabbling** like a plastic artist in the **dewy** and crumbling sand, but later in the day the sun **blistered** my feet. There the sun lighted me to hoe beans, pacing slowly backward and forward over that yellow **gravelly** upland, between the long green rows, fifteen rods, the one end terminating in a shrub oak **copse** where I could rest in the shade, the other in a blackberry field where the green berries **deepened** their tints by the time I had made another bout. Removing the weeds, putting fresh soil about the bean stems, and encouraging this weed which I had sown, making the yellow soil express its summer thought in bean leaves and blossoms rather than in **wormwood** and piper and **millet** grass, making the earth say beans instead of grass -- this was my daily work. As I had little aid from horses or cattle, or hired men or boys, or improved implements of husbandry, I was much slower, and became much more intimate with my beans than usual.

Thesaurus

anciently: (*adv*) antiquatedly, formerly, oldly, primevally, hoarily, primordially, obsoletely, bygonely, archaically, antediluvianly, pastly.
barefooted: (*adj*) shoeless, unshod, discaled, bare footed.
blistered: (*adj*) scalded, scorched.
copse: (*n*) brush, coppice, brake, brushwood, forest, underwood, grove, spinney, thicket, undergrowth, canebrake.
dabbling: (*n*) dalliance; (*adj*) diltantte,

unfinished.
deepened: (*adj*) concentrated, gathered.
dewy: (*adj*) wet, dank, bedewed, humid, moist, damp, fresh, new, roric, undried, rorid.
gravelly: (*adj*) grating, gritty, gravel, pebbly, shingly, rough, hoarse, raspy, rasping, gruff, harsh. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) soft, velvety.
haughty: (*adj*) supercilious, arrogant, assuming, contemptuous, proud,

lordly, cavalier, vain, contumelious, grand; (*n*) boastful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) modest, meek, subservient, unassuming, considerate, deferential.
millet: (*n*) broomcorn millet, grain, hog millet, Panicum miliaceum, kurakkan, miliary, cereal grass, food grain, coracan, corakan, stem of maize.
wormwood: (*n*) absinthe, mugwort, bitterness, old man, Mexican tea, common wormwood, absinth, gall.

But labor of the hands, even when **pursued** to the verge of **drudgery**, is perhaps never the worst form of idleness. It has a constant and **imperishable** moral, and to the scholar it yields a classic result. A very agricola laboriosus was I to travellers bound westward through Lincoln and Wayland to nobody knows where; they sitting at their ease in gigs, with elbows on knees, and reins loosely hanging in festoons; I the home-staying, laborious native of the soil. But soon my **homestead** was out of their sight and thought. It was the only open and cultivated field for a great distance on either side of the road, so they made the most of it; and sometimes the man in the field heard more of travellers' gossip and comment than was meant for his ear: "Beans so late! peas so late!" -- for I continued to plant when others had begun to hoe -- the ministerial **husbandman** had not suspected it. "Corn, my boy, for fodder; corn for fodder." "Does he live there?" asks the black bonnet of the gray coat; and the **hard**-featured farmer reins up his grateful **dobbin** to inquire what you are doing where he sees no manure in the furrow, and recommends a little chip dirt, or any little waste stuff, or it may be ashes or plaster. But here were two acres and a half of furrows, and only a hoe for cart and two hands to draw it -- there being an aversion to other carts and horses -- and chip dirt far away. Fellow-travellers as they rattled by compared it aloud with the fields which they had passed, so that I came to know how I stood in the agricultural world. This was one field not in Mr. Coleman's report. And, by the way, who estimates the value of the crop which nature yields in the still wilder fields unimproved by man? The crop of English hay is carefully weighed, the moisture calculated, the silicates and the **potash**; but in all dells and pond-holes in the woods and pastures and swamps grows a rich and various crop only unreaped by man. Mine was, as it were, the connecting link between wild and cultivated fields; as some states are civilized, and others half-civilized, and others savage or barbarous, so my field was, though not in a bad sense, a half-cultivated field. They were beans cheerfully returning to their wild and primitive state that I cultivated, and my hoe played the Rans des Vaches for them.

Near at hand, upon the **topmost** spray of a birch, sings the brown **thrasher** -- or red **mavis**, as some love to call him -- all the morning, glad of your society,

Thesaurus

dobbin: (*n*) farm horse.

drudgery: (*n*) toil, work, grind, swink, slavery, travail, donkeywork, fagging, hammering; (*adj, n*) hard work; (*n, v*) sweat. ANTONYM: (*adj*) cramped.

hard-featured: (*adj*) ugly.

homestead: (*n, v*) farm; (*n*) home, abode, farmhouse, farmstead, dwelling, habitation, estate, demesne, homestall, house.

husbandman: (*n, v*) cultivator; (*n*)

agriculturist, granger, countryman, planter, sodbuster, apiarist, apiculturist, arboriculturist, dairyman; (*v*) tiller.

imperishable: (*adj*) immortal, eternal, abiding, deathless, enduring, permanent, perpetual, perennial, incorruptible; (*adj, v*) undying, indestructible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) temporary, fragile.

mavis: (*n*) bulbul, thrush, song thrush.

potash: (*n*) potassium oxide, potashes,

potassium carbonate, potassium hydroxide, hydrated oxide, hydroxide.

pursued: (*n*) hunted person.

thrasher: (*n*) thresher, fox shark, mocking thrush, oscine, oscine bird, brown thrush, brown thrasher, farm machine, shark, thresher shark.

topmost: (*adj*) highest, upmost, upper, maximum, uppermost, head, supreme, utmost, crowning, apical, uttermost. ANTONYM: (*adj*) bottom.

that would find out another farmer's field if yours were not here. While you are planting the seed, he cries -- "Drop it, drop it -- cover it up, cover it up -- pull it up, pull it up, pull it up." But this was not corn, and so it was safe from such enemies as he. You may wonder what his **rigmarole**, his amateur Paganini performances on one string or on twenty, have to do with your planting, and yet prefer it to leached ashes or plaster. It was a cheap sort of top dressing in which I had entire faith.

As I drew a still fresher soil about the rows with my hoe, I disturbed the ashes of unchronicled nations who in **primeval** years lived under these heavens, and their small implements of war and hunting were brought to the light of this modern day. They lay mingled with other natural stones, some of which bore the marks of having been burned by Indian fires, and some by the sun, and also bits of pottery and glass brought hither by the recent cultivators of the soil. When my hoe tinkled against the stones, that music echoed to the woods and the sky, and was an accompaniment to my labor which yielded an instant and **immeasurable** crop. It was no longer **beans** that I hoed, nor I that hoed beans; and I remembered with as much pity as pride, if I remembered at all, my **acquaintances** who had gone to the city to attend the oratorios. The **nighthawk** circled overhead in the sunny afternoons -- for I sometimes made a day of it -- like a **mote** in the eye, or in heaven's eye, falling from time to time with a swoop and a sound as if the heavens were rent, torn at last to very rags and **tatters**, and yet a seamless cope remained; small imps that fill the air and lay their eggs on the ground on bare sand or rocks on the tops of hills, where few have found them; graceful and slender like ripples caught up from the pond, as leaves are raised by the wind to float in the heavens; such kindredship is in nature. The hawk is aerial brother of the wave which he sails over and surveys, those his perfect air-inflated wings answering to the elemental **unfledged pinions** of the sea. Or sometimes I watched a pair of hen-hawks circling high in the sky, alternately soaring and descending, approaching, and leaving one another, as if they were the embodiment of my own thoughts. Or I was attracted by the passage of wild pigeons from this wood to that, with a slight quivering **winnowing** sound and carrier haste; or from under a rotten stump my hoe

Thesaurus

acquaintances: (*n*) associates.

beans: (*adj*) unimportant; (*n*) money.

immeasurable: (*adj*) endless, immense, infinite, huge, enormous, illimitable, unmeasurable, incalculable, inestimable, innumerable, interminable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) limited, minute, finite, shallow, slight, negligible, tiny, few, minor, small.

mote: (*adj, n*) molecule, speck, atom, corpuscle, particle, dot; (*n*) grain, jot,

iota, must; (*adj*) dust.

nighthawk: (*n*) nightbird, goatsucker, mosquito hawk, bullbat, nightjar, caprimulgid, philanderer, night bird, boozer, darning needle; (*adj*) dissolute.

pinions: (*n*) restraint.

primeval: (*adj*) primitive, ancient, primordial, aboriginal, primal, original, primary, first, primaeval, prehistoric, antediluvian.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) modern,

contemporary, factual.

rigmarole: (*n*) nonsense, boloney, bosh, absurdity, baloney, tripe, trumpery, double-talk; (*adj*) rodomontade, nonsensical, foolish.

tatters: (*n*) rags, clothing.

unfledged: (*adj*) callow, green, young, unfeathered, newborn, fledgless, hebetic, fledgling, untaught, unlicked, unnurtured.

winnowing: (*n*) separation, sifting, separate, swathing.

turned up a sluggish **portentous** and **outlandish** spotted **salamander**, a trace of Egypt and the Nile, yet our contemporary. When I paused to lean on my hoe, these sounds and sights I heard and saw anywhere in the row, a part of the **inexhaustible** entertainment which the country offers.

On gala days the town fires its great guns, which echo like popguns to these woods, and some waifs of martial music occasionally penetrate thus far. To me, away there in my bean-field at the other end of the town, the big guns sounded as if a **puffball** had burst; and when there was a military turnout of which I was ignorant, I have sometimes had a vague sense all the day of some sort of itching and disease in the horizon, as if some eruption would break out there soon, either **scarlatina** or canker-rash, until at length some more favorable puff of wind, making haste over the fields and up the Wayland road, brought me information of the "trainers." It seemed by the distant hum as if somebody's bees had swarmed, and that the neighbors, according to Virgil's advice, by a faint tintinnabulum upon the most sonorous of their domestic utensils, were endeavoring to call them down into the hive again. And when the sound died quite away, and the hum had ceased, and the most favorable breezes told no tale, I knew that they had got the last drone of them all safely into the Middlesex hive, and that now their minds were bent on the honey with which it was smeared.

I felt proud to know that the liberties of Massachusetts and of our **fatherland** were in such safe keeping; and as I turned to my hoeing again I was filled with an inexpressible confidence, and pursued my labor cheerfully with a calm trust in the future.

When there were several bands of musicians, it sounded as if all the village was a vast bellows and all the buildings expanded and collapsed alternately with a din. But sometimes it was a really noble and inspiring strain that reached these woods, and the trumpet that sings of fame, and I felt as if I could spit a Mexican with a good relish -- for why should we always stand for **trifles**? -- and looked round for a woodchuck or a skunk to exercise my chivalry upon. These martial **strains** seemed as far away as Palestine, and reminded me of a march of crusaders in the horizon, with a slight tantivy and tremulous motion of the elm

Thesaurus

fatherland: (*n*) native land, home, homeland, country, mother country, motherland, land, country of origin, native country, old country, cradle.
inexhaustible: (*adj*) indefatigable, immeasurable, unailing, infinite, boundless, illimitable, unlimited, incalculable, unexhaustible, unapproachable, unfathomable.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) limited, unproductive.
outlandish: (*adj*) foreign, bizarre,

eccentric, freakish, odd, exotic, alien, quaint, singular, extraneous, freaky.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) normal, commonplace, sensible, familiar, tasteful.
portentous: (*adj*) fateful, extraordinary, pompous, amazing, pontifical, prodigious, grandiloquent, sinister, unusual, foreboding, astonishing. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) modest, promising.
puffball: (*n*) earthball, false truffle,

fungus, true puffball, puckball, puffkist, puff, giant puffball.
salamander: (*n*) bear, poker, olm, hellbender, fire hook, amphiuma, brasier, warming pan, dicamptodontid, sow, alpine salamander.
scarlatina: (*n*) contagion, contagious disease; (*adj*) scabies.
strains: (*n*) tension, tenseness.
trifles: (*n*) jests, nonsense, nugae, trivia.

tree tops which **overhang** the village. This was one of the great days; though the sky had from my clearing only the same **everlastingly** great look that it wears daily, and I saw no difference in it.

It was a singular experience that long acquaintance which I cultivated with beans, what with planting, and hoeing, and **harvesting**, and **threshing**, and picking over and selling them -- the last was the hardest of all -- I might add eating, for I did taste. I was determined to know beans. When they were growing, I used to hoe from five o'clock in the morning till noon, and commonly spent the rest of the day about other affairs. Consider the intimate and curious acquaintance one makes with various kinds of weeds -- it will bear some iteration in the account, for there was no little iteration in the labor -- disturbing their delicate organizations so ruthlessly, and making such **invidious** distinctions with his hoe, **levelling** whole **ranks** of one species, and sedulously **cultivating** another. That's Roman wormwood -- that's **pigweed** -- that's sorrel -- that's piper-grass -- have at him, chop him up, turn his roots upward to the sun, don't let him have a fibre in the shade, if you do he'll turn himself t' other side up and be as green as a **leek** in two days. A long war, not with cranes, but with weeds, those Trojans who had sun and rain and dews on their side. Daily the beans saw me come to their rescue armed with a hoe, and thin the ranks of their enemies, filling up the trenches with weedy dead. Many a **lusty** crest -- waving Hector, that towered a whole foot above his crowding comrades, fell before my weapon and rolled in the dust.

Those summer days which some of my contemporaries devoted to the fine arts in Boston or Rome, and others to contemplation in India, and others to trade in London or New York, I thus, with the other farmers of New England, devoted to husbandry. Not that I wanted beans to eat, for I am by nature a Pythagorean, so far as beans are concerned, whether they mean porridge or voting, and exchanged them for rice; but, perchance, as some must work in fields if only for the sake of tropes and expression, to serve a parable-maker one day. It was on the whole a rare amusement, which, continued too long, might have become a dissipation. Though I gave them no manure, and did not hoe them all once, I

Thesaurus

cultivating: (*adj*) educating, taming, humanizing, calming.
everlastingly: (*adv*) perpetually, always, lastingly, continually, endlessly, unendingly, incessantly, permanently, constantly, undyingly; (*adj, adv*) forever.
harvesting: (*n*) gathering, gather, harvest home, crop, reap, plucking, harvests, ingathering, reaping, farming, harvest time.
invidious: (*adj*) obnoxious, hateful,

discriminatory, offensive, outrageous, jealous, abominable, odious, loathsome, covetous; (*adj, v*) spiteful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pleasant, desirable.
leek: (*n*) vegetable, veggie, onion, genus *Allium*, green onion, chive, *Allium*, alliaceous plant.
levelling: (*n*) equalization, grading, flow, equalisation, evening.
lusty: (*adj*) energetic, stout, lustful, corpulent, potent, virile, vigorous,

hearty, sturdy, bouncing, dynamic. ANTONYM: (*adj*) feeble.
overhang: (*v*) beetle, jut, project, protrude, hang, overlap, impend, jut out; (*n*) projection, prominence, eaves.
pigweed: (*n*) *Chenopodium album*, leafy vegetable, greens, green, genus *Chenopodium*, *Chenopodium*, wild spinach, amaranth, allgood, fat hen.
ranks: (*n*) rank and file.
threshing: (*n*) farming, separation.

hoed them unusually well as far as I went, and was paid for it in the end, "there being in truth," as Evelyn says, "no **compost** or laetation whatsoever comparable to this continual motion, repastination, and turning of the **mould** with the spade." "The earth," he adds elsewhere, "especially if fresh, has a certain **magnetism** in it, by which it attracts the salt, power, or virtue (call it either) which gives it life, and is the logic of all the labor and stir we keep about it, to sustain us; all dungings and other **sordid** temperings being but the vicars succedaneous to this improvement." Moreover, this being one of those "worn-out and exhausted lay fields which enjoy their sabbath," had perchance, as Sir Kenelm Digby thinks likely, attracted "vital spirits" from the air. I harvested twelve bushels of beans.

But to be more particular, for it is complained that Mr. Coleman has reported chiefly the expensive experiments of **gentlemen** farmers, my outgoes were,--

For a hoe	\$ 0.54	
Plowing, harrowing , and furlowing	7.50	Too much.
Beans for seed	3.12½	
Potatoes for seed	1.33	
Peas for seed	0.40	
Turnip seed	0.06	
White line for crow fence	0.02	
Horse cultivator and boy three hours	1.00	
Horse and cart to get crop	0.75	
	<hr/>	
In all	\$14.72½	

My income was (patrem familias vendacem, non emacem **esse** oportet), from

Thesaurus

compost: (*n*) compound, dung, composition, composite, soil, fertilizer, mixture, garbage pile, compost heap, trash heap; (*v*) fertilize.

crow: (*n, v*) brag, cry, snigger; (*v*) exult, triumph, cackle, chuckle, talk big; (*n*) gasconade, crowing; (*adj*) raven.

cultivator: (*n, v*) tiller, plowman; (*n*) agriculturist, grower, raiser, woodcutter, granger, sodbuster,

planter, culturist, husbandman.

esse: (*n*) entity, ens, existence, subsistence, actuality.

gentlemen: (*n*) sirs, messieurs.

harrowing: (*adj*) agonizing, excruciating, painful, distressing, torturous, disturbing, tormenting, traumatic, frightful, terrible; (*v*) rending. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) heartening, pleasing, safe.

magnetism: (*n*) attraction, charisma, charm, allure, magnetics, appeal,

glamour, magic, magnet, pull; (*adj*) gravity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) repulsiveness, ugliness.

mould: (*n, v*) mildew, cast, form, model; (*v*) make, frame, knead, fashion, forge; (*n*) molding, matrix.

sordid: (*adj*) ignoble, nasty, foul, filthy, grimy, base, cheap, despicable, dishonorable, mucky, low. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) respectable, pleasant, wholesome, reputable, honorable, clean, attractive, humane.

Nine bushels and twelve quarts of beans sold ..	\$16.94
Five " large potatoes	2.50
Nine " small	2.25
Grass	1.00
Stalks	0.75
	<hr/>
In all	\$23.44
Leaving a pecuniary profit, as I have elsewhere said, of	\$ 8.71½

This is the result of my experience in raising beans: Plant the common small white bush bean about the first of June, in rows three feet by eighteen inches apart, being careful to select fresh round and **unmixed** seed. First look out for worms, and supply vacancies by planting **anew**. Then look out for woodchucks, if it is an exposed place, for they will nibble off the earliest tender leaves almost clean as they go; and again, when the young tendrils make their appearance, they have notice of it, and will **shear** them off with both buds and young pods, sitting erect like a squirrel. But above all harvest as early as possible, if you would escape frosts and have a fair and **salable** crop; you may save much loss by this means.

This further experience also I **gained**: I said to myself, I will not plant beans and corn with so much industry another summer, but such seeds, if the seed is not lost, as **sincerity**, truth, simplicity, faith, innocence, and the like, and see if they will not grow in this soil, even with less toil and manurance, and sustain me, for surely it has not been exhausted for these crops. Alas! I said this to myself; but now another summer is gone, and another, and another, and I am obliged to say to you, Reader, that the seeds which I planted, if indeed they were the seeds of those **virtues**, were wormeaten or had lost their **vitality**, and so did not come up. Commonly men will only be brave as their fathers were brave, or

Thesaurus

anew: (*adv*) again, newly, lately, recently, over again, once more, once again, new; (*adj*) only yesterday, the other day, just now.

bean: (*n*) dome, attic, pea, money, bead, head, haricot, soybean, broad bean, soy, noodle.

gained: (*adj*) extrinsic.

quarts: (*n*) quart.

salable: (*adj*) marketable, vendible, saleable, purchasable, venal, mercenary, merchantable, hireling.

shear: (*v*) fleece, cut, shave, pare, chop, chip, crop, trim; (*adj, v*) lop, prune; (*n*) scissors. ANTONYM: (*v*) lengthen.

sincerity: (*adj, n*) candor, honesty, integrity, probity, faithfulness; (*n*) earnestness, heartiness, genuineness, candour, frankness, cordiality. ANTONYMS: (*n*) dishonesty, hypocrisy, flippancy, frivolity, affectedness, caution, reticence, deceit, doubt.

unmixed: (*adj, v*) simple, sheer, mere, downright; (*adj*) absolute, unmingled, undiluted, straight, uncompounded, single, plain. ANTONYM: (*adj*) impure.

virtues: (*n*) brawn, sinew, qualities, nerve, manner, habit, disposition, custom.

vitality: (*n*) energy, life, animation, life force, vigor, liveliness, verve, sparkle, spirit, vigour, vim. ANTONYMS: (*n*) lethargy, apathy, sluggishness.

timid. This generation is very sure to plant corn and beans each new year precisely as the Indians did centuries ago and taught the first settlers to do, as if there were a fate in it. I saw an old man the other day, to my astonishment, making the holes with a hoe for the seventieth time at least, and not for himself to lie down in! But why should not the New Englander try new adventures, and not lay so much stress on his grain, his potato and grass crop, and his orchards -- raise other crops than these? Why concern ourselves so much about our beans for seed, and not be concerned at all about a new generation of men? We should really be fed and cheered if when we met a man we were sure to see that some of the qualities which I have named, which we all prize more than those other productions, but which are for the most part broadcast and floating in the air, had taken root and grown in him. Here comes such a subtle and **ineffable** quality, for instance, as truth or justice, though the slightest amount or new variety of it, along the road. Our **ambassadors** should be instructed to send home such seeds as these, and Congress help to distribute them over all the land. We should never stand upon ceremony with sincerity. We should never cheat and insult and **banish** one another by our meanness, if there were present the kernel of worth and **friendliness**. We should not meet thus in haste. Most men I do not meet at all, for they seem not to have time; they are busy about their beans. We would not deal with a man thus **plodding** ever, leaning on a hoe or a spade as a staff between his work, not as a mushroom, but partially risen out of the earth, something more than erect, like swallows alighted and walking on the ground:--

"And as he spake, his wings would now and then
Spread, as he meant to fly, then close again --"

so that we should suspect that we might be conversing with an angel. Bread may not always **nourish** us; but it always does us good, it even takes stiffness out of our joints, and makes us **supple** and buoyant, when we knew not what ailed us, to recognize any generosity in man or Nature, to share any unmixed and heroic joy.

Thesaurus

ambassadors: (*n*) ambassador.
banish: (*v*) dispel, expel, displace, relegate, oust, expatriate, eject, dismiss, transport, cast out; (*adj, v*) exile. ANTONYMS: (*v*) keep, embrace, adopt, invite, include.
friendliness: (*n*) friendship, geniality, amiability, affability, amicability, affection, hospitality, cordiality, brotherhood, amicableness, accessibility. ANTONYMS: (*n*) cruelty, aloofness, nastiness, hostility,

aggression, resistance, resentment, frostiness, formality, contention, belligerence.
ineffable: (*adj*) indescribable, unspeakable, unutterable, indefinable, inexpressible, beyond expression, unimaginable, beyond words, unpronounceable, dreadful, untellable.
nourish: (*v*) foster, keep, bring up, nurture, sustain, aliment, cherish, feed, maintain, cultivate; (*n, v*) cradle.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) starve, sap.
plodding: (*adj*) slow, stodgy, heavy, hardworking, ponderous, steady; (*n*) persistence, grind, donkeywork, drudgery, walking. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dilettante, rapid.
supple: (*adj, v*) flexible, pliable, limber, pliant; (*adj*) lithe, soft, plastic, graceful, lithesome, lissom, lissome. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rigid, inflexible, stocky, clumsy, hard, rough, slow, tight, unyielding.

Ancient poetry and mythology suggest, at least, that husbandry was once a sacred art; but it is pursued with irreverent haste and **heedlessness** by us, our object being to have large farms and large crops merely. We have no festival, nor procession, nor ceremony, not excepting our cattle-shows and so-called Thanksgivings, by which the farmer expresses a sense of the **sacredness** of his calling, or is reminded of its sacred origin. It is the premium and the feast which tempt him. He sacrifices not to Ceres and the Terrestrial Jove, but to the infernal Plutus rather. By **avarice** and selfishness, and a **grovelling** habit, from which none of us is free, of regarding the soil as property, or the means of acquiring property chiefly, the landscape is deformed, husbandry is degraded with us, and the farmer leads the **meanest** of lives. He knows Nature but as a **robber**. Cato says that the profits of agriculture are particularly pious or just (*maximeque pius quaestus*), and according to Varro the old Romans "called the same earth Mother and Ceres, and thought that they who cultivated it led a pious and useful life, and that they alone were left of the race of King Saturn."

We are wont to forget that the sun looks on our cultivated fields and on the prairies and forests without distinction. They all reflect and absorb his rays alike, and the former make but a small part of the glorious picture which he beholds in his daily course. In his view the earth is all equally cultivated like a garden. Therefore we should receive the benefit of his light and heat with a corresponding trust and magnanimity. What though I value the seed of these beans, and harvest that in the fall of the year? This broad field which I have looked at so long looks not to me as the principal cultivator, but away from me to influences more genial to it, which water and make it green. These beans have results which are not harvested by me. Do they not grow for woodchucks partly? The ear of wheat (in Latin *spica*, **obsoletely** *specca*, from *spe*, hope) should not be the only hope of the husbandman; its kernel or grain (*granum* from *gerendo*, bearing) is not all that it bears. How, then, can our harvest fail? Shall I not rejoice also at the abundance of the weeds whose seeds are the **granary** of the birds? It matters little comparatively whether the fields fill the farmer's barns. The true husbandman will cease from anxiety, as the squirrels manifest no concern whether the woods will bear **chestnuts** this year or not, and

Thesaurus

avarice: (*n*) cupidity, covetousness, rapacity, avariciousness, avidity, eagerness, voracity, voraciousness, stinginess; (*adj, n*) greediness; (*adj*) extortion. ANTONYMS: (*n*) philanthropy, benevolence, charity.
chestnuts: (*n*) *Castanopsis*, *Fagaceae*, *Castanea*, genus *Castanea*, beech family.
granary: (*n*) garner, warehouse, storage, grange, store, storehouse, cornloft, depot, farm, lathe, entrepot.

grovelling: (*adj*) groveling, base, abject, menial, vulgar, slavish, servile, obsequious, low, wormlike, earthbred.

heedlessness: (*n*) neglect, rashness, carelessness, inattention, inadvertence, recklessness, indifference, inattentiveness, foolhardiness, disregard, temerity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) mindfulness, caution.

meanest: (*adj*) last, least.

obsoletely: (*adv*) antiquatedly, anciently, antequely, outmodedly, superannuatedly, outdatedly, old-fashionedly, stalely, archaically, datedly, passly.
robber: (*n*) highwayman, bandit, mugger, outlaw, plunderer, pillager, burglar, pirate, crook, filcher, spoiler.
sacredness: (*n*) sanctity, inviolability, godliness, saintliness, innocence, piety, devotion, blessedness, sanctitude, righteousness, goodness.

finish his labor with every day, **relinquishing** all **claim** to the **produce** of his **fields**, and sacrificing in his **mind** not only his first but his last fruits also.

Thesaurus

claim: (*n, v*) call, charge, need, requisition; (*n*) allegation, privilege; (*v*) assert, exact, ask, want, arrogate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) disclaim, forfeit, waive, question, lose, grant, refute, request; (*n*) denial, disclaimer, response.

fields: (*n*) field, domains, plain, notification fields, rotation, alternation of crops, grounds.

finish: (*n, v*) close, complete, consummate; (*v*) achieve, execute,

discontinue, cease, accomplish, determine; (*n*) conclusion, death. ANTONYMS: (*n*) beginning, opening, inception, middle, creation; (*v*) begin, continue, sustain, save, renew, conserve.

mind: (*n, v*) intellect, notice, regard; (*v*) care, look, attend, beware, keep, listen, look after; (*n*) disposition. ANTONYMS: (*v*) forget, neglect, disregard, disobey, Miss, ignore; (*n*) emotion, inattention; (*adj*) physical.

produce: (*n, v*) effect, gain, make, cause; (*v*) bring, present, procreate, bring about, generate, breed, construct. ANTONYMS: (*v*) dampen, consume, halt.

relinquishing: (*n*) handover, conclusion, ending, giving up, waiver, relinquishment, ceding; (*adj*) reluctant, resigned.

THE VILLAGE

After hoeing, or perhaps reading and writing, in the forenoon, I usually **bathed** again in the pond, swimming across one of its coves for a **stint**, and **washed** the dust of labor from my person, or **smoothed** out the last **wrinkle** which study had made, and for the afternoon was absolutely free. Every day or two I strolled to the village to hear some of the gossip which is **incessantly** going on there, circulating either from mouth to mouth, or from newspaper to newspaper, and which, taken in homoeopathic doses, was really as refreshing in its way as the **rustle** of leaves and the **peeping** of frogs. As I walked in the **woods** to see the birds and squirrels, so I walked in the village to see the men and boys; instead of the wind among the pines I heard the carts rattle. In one direction from my house there was a colony of muskrats in the river meadows; under the grove of elms and buttonwoods in the other horizon was a village of busy men, as curious to me as if they had been prairie-dogs, each sitting at the mouth of its burrow, or running over to a neighbor's to gossip. I went there frequently to observe their **habits**. The village appeared to me a great news room; and on one side, to support it, as once at Redding & Company's on State Street, they kept nuts and raisins, or salt and meal and other groceries. Some have such a vast appetite for the former commodity, that is, the news, and such sound **digestive** organs, that they can sit forever in public avenues without stirring, and let it **simmer** and whisper through them like the Etesian winds, or

Thesaurus

bathed: (*adv*) sweaty.

digestive: (*adj*) alimentary, concoctive; (*n*) digester, digestion.

habits: (*n*) behavior, decorum, pratique.

incessantly: (*adv*) constantly, endlessly, continually, perpetually, continuously, unceasingly, eternally, persistently, unremittingly, unendingly, steadily. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) sporadically, briefly.

peeping: (*n*) cheeping, tweeting,

chirping; (*adj*) inquisitive.

rustle: (*n, v*) whisper; (*v*) lift, buzz, steal, pilfer, whiz, pinch, abstract, thieve, purloin; (*n*) rustling.

simmer: (*adj, v*) boil, seethe, stew; (*v*) cook, parboil, fizz, bubble, scald, foam, digest, bake.

smoothed: (*adj*) round, smoothened, curved. ANTONYM: (*adj*) sharp.

stint: (*v*) skimp, curtail, pinch, scrimp; (*adj, v*) begrudge, grudge; (*n*) restriction, extent, job, assignment,

degree.

washed: (*adj*) wash, cleaner, colored, refined, wet, watery.

woods: (*n*) forest, woodland, grove, timber, jungle, sir Henry wood, vegetation, timberland, Natalie wood, virgin forest; (*adj*) wooden.

wrinkle: (*n, v*) crease, crinkle, fold, rumple, crumple, furrow, pucker; (*v*) ruffle; (*n*) gather, line; (*adj, v*) curl. ANTONYMS: (*v*) unfold, straighten; (*n*) smoothness.

as if **inhaling** ether, it only producing **numbness** and **insensibility** to pain -- otherwise it would often be painful to bear -- without affecting the consciousness. I hardly ever failed, when I rambled through the village, to see a row of such worthies, either sitting on a ladder sunning themselves, with their bodies inclined forward and their eyes glancing along the line this way and that, from time to time, with a voluptuous expression, or else leaning against a barn with their hands in their pockets, like **caryatides**, as if to prop it up. They, being commonly out of doors, heard whatever was in the wind. These are the coarsest mills, in which all gossip is first rudely digested or cracked up before it is emptied into finer and more delicate hoppers within doors. I observed that the **vitals** of the village were the grocery, the bar-room, the post-office, and the bank; and, as a necessary part of the machinery, they kept a bell, a big gun, and a fire-engine, at convenient places; and the houses were so arranged as to make the most of mankind, in lanes and fronting one another, so that every traveller had to run the gauntlet, and every man, woman, and child might get a lick at him. Of course, those who were stationed nearest to the head of the line, where they could most see and be seen, and have the first blow at him, paid the highest prices for their places; and the few **stragglers** inhabitants in the outskirts, where long gaps in the line began to occur, and the traveller could get over walls or turn aside into cow-paths, and so escape, paid a very slight ground or window tax. Signs were hung out on all sides to **allure** him; some to catch him by the appetite, as the tavern and victualling cellar; some by the fancy, as the dry goods store and the jeweller's; and others by the hair or the feet or the skirts, as the barber, the **shoemaker**, or the tailor. Besides, there was a still more terrible standing invitation to call at every one of these houses, and company expected about these times. For the most part I escaped wonderfully from these dangers, either by proceeding at once boldly and without deliberation to the goal, as is recommended to those who run the gauntlet, or by keeping my thoughts on high things, like Orpheus, who, "loudly singing the praises of the gods to his lyre, drowned the voices of the Sirens, and kept out of danger." Sometimes I bolted suddenly, and nobody could tell my whereabouts, for I did not stand much about **gracefulness**, and never hesitated at a gap in a fence. I was even

Thesaurus

allure: (*n, v*) tempt, decoy, lure, appeal, draw, entice, seduce; (*v*) attract, persuade; (*n*) attraction, charisma. ANTONYMS: (*n*) repulsion, ugliness, repulsiveness; (*v*) repel, dissuade, discourage, threaten, warn, deter, prevent.

caryatides: (*n*) atlas, Hercules, Persides.

gracefulness: (*n*) grace, agility, neatness, prettiness, refinement, delicacy, carriage, legerity, lightness,

nimbleness; (*adj*) readiness. ANTONYM: (*n*) inelegance.

inhaling: (*adj*) inhale, breathing, inhalant.

insensibility: (*n*) callousness, hardness, indifference, dullness, stupidity, stupor, impassiveness, coma, physical insensibility, impassivity, trance.

numbness: (*n*) dullness, anesthesia, stupor, torpor, apathy, symptom, torpidity, lethargy, deadness,

indifference, anaesthesia.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) sensation, feeling.

shoemaker: (*n*) bootmaker, dressmaker, cordwainer, boot maker, maker, shaper, souter, Crispin.

stragglers: (*adj*) rambling, straggly, spread, few, trailing, untidy, vagabond, sprawly, sprawled. ANTONYM: (*adj*) compact.

vitals: (*n*) bowels, womb, viscera, belly, entrails, organ, necessity, lap, intestines, guts, chitterings.

accustomed to make an **irruption** into some houses, where I was well entertained, and after learning the kernels and very last sievelful of news -- what had subsided, the prospects of war and peace, and **whether** the world was likely to hold together much longer -- I was let out through the rear avenues, and so escaped to the woods again.

It was very pleasant, when I stayed late in town, to launch myself into the night, especially if it was dark and **tempestuous**, and set sail from some bright village **parlor** or lecture room, with a bag of rye or Indian meal upon my shoulder, for my **snug** harbor in the woods, having made all tight without and withdrawn under hatches with a merry crew of thoughts, leaving only my outer man at the helm, or even tying up the helm when it was plain sailing. I had many a **genial** thought by the cabin fire "as I sailed." I was never cast away nor distressed in any weather, though I encountered some severe storms. It is darker in the woods, even in common nights, than most suppose. I frequently had to look up at the opening between the trees above the path in order to learn my route, and, where there was no cart-path, to feel with my feet the faint track which I had worn, or steer by the known relation of particular trees which I felt with my hands, passing between two pines for instance, not more than eighteen inches apart, in the midst of the woods, invariably, in the darkest night. Sometimes, after coming home thus late in a dark and **muggy** night, when my feet felt the path which my eyes could not see, dreaming and **absent-minded** all the way, until I was aroused by having to raise my hand to lift the latch, I have not been able to recall a single step of my walk, and I have thought that perhaps my body would find its way home if its master should forsake it, as the hand finds its way to the mouth without assistance. Several times, when a visitor chanced to stay into evening, and it proved a dark night, I was obliged to conduct him to the cart-path in the rear of the house, and then point out to him the direction he was to pursue, and in keeping which he was to be **guided** rather by his feet than his eyes. One very dark night I directed thus on their way two young men who had been fishing in the pond. They lived about a mile off through the woods, and were quite used to the route. A day or two after one of them told me that they wandered about the greater part of the night, close by

Thesaurus

absent-minded: (*adj*) forgetful, oblivious, inattentive, preoccupied, abstracted.

genial: (*adj*) cheerful, bright, affable, cordial, amiable, nice, friendly, convivial, warm, agreeable, suave. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) disagreeable, hostile, mean, discourteous, frosty, gloomy, reserved, unapproachable, abominable.

guided: (*adj*) conducted, directed, led.

irruption: (*n*) inroad, incursion,

outbreak, attack, intrusion, raid, influx, foray, irrupted, eruption, onset.

muggy: (*adj*) moist, damp, close, humid, wet, airless, stuffy, oppressive, hot, clammy, soggy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) airy, dry.

parlor: (*n*) front room, lounge, sitting room, saloon, salon, parlour, parlors, livingroom, common room, parlours, drawing room.

snug: (*adj, v*) cosy, trim; (*adj*) cozy,

easy, comfy, tight, close, warm, secure, homely; (*v*) neat.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) baggy, uncomfortable, unwelcoming, bleak, formal, loose.

tempestuous: (*adj, n*) rough, boisterous, severe; (*adj*) raging, furious, wild, angry, windy, fierce, gusty; (*adj, v*) turbulent.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) mild, moderate, relaxed.

whether: (*pron*) where.

their own premises, and did not get home till toward morning, by which time, as there had been several heavy **showers** in the meanwhile, and the leaves were very wet, they were **drenched** to their skins. I have heard of many going **astray** even in the village **streets**, when the darkness was so thick that you could cut it with a knife, as the saying is. Some who live in the outskirts, having come to town a-shopping in their wagons, have been obliged to put up for the night; and gentlemen and ladies making a call have gone half a mile out of their way, feeling the **sidewalk** only with their feet, and not knowing when they turned. It is a surprising and memorable, as well as valuable experience, to be lost in the woods any time. Often in a snow-storm, even by day, one will come out upon a well-known road and yet find it impossible to tell which way leads to the village. Though he knows that he has travelled it a thousand times, he cannot recognize a feature in it, but it is as strange to him as if it were a road in Siberia. By night, of course, the **perplexity** is infinitely greater. In our most trivial walks, we are constantly, though unconsciously, steering like pilots by certain well-known beacons and headlands, and if we go beyond our usual course we still carry in our minds the bearing of some neighboring cape; and not till we are completely lost, or turned round -- for a man needs only to be turned round once with his eyes shut in this world to be lost -- do we appreciate the **vastness** and **strangeness** of nature. Every man has to learn the points of compass again as often as he awakes, whether from sleep or any abstraction. Not till we are lost, in other words not till we have lost the world, do we begin to find ourselves, and realize where we are and the infinite extent of our relations.

One afternoon, near the end of the first summer, when I went to the village to get a shoe from the cobbler's, I was seized and put into jail, because, as I have elsewhere related, I did not pay a tax to, or recognize the authority of, the State which buys and sells men, women, and children, like cattle, at the door of its senate-house. I had gone down to the woods for other purposes. But, wherever a man goes, men will pursue and paw him with their dirty institutions, and, if they can, **constrain** him to belong to their desperate odd-fellow society. It is true, I might have resisted forcibly with more or less effect, might have run "amok" against society; but I preferred that society should run "amok" against me, it

Thesaurus

astray: (*adj, adv*) adrift, off course; (*adj*) lost, wrong, disoriented, awry; (*adv*) amiss, widely, far, afield, aside.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) accurate.

constrain: (*v*) confine, compel, force, make, drive, bind, curb, bridle, obligate, require, restrain.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) liberate, encourage, free, release, broaden, extend.

drenched: (*adj*) saturated, soaked, soaking, damp, soppy, wet through, sodden, sopping, wringing wet,

soaked to the skin, dripping wet.

perplexity: (*n*) confusion, dilemma, bewilderment, maze, labyrinth, embarrassment, quandary, complication, enigma; (*adj, n*) difficulty, distress. ANTONYM: (*n*) understanding.

showers: (*n*) rain.

sidewalk: (*n*) footpath, path, walk, footway, flags, trottoir, pathway, causeway, walkway, curbside, doorstep.

strangeness: (*n*) oddity, oddness, quaintness, peculiarity, curiousness, abnormality, weirdness, foreignness, queerness, singularity, quirk.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) familiarity, nativeness.

streets: (*n*) street.

vastness: (*n*) enormity, immensity, immenseness, enormousness, grandeur, size, hugeness, bigness, extent, magnificence, grandness.

ANTONYM: (*n*) closeness.

being the desperate party. However, I was released the next day, obtained my mended shoe, and returned to the woods in season to get my dinner of huckleberries on Fair Haven Hill. I was never **molested** by any person but those who represented the State. I had no lock nor bolt but for the desk which held my papers, not even a nail to put over my latch or windows. I never fastened my door night or day, though I was to be absent several days; not even when the next fall I spent a **fortnight** in the woods of Maine. And yet my house was more respected than if it had been surrounded by a file of soldiers. The tired Rambler could rest and warm himself by my fire, the literary amuse himself with the few books on my table, or the curious, by opening my closet door, see what was left of my dinner, and what prospect I had of a supper. Yet, though many people of every class came this way to the pond, I suffered no serious inconvenience from these sources, and I never missed anything but one small book, a volume of Homer, which perhaps was **improperly** gilded, and this I trust a soldier of our camp has found by this time. I am convinced, that if all men were to live as simply as I then did, **thieving** and robbery would be unknown. These take place only in communities where some have got more than is sufficient while others have not enough. The Pope's Homers would soon get properly distributed.

"Nec bella fuerunt,
Faginus astatat dum scyphus **ante** dapes."

"Nor wars did men molest,
When only beechen bowls were in request."

"You who govern public affairs, what need have you to employ punishments? Love virtue, and the people will be **virtuous**. The virtues of a superior man are like the wind; the virtues of a common man are like the grass -- I the grass, when the wind passes over it, bends."

Thesaurus

ante: (*n*) wager, stake, craps, roulette, pitch and toss, farthing, cup tossing, chuck, faro, gamble; (*adv, prep*) before.

fortnight: (*n*) two weeks, period, amount of time.

improperly: (*adv*) wrongly, unbecomingly, badly, inappropriately, indecorously, indecently, faultily, unseemly, incongruously, illicitly, illegitimately. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) suitably, morally,

fittingly, correctly, justifiably, perfectly, well, lawfully, honestly, acceptably, decently.

molest: (*v*) harass, assail, assault, plague, bother, harry, attack, annoy, haunt, beset, chevy. ANTONYM: (*v*) defend.

molested: (*adj*) assaulted, disordered, abused, badly treated, battered, harmed, injured, maltreated, neglected, physically abused, raped.

thieving: (*n*) larceny, stealing, robbery,

embezzlement, misapplication, misappropriation, peculation, defalcation, burglary, thievery; (*adj*) thievish. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) philanthropic, benevolent.

virtuous: (*adj*) upright, pure, righteous, good, moral, just, honorable, honest, respectable, decent, pious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) bad, sinful, corrupt, impure, unethical, decadent, degenerate, irreverent.

THE PONDS

Sometimes, having had a **surfeit** of human society and gossip, and worn out all my village friends, I rambled still farther westward than I **habitually dwell**, into yet more unfrequented parts of the town, "to fresh woods and pastures new," or, while the sun was setting, made my supper of huckleberries and **blueberries** on Fair Haven Hill, and laid up a store for several days. The fruits do not yield their true flavor to the purchaser of them, nor to him who raises them for the market. There is but one way to obtain it, yet few take that way. If you would know the flavor of huckleberries, ask the **cowboy** or the partridge. It is a vulgar error to suppose that you have tasted huckleberries who never plucked them. A huckleberry never **reaches** Boston; they have not been known there since they grew on her three hills. The **ambrosial** and essential part of the fruit is lost with the bloom which is rubbed off in the market cart, and they become mere provender. As long as Eternal Justice reigns, not one innocent huckleberry can be transported thither from the country's hills.

Occasionally, after my hoeing was done for the day, I joined some impatient companion who had been fishing on the pond since morning, as silent and **motionless** as a duck or a floating leaf, and, after practising various kinds of philosophy, had concluded commonly, by the time I arrived, that he belonged to the ancient **sect** of Coenobites. There was one older man, an excellent fisher and skilled in all kinds of **woodcraft**, who was pleased to look upon my house as a

Thesaurus

ambrosial: (*adj*) luscious, heavenly, fragrant, spicy, delicate, aromatic, delicious, ambrosian, sweet, divine, redolent.
blueberries: (*n*) genus *Vaccinium*.
cowboy: (*n*) buckaroo, cowherd, cowman, wrangler, vaquero, cowpuncher, cowpoke, cowhand, performer; (*v*) bull whacker, farrier.
dwell: (*adj, v*) inhabit; (*v*) reside, bide, live, stay, lodge, delay, occupy, continue, be, settle. ANTONYM: (*v*)

wander.
habitually: (*adv*) usually, ordinarily, normally, generally, regularly, frequently, commonly, routinely, wontedly, conventionally, commonplacely. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) unusually, seldom, erratically, exceptionally, occasionally.
motionless: (*adj*) inactive, inert, immobile, stationary, fixed, unmoving, quiescent, dead, torpid; (*adj, adv*) calm, at rest. ANTONYMS:

(*adj*) mobile, active, alive, flowing.
reaches: (*n*) recess.
sect: (*n*) denomination, clan, religion, party, order, cult, category, clique, class, group, Unit sect.
surfeit: (*n*) overabundance, excess, repletion, satiety, plethora, overflow, congestion; (*v*) cloy, gorge, satiate, pall. ANTONYMS: (*n*) shortage, need, necessity, deficit; (*v*) deplete.
woodcraft: (*n*) craftsmanship, carpentry.

building erected for the convenience of fishermen; and I was equally pleased when he sat in my doorway to arrange his lines. Once in a while we sat together on the pond, he at one end of the boat, and I at the other; but not many words passed between us, for he had grown deaf in his later years, but he occasionally hummed a **psalm**, which **harmonized** well enough with my philosophy. Our intercourse was thus altogether one of unbroken harmony, far more pleasing to remember than if it had been carried on by speech. When, as was commonly the case, I had none to commune with, I used to raise the echoes by striking with a paddle on the side of my boat, filling the surrounding woods with circling and dilating sound, stirring them up as the keeper of a **menagerie** his wild beasts, until I **elicited** a **growl** from every wooded vale and hillside.

In warm evenings I frequently sat in the boat playing the flute, and saw the perch, which I seem to have charmed, hovering around me, and the moon travelling over the **ribbed** bottom, which was **strewed** with the wrecks of the forest. Formerly I had come to this pond **adventurously**, from time to time, in dark summer nights, with a companion, and, making a fire close to the water's edge, which we thought attracted the fishes, we caught pouts with a bunch of worms strung on a thread, and when we had done, far in the night, threw the burning brands high into the air like skyrockets, which, coming down into the pond, were **quenched** with a loud **hissing**, and we were suddenly groping in total darkness. Through this, whistling a tune, we took our way to the haunts of men again. But now I had made my home by the shore.

Sometimes, after staying in a village parlor till the family had all retired, I have returned to the woods, and, partly with a view to the next day's dinner, spent the hours of midnight fishing from a boat by moonlight, serenaded by owls and foxes, and hearing, from time to time, the creaking note of some unknown bird close at hand. These experiences were very memorable and valuable to me -- anchored in forty feet of water, and twenty or thirty rods from the shore, surrounded sometimes by thousands of small perch and **shiners**, dimpling the surface with their tails in the moonlight, and communicating by a long flaxen line with mysterious nocturnal fishes which had their dwelling forty feet below,

Thesaurus

adventurously: (*adv*) venturesomely, boldly, bravely, enterprisingly, audaciously, intrepidly, dangerously, gallantly, venturously, fearlessly, hazardingly.
elicited: (*adj*) evoked, elicited.
growl: (*adj, n, v*) snarl; (*n, v*) roar, bark, howl, yap, moan, thunder; (*v*) gnarl, mutter, complain, croak.
harmonized: (*adj*) harmonical, consonant, harmonic, harmonious, concordant, identical, coordinated,

uniform, synchronized, standardized, in harmony. ANTONYM: (*adj*) heterogeneous.
hissing: (*adj*) sibilant, sibilous, sibilatory; (*n*) whistling, heckling, scoffing, sibilance, taunts, sibilation, white noise; (*v*) fizzle. ANTONYM: (*n*) applause.
menagerie: (*n*) zoo, vivarium, menage, manage, installation, facility, collection, assemblage, aggregation, accumulation, menagerie.

psalm: (*n*) hymn, chant, psalmody, anthem, song, Salm; (*v*) sing.
quenched: (*adj*) extinct, quelled, out, slaked, squelched, dead, kayoed, permanently inactive, prohibited, proscribed, put out.
ribbed: (*v*) sulcated, striated; (*adj*) ridged, grooved, canalculated, having ribs, unsmooth, corrugated. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) smooth, ribless.
shiners: (*n*) Notropis.
strewed: (*v*) besprent, sprinkled over.

or sometimes dragging sixty feet of line about the pond as I drifted in the gentle night breeze, now and then feeling a slight vibration along it, indicative of some life prowling about its **extremity**, of dull uncertain blundering purpose there, and slow to make up its mind. At length you slowly raise, pulling hand over hand, some **horned pout squeaking** and **squirming** to the upper air. It was very queer, especially in dark nights, when your thoughts had wandered to vast and **cosmogonal** themes in other spheres, to feel this faint jerk, which came to interrupt your dreams and link you to Nature again. It seemed as if I might next cast my line upward into the air, as well as downward into this element, which was scarcely more dense. Thus I caught two fishes as it were with one hook.

The scenery of Walden is on a humble scale, and, though very beautiful, does not approach to grandeur, nor can it much concern one who has not long frequented it or lived by its shore; yet this pond is so remarkable for its depth and purity as to merit a particular description. It is a clear and deep green well, half a mile long and a mile and three quarters in circumference, and contains about sixty-one and a half acres; a perennial spring in the midst of pine and oak woods, without any visible **inlet** or outlet except by the clouds and **evaporation**. The surrounding hills rise abruptly from the water to the height of forty to **eighty** feet, though on the southeast and east they attain to about one hundred and one hundred and fifty feet respectively, within a quarter and a third of a mile. They are exclusively woodland. All our Concord waters have two colors at least; one when viewed at a distance, and another, more proper, close at hand. The first depends more on the light, and follows the sky. In clear weather, in summer, they appear blue at a little distance, especially if agitated, and at a great distance all appear alike. In stormy weather they are sometimes of a dark slate-color. The sea, however, is said to be blue one day and green another without any **perceptible** change in the atmosphere. I have seen our river, when, the landscape being covered with snow, both water and ice were almost as green as grass. Some consider blue "to be the color of pure water, whether liquid or solid." But, looking directly down into our waters from a boat, they are seen to be of

Thesaurus

cosmogonal: (*adj*) cosmic.

eighty: (*n*) four score.

evaporation: (*n*) dehydration, disappearance, desiccation, vapor, vaporisation, vapour, vaporation, drying up, clouding, boiling, vapping. ANTONYM: (*n*) wetting.

extremity: (*n*) end, member, boundary, bound, close, appendage, limit, limb, ending, fringe, conclusion. ANTONYMS: (*n*) trunk, average, minimum, head, leniency.

horned: (*adj*) cornuted, somm, horny, sharp, cuckolded, cornigerous, bearing horns, having horns.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) hornless.

inlet: (*n*) bay, cove, gulf, entry, entrance, arm, gateway, loch, armllet, intake, recess.

perceptible: (*adj*) conspicuous, appreciable, evident, discernible, obvious, visible, palpable, apparent, detectable, manifest, observable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) intangible,

unclear, inaudible, inconspicuous, obscure, undetectable, invisible.

pout: (*v*) brood, sulk; (*adj, v*) frown, protrude; (*adj*) lower, glower, scowl, gloam, look downcast; (*n*) eelpout, hornpout.

squeaking: (*adj*) creaking, screeky, screechy, squeaky, squealing, creaky; (*n*) squeak.

squirming: (*adj*) wiggling, sinuate, moving, sinuous, twisting, writhing, wiggly, wriggly.

very different colors. Walden is blue at one time and green at another, even from the same point of view. Lying between the earth and the heavens, it partakes of the color of both. Viewed from a **hilltop** it reflects the color of the sky; but near at hand it is of a yellowish tint next the shore where you can see the sand, then a light green, which gradually deepens to a uniform dark green in the body of the pond. In some lights, viewed even from a hilltop, it is of a vivid green next the shore. Some have referred this to the reflection of the **verdure**; but it is equally green there against the railroad **sandbank**, and in the spring, before the leaves are expanded, and it may be simply the result of the prevailing blue mixed with the yellow of the sand. Such is the color of its iris. This is that portion, also, where in the spring, the ice being warmed by the heat of the sun reflected from the bottom, and also transmitted through the earth, melts first and forms a narrow canal about the still frozen middle. Like the rest of our waters, when much agitated, in clear weather, so that the surface of the waves may reflect the sky at the right angle, or because there is more light mixed with it, it appears at a little distance of a darker blue than the sky itself; and at such a time, being on its surface, and looking with divided vision, so as to see the reflection, I have discerned a **matchless** and indescribable light blue, such as watered or changeable silks and sword blades suggest, more **cerulean** than the sky itself, alternating with the original dark green on the opposite sides of the waves, which last appeared but muddy in comparison. It is a **vitreous** greenish blue, as I remember it, like those patches of the winter sky seen through cloud vistas in the west before **sundown**. Yet a single glass of its water held up to the light is as **colorless** as an equal quantity of air. It is well known that a large plate of glass will have a green tint, owing, as the makers say, to its "body," but a small piece of the same will be colorless. How large a body of Walden water would be required to reflect a green tint I have never proved. The water of our river is black or a very dark brown to one looking directly down on it, and, like that of most ponds, imparts to the body of one bathing in it a yellowish tinge; but this water is of such crystalline purity that the body of the **bather** appears of an alabaster whiteness, still more unnatural, which, as the limbs are magnified and

Thesaurus

bather: (*n*) traveler, traveller, surfer, floater, aquanaut, natator.

cerulean: (*adj, n*) blue, sapphire; (*adj*) bright blue, ceruleous, navy, cobalt, cerule, chromatic; (*n*) lazuline, blueness.

colorless: (*adj*) achromatic, neutral, drab, dull, monotonous, wan, tame, pallid, bloodless, white, colourless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rosy, interesting, rich, vivid, brilliant, vibrant, stimulating, lively, glamorous,

exciting, distinctive.

hilltop: (*n*) brow, peak, summit, top, pinnacle, hill, acme, height, zenith, apex; (*adj*) outdoor.

matchless: (*adj*) inimitable, peerless, consummate, unique, unmatched, unrivaled, unequaled, unparalleled, superlative, unbeatable, unsurpassed. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) common, vulnerable, abysmal, mediocre, worst.

sandbank: (*n*) shoal, bar, reef, cay,

sandbar, shallow.

sundown: (*n*) nightfall, evening, dusk, twilight, hour. ANTONYMS: (*n*) dawn, daybreak, sunrise.

verdure: (*adj, n*) greenness; (*n*) greenery, foliage, verdancy, viridity, green, leafage, flora, freshness, strength, vegetable kingdom.

vitreous: (*adj*) glassy, hyaline, lithic, crystalline, glazed, concrete, clear as crystal, clear, calculous, serene, granitic.

distorted withal, produces a monstrous effect, making fit studies for a Michael Angelo.

The water is so transparent that the bottom can easily be discerned at the depth of twenty-five or thirty feet. Paddling over it, you may see, many feet beneath the surface, the schools of **perch** and shiners, perhaps only an inch long, yet the former easily distinguished by their **transverse bars**, and you think that they must be **ascetic** fish that find a subsistence there. Once, in the winter, many years ago, when I had been cutting holes through the ice in order to catch **pickerel**, as I stepped ashore I tossed my axe back on to the ice, but, as if some evil genius had directed it, it slid four or five rods directly into one of the holes, where the water was twenty-five feet deep. Out of curiosity, I lay down on the ice and looked through the hole, until I saw the axe a little on one side, standing on its head, with its **helve** erect and gently **swaying** to and fro with the pulse of the pond; and there it might have stood erect and swaying till in the course of time the handle **rotted** off, if I had not disturbed it. Making another hole directly over it with an ice **chisel** which I had, and cutting down the longest birch which I could find in the neighborhood with my knife, I made a slip-noose, which I attached to its end, and, letting it down carefully, passed it over the knob of the handle, and drew it by a line along the birch, and so pulled the axe out again.

The shore is composed of a belt of smooth rounded white stones like paving-stones, excepting one or two short sand beaches, and is so steep that in many places a single leap will carry you into water over your head; and were it not for its remarkable **transparency**, that would be the last to be seen of its bottom till it rose on the opposite side. Some think it is bottomless. It is nowhere muddy, and a casual observer would say that there were no weeds at all in it; and of noticeable plants, except in the little meadows recently overflowed, which do not properly belong to it, a closer scrutiny does not detect a flag nor a bulrush, nor even a lily, yellow or white, but only a few small heart-leaves and potamogetons, and perhaps a water-target or two; all which however a bather might not perceive; and these plants are clean and bright like the element they grow in. The stones extend a rod or two into the water, and then the bottom is pure sand,

Thesaurus

ascetic: (*adj*) abstemious, austere, Spartan, ascetical, severe; (*n*) hermit, abstinent, monk, recluse, eisel, abstainer. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sumptuous, fussy, hedonistic, lavish.
bars: (*n*) grinding media, gymnastics, parallel bars.
chisel: (*v*) cut, cheat, shape, beguile, screw, engrave, beat, victimize, sculpture, cozen; (*n*) burin.
helve: (*n*) handle, grip, handgrip, helm, hold, helmet, director.

perch: (*adj, n, v*) roost; (*v*) light, settle, sit, alight, squat, land; (*adj, v*) lodge, abide, dwell; (*n*) pole.
pickerel: (*n*) clown, barred pickerel, black jack, hopper, jack, jack crosstree, chain pickerel, chain pike, boor.
rotted: (*adj*) roted, crappy, icky, lousy, rotten, unsound.
swaying: (*adj*) swinging, convincing, oscillating, influential, persuasive, moving, liltng, groggy; (*n*) floating,

manipulation.
transparency: (*n*) clearness, clarity, slide, limpidity, pellucidness, lucidity, diaphaneity, translucency, overhead, foil, pellucidity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) ambiguity, opacity, dirtiness, impurity.
transverse: (*adj, v*) cross; (*adj*) crosswise, oblique, crossing, thwartwise, thwart, diagonal, grumpy, perversely irritable; (*v*) traverse; (*adv*) transversely.

except in the deepest parts, where there is usually a little sediment, probably from the decay of the leaves which have been wafted on to it so many successive falls, and a bright green weed is brought up on anchors even in midwinter.

We have one other pond just like this, White Pond, in Nine Acre Corner, about two and a half miles westerly; but, though I am acquainted with most of the ponds within a dozen miles of this centre I do not know a third of this pure and well-like character. Successive nations perchance have drank at, admired, and fathomed it, and passed away, and still its water is green and **pellucid** as ever. Not an **intermitting** spring! Perhaps on that spring morning when Adam and Eve were driven out of Eden Walden Pond was already in existence, and even then breaking up in a gentle spring rain accompanied with mist and a southerly wind, and covered with myriads of ducks and geese, which had not heard of the fall, when still such pure lakes sufficed them. Even then it had commenced to rise and fall, and had clarified its waters and **colored** them of the hue they now wear, and obtained a patent of Heaven to be the only Walden Pond in the world and **distiller** of celestial dews. Who knows in how many **unremembered** nations' literatures this has been the Castalian Fountain? or what nymphs presided over it in the Golden Age? It is a gem of the first water which Concord wears in her **coronet**.

Yet perchance the first who came to this well have left some trace of their footsteps. I have been surprised to detect **encircling** the pond, even where a thick wood has just been cut down on the shore, a narrow shelf-like path in the steep hillside, alternately rising and falling, approaching and **receding** from the water's edge, as old probably as the race of man here, worn by the feet of aboriginal hunters, and still from time to time unwittingly **trodden** by the present occupants of the land. This is particularly distinct to one standing on the middle of the pond in winter, just after a light snow has fallen, appearing as a clear **undulating** white line, **unobscured** by weeds and twigs, and very obvious a quarter of a mile off in many places where in summer it is hardly distinguishable close at hand. The snow reprints it, as it were, in clear white type

Thesaurus

colored: (*adj*) chromatic, black, tinged, tinted, colorful, dyed, coloured, partial, dark, bleached, biased.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) truthful, white, uncolored, unbiased, pale, objective, honest, genuine, real.

coronet: (*n*) corona, chaplet, tiara, snood, necklace, circlet, wreath, diadem, cap of maintenance, laurel, ribbon.

distiller: (*n*) manufacturer, alembic.

encircling: (*adj, prep*) surrounding;

(*prep*) around; (*adj*) comprehensive, encompassing, roundabout, circuitous, rotary, circumferential, inclusive; (*v*) encircle.

intermitting: (*adj*) intermittent.

pellucid: (*adj*) limpid, transparent, lucid, clear, bright, crystalline, crystal clear, luculent, perspicuous, liquid, crystal.

receding: (*n*) disappearance, fadeout, recession, niche; (*adj*) moving back, low, hairless, balding, going out,

recessive, retiring.

trodden: (*adj*) trampled, damaged, beaten, compressed, packed down. ANTONYM: (*adj*) loose.

undulating: (*adj*) sinuous, waved, undulant, undulatory, curly, apprenticed, zigzag, crimped, curvy, indented, intended. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) steep, straight.

unobscured: (*adj*) light.

unremembered: (*adj*) forgotten, lost, unnoticed.

alto-relievo. The **ornamented** grounds of villas which will one day be built here may still preserve some trace of this.

The pond rises and falls, but whether regularly or not, and within what period, nobody knows, though, as usual, many pretend to know. It is commonly higher in the winter and lower in the summer, though not corresponding to the general wet and **dryness**. I can remember when it was a foot or two lower, and also when it was at least five feet higher, than when I lived by it. There is a narrow sand-bar running into it, with very deep water on one side, on which I helped boil a kettle of **chowder**, some six rods from the main shore, about the year 1824, which it has not been possible to do for twenty-five years; and, on the other hand, my friends used to listen with incredulity when I told them, that a few years later I was accustomed to fish from a boat in a secluded **cove** in the woods, fifteen rods from the only shore they knew, which place was long since converted into a meadow. But the pond has risen steadily for two years, and now, in the summer of '52, is just five feet higher than when I lived there, or as high as it was thirty years ago, and fishing goes on again in the meadow. This makes a difference of level, at the outside, of six or seven feet; and yet the water shed by the surrounding hills is insignificant in amount, and this overflow must be referred to causes which affect the deep springs. This same summer the pond has begun to fall again. It is remarkable that this fluctuation, whether **periodical** or not, appears thus to require many years for its **accomplishment**. I have observed one rise and a part of two falls, and I expect that a dozen or fifteen years hence the water will again be as low as I have ever known it. Flint's Pond, a mile **eastward**, allowing for the disturbance occasioned by its inlets and outlets, and the smaller intermediate ponds also, **sympathize** with Walden, and recently **attained** their greatest height at the same time with the latter. The same is true, as far as my observation goes, of White Pond.

This rise and fall of Walden at long intervals serves this use at least; the water standing at this great height for a year or more, though it makes it difficult to walk round it, kills the shrubs and trees which have sprung up about its edge since the last rise -- pitch pines, birches, **alders**, aspens, and others -- and, falling

Thesaurus

accomplishment: (*n*) attainment, completion, exploit, performance, deed, skill, fulfillment, feat, action, act, acquisition. ANTONYMS: (*n*) abandonment, washout, flop, debacle, defeat.

alders: (*n*) *Alnus*, genus *Alnus*.

attained: (*adj*) attains, attain, reached, complete, earned, fulfilled.

chowder: (*n*) potage, soup, gumbo, consomm, bouillabaisse, bisque.

cove: (*n*) bay, cave, harbor, bight, inlet,

recess, creek, glen, man, fellow, guy.

dryness: (*n*) drought, aridity, dehydration, aridness, thirst, desiccation, barrenness, monotony, status, drying, insensibility.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) damp, humidity, wetness, moisture, succulence,

exaggeration, juiciness.

eastward: (*adj*) eastbound, eastern; (*adv*) eastwards.

ornamented: (*adj*) embellished, beautified, fancy, flowery, ornate,

adorned, bedecked, decked, festooned, feathered, florid.

periodical: (*n*) journal, magazine, newspaper, review, organ, publication, book; (*adj*) intermittent, cyclic, recurrent, annual.

sympathize: (*v*) pity, understand, condole, compassionate, feel, sympathise, identify with, empathize, have compassion, feel sorry for, feel for. ANTONYMS: (*v*) disapprove, disregard.

again, leaves an **unobstructed** shore; for, unlike many ponds and all waters which are subject to a daily tide, its shore is cleanest when the water is lowest. On the side of the pond next my house a row of pitch pines, fifteen feet high, has been killed and tipped over as if by a lever, and thus a stop put to their encroachments; and their size indicates how many years have elapsed since the last rise to this height. By this **fluctuation** the pond asserts its title to a shore, and thus the shore is **shorn**, and the trees cannot hold it by right of possession. These are the lips of the lake, on which no beard grows. It licks its chaps from time to time. When the water is at its height, the alders, willows, and maples send forth a mass of **fibrous** red roots several feet long from all sides of their stems in the water, and to the height of three or four feet from the ground, in the effort to maintain themselves; and I have known the high blueberry bushes about the shore, which commonly produce no fruit, bear an abundant crop under these circumstances.

Some have been puzzled to tell how the shore became so regularly **paved**. My townsmen have all heard the tradition -- the **oldest** people tell me that they heard it in their youth -- that anciently the Indians were holding a pow-wow upon a hill here, which rose as high into the heavens as the pond now sinks deep into the earth, and they used much **profanity**, as the story goes, though this vice is one of which the Indians were never guilty, and while they were thus engaged the hill shook and suddenly sank, and only one old **squaw**, named Walden, escaped, and from her the pond was named. It has been **conjectured** that when the hill shook these stones rolled down its side and became the present shore. It is very certain, at any rate, that once there was no pond here, and now there is one; and this Indian fable does not in any respect conflict with the account of that ancient settler whom I have mentioned, who remembers so well when he first came here with his divining-rod, saw a thin vapor rising from the **sward**, and the hazel pointed steadily **downward**, and he concluded to dig a well here. As for the stones, many still think that they are hardly to be accounted for by the action of the waves on these hills; but I observe that the surrounding hills are remarkably full of the same kind of stones, so that they have been obliged to pile them up in walls on both sides of the railroad cut nearest the pond; and,

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conjectured: (*adj*) supposed, opinionative.

downward: (*adv*) underneath, under, below, downwards, downwardly, beneath, down below; (*adj*) downcast, sloping, depressed, downright.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) up; (*adj*) rising.

fibrous: (*adj*) tough, ropy, fibrose, filamentous, muscular, rubbery, nemaline, gossamer, sinewy, raw, brawny. ANTONYM: (*adj*) tender.

fluctuation: (*n*) vicissitude, wavering,

deviation, wobble, swing, undulation, variance, oscillation, hesitation, vibration, modification. ANTONYM: (*n*) resolution.

oldest: (*n*) elder, doyen; (*adj*) older.

paved: (*adj*) cobbled.

profanity: (*n*) blasphemy, oath, irreverence, obscenity, swearing, profanation, sacrilege, swear word, expletive, disrespect, utterance.

ANTONYM: (*n*) purity.

shorn: (*adj*) sheared, hairless, bald,

stuffed, Shearn, Sheard, shear, clipped, not, Nott, shaven.

squaw: (*n*) wife, woman; (*adj*) wintry.

sward: (*n*) sod, greensward, lawn, green, divot, turf, grass, meadow, mead, sodomite, grassplat.

unobstructed: (*adj*) open, unconstrained, clear, unhindered, unchecked, unimpeded, manifest, uncaught, unconfined, unloaded, free. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) obstructed, unclear, restricted.

moreover, there are most stones where the shore is most abrupt; so that, unfortunately, it is no longer a mystery to me. I detect the **paver**. If the name was not derived from that of some English locality -- Saffron Walden, for instance -- one might suppose that it was called originally Walled-in Pond.

The pond was my well ready dug. For four months in the year its water is as cold as it is pure at all times; and I think that it is then as good as any, if not the best, in the town. In the winter, all water which is exposed to the air is colder than springs and **wells** which are protected from it. The temperature of the pond water which had stood in the room where I sat from five o'clock in the afternoon till noon the next day, the sixth of March, 1846, the **thermometer** having been up to 65x or 70x some of the time, owing partly to the sun on the roof, was 42x, or one degree colder than the water of one of the coldest wells in the village just drawn. The temperature of the Boiling Spring the same day was 45x, or the warmest of any water tried, though it is the coldest that I know of in summer, when, beside, shallow and **stagnant** surface water is not **mingled** with it. Moreover, in summer, Walden never becomes so warm as most water which is exposed to the sun, on account of its depth. In the warmest weather I usually placed a **pailful** in my cellar, where it became cool in the night, and remained so during the day; though I also resorted to a spring in the neighborhood. It was as good when a week old as the day it was **dipped**, and had no taste of the pump. Whoever camps for a week in summer by the shore of a pond, needs only bury a pail of water a few feet deep in the shade of his camp to be independent of the luxury of ice.

There have been caught in Walden pickerel, one weighing seven pounds -- to say nothing of another which carried off a **reel** with great velocity, which the **fisherman** safely set down at eight pounds because he did not see him -- perch and pouts, some of each weighing over two pounds, shiners, chivins or **roach** (*Leuciscus pulchellus*), a very few breams, and a couple of eels, one weighing four pounds -- I am thus particular because the weight of a fish is commonly its only title to fame, and these are the only eels I have heard of here; -- also, I have a faint recollection of a little fish some five inches long, with **silvery** sides and a

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dipped: (*adj*) immersed, unfit, swaybacked, lordotic, curved in, swayback.

fisherman: (*n*) fisher, trawler, black cat, fisher cat, piscator, troller, Peterman; (*v*) sportsman, huntsman.

mingled: (*adj*) miscellaneous, complex, indiscriminate, heterogeneous, medley, confused, eclectic, motley, different; (*v*) blended, blent.

pailful: (*n*) bucket, bucketful, containerful.

paver: (*n*) finisher, pavior, pavement brick, bricklayer, Pavier.

reel: (*n, v*) coil, roll; (*v*) waver, rock, stagger, totter, spin, teeter, falter; (*n*) bobbin, spool.

roach: (*n*) rotch, stub, dace, oriental cockroach, blackbeetle, oriental roach, Mexican Valium, giant cockroach, forget me drug, family Cyprinidae, dictyopterous insect.

silvery: (*adj*) silvern, argent, bright, white, gray, rich, silverish,

melodious, fair, Argentine, clear.

stagnant: (*adj*) quiet, motionless, inert, dead, slow, still, standing, immobile, inactive, stagnate, stationary.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) active, moving.

thermometer: (*n*) thermocouple, thermograph, telethermometer, cryometer, pyrometer, platinum thermometer, heat indicator, gas thermometer, candy thermometer; (*v*) heliometer, galvanometer.

wells: (*n*) spring.

greenish back, somewhat dace-like in its character, which I mention here chiefly to link my facts to fable. Nevertheless, this pond is not very fertile in fish. Its pickerel, though not abundant, are its chief boast. I have seen at one time lying on the ice pickerel of at least three different kinds: a long and shallow one, steel-colored, most like those caught in the river; a bright golden kind, with greenish reflections and remarkably deep, which is the most common here; and another, golden-colored, and shaped like the last, but peppered on the sides with small dark brown or black spots, intermixed with a few faint blood-red ones, very much like a trout. The specific name *reticulatus* would not apply to this; it should be *guttatus* rather. These are all very firm fish, and weigh more than their size promises. The shiners, pouts, and perch also, and indeed all the fishes which **inhabit** this pond, are much cleaner, handsomer, and firmer-fleshed than those in the river and most other ponds, as the water is purer, and they can easily be distinguished from them. Probably many ichthyologists would make new varieties of some of them. There are also a clean race of frogs and **tortoises**, and a few **mussels** in it; muskrats and minks leave their traces about it, and occasionally a travelling mud-turtle visits it. Sometimes, when I pushed off my boat in the morning, I disturbed a great mud-turtle which had **secreted** himself under the boat in the night. Ducks and geese frequent it in the spring and fall, the white-bellied swallows (*Hirundo bicolor*) **skim** over it, and the peewees (*Totanus macularius*) "teeter" along its **stony** shores all summer. I have sometimes disturbed a fish **hawk** sitting on a white pine over the water; but I doubt if it is ever profaned by the wind of a **gull**, like Fair Haven. At most, it tolerates one annual loon. These are all the animals of consequence which frequent it now.

You may see from a boat, in calm weather, near the sandy eastern shore, where the water is eight or ten feet deep, and also in some other parts of the pond, some circular **heaps** half a dozen feet in diameter by a foot in height, consisting of small stones less than a hen's egg in size, where all around is bare sand. At first you wonder if the Indians could have formed them on the ice for any purpose, and so, when the ice **melted**, they sank to the bottom; but they are too regular and some of them plainly too fresh for that. They are similar to those

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bicolor: (*adj*) bicolour, bicoloured, bichrome, coloured, colorful; (*v*) versicolor, tricolor.

greenish: (*adj*) green, virescent, viridescent, fleecable, envious, covetous, chromatic, porraceous.

gull: (*n, v*) fool, cheat, deceive; (*v*) beguile, bamboozle, cod, befool, take in, kid; (*n*) chump, cully.

hawk: (*v*) peddle, cough, expectorate, sell, vend, hunt, huckster; (*n*) eagle, goshawk, harrier, buzzard.

heaps: (*adj, n*) lots, much; (*n*) masses, oodles, piles, stacks, many, tons, plenty, lot, accumulation.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) inadequate.

inhabit: (*v*) reside, abide, occupy, lodge, settle, people, live, indwell, be, exist; (*n*) habit. ANTONYMS: (*v*) desert, vacate.

melted: (*adj*) molten, fluid, liquified, dissolved, liquefied, baked, fluent, touched, limpid, sorry, flowing.

mussels: (*n*) Bivalvia, clams, class

Bivalvia, class Lamellibranchia, class Pelecypoda, Lamellibranchia.

secreted: (*adj*) hidden, unseen, out of sight.

skim: (*v*) slip, browse, skip, sweep, read, race, fly, shave, brush; (*n, v*) cream, slide.

stony: (*adj*) rocky, hard, rough, callous, cold, pitiless, flinty, unfeeling, obdurate, bleak, icy.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) smooth, kind.

tortoises: (*n*) Testudinata.

found in rivers; but as there are no **suckers** nor **lampreys** here, I know not by what fish they could be made. Perhaps they are the nests of the chivin. These lend a pleasing mystery to the bottom.

The shore is irregular enough not to be monotonous. I have in my mind's eye the western, **indented** with deep bays, the bolder northern, and the beautifully **scalloped** southern shore, where successive capes overlap each other and suggest unexplored coves between. The forest has never so good a setting, nor is so distinctly beautiful, as when seen from the middle of a small lake amid hills which rise from the water's edge; for the water in which it is reflected not only makes the best foreground in such a case, but, with its winding shore, the most natural and agreeable boundary to it. There is no **rawness** nor imperfection in its edge there, as where the axe has cleared a part, or a cultivated field abuts on it. The trees have ample room to expand on the water side, and each sends forth its most vigorous branch in that direction. There Nature has woven a natural **selvage**, and the eye rises by just gradations from the low shrubs of the shore to the highest trees. There are few traces of man's hand to be seen. The water laves the shore as it did a thousand years ago.

A lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature. The **fluvial** trees next the shore are the slender **eyelashes** which fringe it, and the wooded hills and cliffs around are its **overhanging** brows.

Standing on the smooth sandy beach at the east end of the pond, in a calm September afternoon, when a slight haze makes the opposite shore-line indistinct, I have seen whence came the expression, "the glassy surface of a lake." When you **invert** your head, it looks like a thread of finest **gossamer** stretched across the valley, and gleaming against the distant pine woods, separating one **stratum** of the atmosphere from another. You would think that you could walk dry under it to the opposite hills, and that the swallows which skim over might perch on it. Indeed, they sometimes dive below this line, as it were by mistake, and are **undeceived**. As you look over the pond westward you are obliged to employ both your hands to defend your eyes against the reflected as well as the

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eyelashes: (*n*) cilia.

fluvial: (*adj*) fluvialic.

gossamer: (*adj*) thin, sheer, filmy, diaphanous, delicate, fine, cobwebby, gauzy, down; (*adj, n*) cobweb; (*n*) gauze. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) opaque, robust, thick, heavy.

indented: (*adj*) concave, hollow, serrated, jagged, crenelated, crenelate, crenellated, crenellate, embattled, notched; (*n*) fancier.

invert: (*v*) change, transpose, capsize,

overturn, alter, turn, upset, subvert, annul, revoke; (*adj*) turn the tables.

lampreys: (*n*) Petromyzontidae.

overhanging: (*adj, v*) projecting; (*v*) beetling; (*adj*) covering, imminent, impending, pendent, obumbrant, hanging over, overspreading, depending, hanging.

rawness: (*n*) crudity, roughness, ignorance, greenness, unripeness, sensitivity, simplicity, itch, soreness, immaturity, iciness. ANTONYMS:

(*n*) complexity, warmth, experience.

scalloped: (*adj*) notched, scalloped, crenated, rough.

selvage: (*n*) selvedge, margin, verge, edge, selvagee, hem, clay band.

stratum: (*n*) layer, bed, level, seam, floor, ply, stage, story, horizon, class, plane.

suckers: (*n*) family Catostomidae, loaches, carp.

undeceived: (*adj*) disillusioned, disenchanted.

true sun, for they are equally bright; and if, between the two, you survey its surface critically, it is literally as smooth as glass, except where the **skater** insects, at equal intervals scattered over its whole extent, by their motions in the sun produce the finest imaginable sparkle on it, or, perchance, a duck plumes itself, or, as I have said, a swallow skims so low as to touch it. It may be that in the distance a fish describes an arc of three or four feet in the air, and there is one bright flash where it emerges, and another where it strikes the water; sometimes the whole silvery arc is revealed; or here and there, perhaps, is a thistle-down floating on its surface, which the fishes dart at and so **dimple** it again. It is like molten glass cooled but not **congealed**, and the few motes in it are pure and beautiful like the imperfections in glass. You may often detect a yet smoother and darker water, separated from the rest as if by an invisible **cobweb**, boom of the water nymphs, resting on it. From a hilltop you can see a fish leap in almost any part; for not a pickerel or **shiner** picks an insect from this smooth surface but it manifestly disturbs the equilibrium of the whole lake. It is wonderful with what **elaborateness** this simple fact is advertised -- this piscine murder will out -- and from my distant perch I distinguish the circling undulations when they are half a dozen rods in diameter. You can even detect a water-bug (*Gyrinus*) **ceaselessly** progressing over the smooth surface a quarter of a mile off; for they furrow the water slightly, making a conspicuous ripple bounded by two **diverging** lines, but the skaters **glide** over it without rippling it perceptibly. When the surface is considerably agitated there are no skaters nor water-bugs on it, but apparently, in calm days, they leave their havens and adventurously glide forth from the shore by short impulses till they completely cover it. It is a soothing employment, on one of those fine days in the fall when all the warmth of the sun is fully appreciated, to sit on a stump on such a height as this, overlooking the pond, and study the dimpling circles which are incessantly inscribed on its otherwise invisible surface amid the reflected skies and trees. Over this great expanse there is no disturbance but it is thus at once gently smoothed away and assuaged, as, when a vase of water is jarred, the trembling circles seek the shore and all is smooth again. Not a fish can leap or an insect fall on the pond but it is thus **reported** in circling dimples, in lines of beauty, as it

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ceaselessly: (*adv*) incessantly, perpetually, unceasingly, eternally, unremittingly, continuously, constantly, everlastingly, continually, unendingly, uninterruptedly.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) temporarily, briefly.
cobweb: (*n*) web, filament, entanglement, mouse trap, tissue, fibril, pitfall; (*adj*) chaff, straw, cork; (*adj, n*) gossamer.
congealed: (*adj*) firm, solidify, frozen,

jelled, jellied, stiff, thick, concrete.
dimple: (*n*) depression, dint, indentation, hollow, cavity, dip, pit, spot hole, follicle, lacuna, hole.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) hump, lump.
diverging: (*adj*) branching, divergingly, centrifugal, divaricate, oblique.
elaborateness: (*n*) elaboration, showiness, complexity, refinement, ostentation, ornateness, baroque, amplification, complexness, baroque,

involution.
glide: (*adj, n, v*) slide; (*n, v*) coast, slip; (*v*) float, run, fly, flow, drift, lapse, slink, skid. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) lurch, hurtle, flounder, sink.
reported: (*adj*) narrative, reputed.
shiner: (*n*) common mackerel, contusion, bruise, luminary, object, twinkler, sparada, silversides, physical object, mackerel, emerald shiner.
skater: (*n*) skateboarder, jock.

were the constant welling up of its fountain, the gentle **pulsing** of its life, the **heaving** of its breast. The thrills of joy and thrills of pain are **undistinguishable**. How peaceful the phenomena of the lake! Again the works of man shine as in the spring. Ay, every leaf and **twig** and stone and cobweb sparkles now at mid-afternoon as when covered with dew in a spring morning. Every motion of an oar or an insect produces a flash of light; and if an oar falls, how sweet the echo!

In such a day, in September or October, Walden is a perfect forest mirror, set round with stones as precious to my eye as if fewer or rarer. Nothing so fair, so pure, and at the same time so large, as a lake, perchance, lies on the surface of the earth. Sky water. It needs no fence. Nations come and go without **defiling** it. It is a mirror which no stone can crack, whose **quicksilver** will never wear off, whose **gilding** Nature continually repairs; no storms, no dust, can dim its surface ever fresh; -- a mirror in which all **impurity** presented to it sinks, swept and dusted by the sun's hazy brush -- this the light dust-cloth -- which retains no breath that is **breathed** on it, but sends its own to float as clouds high above its surface, and be reflected in its bosom still.

A field of water betrays the spirit that is in the air. It is continually receiving new life and motion from above. It is intermediate in its nature between land and sky. On land only the grass and trees wave, but the water itself is **rippled** by the wind. I see where the breeze dashes across it by the **streaks** or flakes of light. It is remarkable that we can look down on its surface. We shall, perhaps, look down thus on the surface of air at length, and mark where a still subtler spirit **sweeps** over it.

The skaters and water-bugs finally disappear in the latter part of October, when the severe frosts have come; and then and in November, usually, in a calm day, there is absolutely nothing to ripple the surface. One November afternoon, in the calm at the end of a rain-storm of several days' duration, when the sky was still completely overcast and the air was full of mist, I observed that the pond was remarkably smooth, so that it was difficult to distinguish its surface; though it no longer reflected the bright tints of October, but the sombre November colors of the surrounding hills. Though I passed over it as gently as possible, the slight

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breathed: (*adj*) unvoiced, inaudible, breathing, aphonic.

defiling: (*adj*) impious, infectious; (*n*) iniquation.

gilding: (*n*) embellishment, ormolu, plating, beautification, cosmetics, decoration, enamel, adornment, prettification, coat, gold plating.

heaving: (*v*) tremor, twitter; (*adj*) swelling, full, full up, jammed; (*n*) murmur, forcing out, groan, grumble, mutter. ANTONYM: (*adj*) deserted.

impurity: (*n*) impureness, pollution, filth, dirtiness, admixture, defilement, dirt, dross, adulteration, foulness, corruption. ANTONYM: (*n*) cleanliness.

pulsing: (*adj*) beating, pulsating; (*n*) pulse, pulsation, impulse, caprice, heartbeat, impulsion, beat, nerve impulse, heart rate.

quicksilver: (*adj, n*) hydrargyrum; (*adj*) mercurial, fickle, cannon ball, moon, Proteus, chameleon, dart,

arrow, weathercock; (*n*) Hg.

ripple: (*v*) bubble, murmur, gurgle, billow, surge, burble, cockle; (*n, v*) wave, swell, ruffle, purr.

streaks: (*n*) stripes, cords.

sweeps: (*n*) sweep period.

twig: (*n*) sprig, bough, limb, shoot, offshoot, spray, branchlet, scion, stalk; (*n, v*) stick; (*v*) grasp.

undistinguishable: (*adj*) exactly alike, identical, undistinguished. ANTONYM: (*adj*) distinguishable.

undulations produced by my boat extended almost as far as I could see, and gave a ribbed appearance to the reflections. But, as I was looking over the surface, I saw here and there at a distance a faint **glimmer**, as if some skater insects which had escaped the frosts might be collected there, or, perchance, the surface, being so smooth, betrayed where a spring welled up from the bottom. Paddling gently to one of these places, I was surprised to find myself surrounded by myriads of small perch, about five inches long, of a rich bronze color in the green water, sporting there, and constantly rising to the surface and dimpling it, sometimes leaving **bubbles** on it. In such transparent and seemingly bottomless water, reflecting the clouds, I seemed to be floating through the air as in a balloon, and their swimming impressed me as a kind of flight or **hovering**, as if they were a compact flock of birds passing just beneath my level on the right or left, their **fins**, like sails, set all around them. There were many such schools in the pond, apparently improving the short season before winter would draw an icy shutter over their broad **skylight**, sometimes giving to the surface an appearance as if a slight breeze struck it, or a few rain-drops fell there. When I approached carelessly and alarmed them, they made a sudden splash and rippling with their tails, as if one had struck the water with a **brushy bough**, and instantly took refuge in the depths. At length the wind rose, the mist increased, and the waves began to run, and the perch leaped much higher than before, half out of water, a hundred black points, three inches long, at once above the surface. Even as late as the fifth of December, one year, I saw some dimples on the surface, and thinking it was going to rain hard immediately, the air being fun of mist, I made haste to take my place at the oars and row **homeward**; already the rain seemed rapidly increasing, though I felt none on my cheek, and I anticipated a thorough **soaking**. But suddenly the dimples ceased, for they were produced by the perch, which the noise of my oars had **seared** into the depths, and I saw their schools **dimly** disappearing; so I spent a dry afternoon after all.

An old man who used to frequent this pond nearly sixty years ago, when it was dark with surrounding **forests**, tells me that in those days he sometimes saw it all alive with ducks and other water-fowl, and that there were many eagles about it. He came here a-fishing, and used an old log **canoe** which he found on

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bough: (*n*) arm, limb, bow, member, tigella, ramage, offshoot, ramification, spray, sprig, stem.

brushy: (*adj*) bristly, bushy, shaggy, rough, hirsute, wooded.

bubbles: (*n*) froth, suds, effervescence, spume, fizz, lather, sparkle.

canoe: (*n*) dugout, pirogue, canoes, caique, birchbark, dugout canoe, birchbark canoe, felucca; (*adj*) self-sufficient.

dimly: (*adv*) obscurely, darkly, faintly,

dully, duskily, vaguely, shadowily, hazily, gloomily, somberly; (*adj, adv*) palely. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) clearly, strongly, distinctly.

fins: (*n*) flippers, flipper, cinque.

forests: (*n*) country.

glimmer: (*adj, n, v*) flicker, twinkle; (*n, v*) gleam, shimmer, flash, sparkle, beam, glow, shine; (*v*) blink; (*n*) gleaming.

homeward: (*adj*) oriented, orientated.

hovering: (*adj*) suspended, poised,

impending, flying, high.

seared: (*adj*) arid, dry as a bone, recusant, parched. ANTONYM: (*adj*) wet.

skylight: (*n*) shutter, window, light, porthole, transom, knowledge, happiness, enlightenment, felicity, day, casement.

soaking: (*adj, adv*) sopping; (*adj*) wet, soaked, sodden, saturated, soggy; (*n*) soak, dip, sousing, souse; (*adv, v*) dripping. ANTONYM: (*adj*) dry.

the shore. It was made of two white pine logs dug out and pinned together, and was cut off square at the ends. It was very clumsy, but lasted a great many years before it became **water-logged** and perhaps sank to the bottom. He did not know whose it was; it belonged to the pond. He used to make a cable for his anchor of strips of hickory bark tied together. An old man, a potter, who lived by the pond before the Revolution, told him once that there was an iron chest at the bottom, and that he had seen it. Sometimes it would come floating up to the shore; but when you went toward it, it would go back into deep water and disappear. I was pleased to hear of the old log canoe, which took the place of an Indian one of the same material but more graceful construction, which perchance had first been a tree on the bank, and then, as it were, fell into the water, to float there for a generation, the most proper vessel for the lake. I remember that when I first looked into these depths there were many large trunks to be seen **indistinctly** lying on the bottom, which had either been blown over formerly, or left on the ice at the last cutting, when wood was cheaper; but now they have mostly disappeared.

When I first paddled a boat on Walden, it was completely surrounded by thick and lofty pine and oak woods, and in some of its coves grape-vines had run over the trees next the water and formed bowers under which a boat could pass. The hills which form its **shores** are so steep, and the woods on them were then so high, that, as you looked down from the west end, it had the appearance of an **amphitheatre** for some land of **sylvan** spectacle. I have spent many an hour, when I was younger, floating over its surface as the **zephyr willed**, having paddled my boat to the middle, and lying on my back across the seats, in a summer forenoon, dreaming awake, until I was aroused by the boat touching the sand, and I arose to see what shore my fates had **impelled** me to; days when idleness was the most attractive and productive industry. Many a forenoon have I stolen away, preferring to spend thus the most valued part of the day; for I was rich, if not in money, in sunny hours and summer days, and spent them **lavishly**; nor do I regret that I did not waste more of them in the workshop or the teacher's desk. But since I left those shores the woodchoppers have still further laid them waste, and now for many a year there will be no more **rambling** through the

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amphitheatre: (*n*) amphitheater, arena, stadium, gallery, bowl, coliseum, colosseum.

impelled: (*adj*) prompted, provoked, determined, compulsive, encouraged, goaded, motivated, bound.

indistinctly: (*adv*) vaguely, dimly, hazily, mistily, inarticulately, shadowily, obscurely, unclearly, fuzzily, confusedly, ambiguously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) precisely, audibly, coherently, distinctly.

lavishly: (*adv*) profusely, profligately, prodigally, copiously, generously, richly, wastefully, abundantly, luxuriously, plentifully, amply.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) meagerly, frugally, cheaply, scantily.

rambling: (*adj*) disjointed, incoherent, desultory, discursive, erratic, excursive, meandering, diffuse, loose, errant; (*adj, n*) wandering.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) coherent, abrupt, conclusive, pithy, taciturn, compact.

shores: (*n*) coast, seaboard, seashore, shoreline. ANTONYM: (*n*) interior.

sylvan: (*adj*) rustic, woodland, wooded, Sylvestrian, woody, sylvatic, rural, pastoral, ligneous, forest, floral.

water-logged: (*adj*) wet.

willed: (*adj*) voluntary, hereditary.

zephyr: (*n*) wind, air, breath, gentle wind, whiff, puff, gentle breeze, aviation; (*v*) Boreas, Eolus, cave of Eolus.

aisles of the wood, with occasional vistas through which you see the water. My Muse may be **excused** if she is silent henceforth. How can you expect the birds to sing when their groves are cut down?

Now the trunks of trees on the bottom, and the old log canoe, and the dark surrounding woods, are gone, and the villagers, who scarcely know where it lies, instead of going to the pond to bathe or drink, are thinking to bring its water, which should be as sacred as the Ganges at least, to the village in a pipe, to wash their dishes with! -- to earn their Walden by the turning of a cock or drawing of a plug! That **devilish** Iron Horse, whose ear-rending **neigh** is heard throughout the town, has **muddied** the Boiling Spring with his foot, and he it is that has browsed off all the woods on Walden shore, that Trojan horse, with a thousand men in his belly, introduced by mercenary Greeks! Where is the country's champion, the Moore of Moore Hill, to meet him at the Deep Cut and thrust an **avenging** lance between the ribs of the bloated pest?

Nevertheless, of all the characters I have known, perhaps Walden wears best, and best preserves its purity. Many men have been likened to it, but few deserve that honor. Though the woodchoppers have laid bare first this shore and then that, and the Irish have built their sties by it, and the railroad has infringed on its border, and the ice-men have skimmed it once, it is itself unchanged, the same water which my youthful eyes fell on; all the change is in me. It has not acquired one permanent wrinkle after all its ripples. It is **perennially** young, and I may stand and see a swallow dip apparently to pick an insect from its surface as of **yore**. It struck me again tonight, as if I had not seen it almost daily for more than twenty years -- Why, here is Walden, the same woodland lake that I discovered so many years ago; where a forest was cut down last winter another is springing up by its shore as lustily as ever; the same thought is welling up to its surface that was then; it is the same liquid joy and happiness to itself and its Maker, ay, and it may be to me. It is the work of a brave man surely, in whom there was no **guile**! He rounded this water with his hand, deepened and **clarified** it in his thought, and in his will **bequeathed** it to Concord. I see by its face that it is visited by the same reflection; and I can almost say, Walden, is it you?

Thesaurus

avenging: (*adj*) justificatory, vindictive, vengeful, rigorous, ruthless, retributive, retributory; (*n*) revenge, vengeance, eye for an eye, reprisal.
bequeathed: (*adj*) hereditary.
clarified: (*adj*) clean.
devilish: (*adj, v*) diabolic, satanic, infernal, mephistophelian, demoniacal; (*adj*) demonic, wicked, diabolical, terrific; (*v*) Stygian; (*adv*) devilishly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

cherubic, godlike, good, saintly, virtuous.
excused: (*adj*) privileged, immune.
guile: (*n*) fraud, cunning, craft, duplicity, deception, trickery, deceitfulness, wiliness, craftiness, artifice, slyness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) honesty, straightforwardness, candor, frankness.
muddied: (*adj*) dingy, dirty, quaggy, foul, drear, grimy, mirky, marshy, lousy, infected, impure.

neigh: (*n, v*) whicker, nicker; (*v*) exult, crow, crow over, triumph, utter, hinny, let loose, let out, wigher.
perennially: (*adv*) perpetually, continually, repeatedly, incessantly, unceasingly, persistently, evergreenly, recurrently, ceaselessly, eternally, constantly.
yore: (*n*) past, history, past times, yesteryear, old times, auld langsyne, time out of mind, time immemorial, the good old days, past tense.

It is no dream of mine,
 To **ornament** a line;
 I cannot come nearer to God and Heaven
 Than I live to Walden even.
 I am its stony shore,
 And the breeze that passes o'er;
 In the hollow of my hand
 Are its water and its sand,
 And its deepest resort
 Lies high in my thought.

The cars never pause to look at it; yet I fancy that the engineers and firemen and brakemen, and those passengers who have a season ticket and see it often, are better men for the sight. The engineer does not forget at night, or his nature does not, that he has beheld this vision of **serenity** and purity once at least during the day. Though seen but once, it helps to wash out State Street and the engine's **soot**. One proposes that it be called "God's Drop."

I have said that Walden has no visible inlet nor outlet, but it is on the one hand **distantly** and indirectly related to Flint's Pond, which is more elevated, by a chain of small ponds coming from that quarter, and on the other directly and **manifestly** to Concord River, which is lower, by a similar chain of ponds through which in some other geological period it may have flowed, and by a little digging, which God **forbid**, it can be made to flow thither again. If by living thus reserved and austere, like a hermit in the woods, so long, it has acquired such wonderful purity, who would not regret that the comparatively **impure** waters of Flint's Pond should be mingled with it, or itself should ever go to waste its sweetness in the ocean wave?

Flint's, or Sandy Pond, in Lincoln, our greatest lake and inland sea, lies about a mile east of Walden. It is much larger, being said to contain one hundred and

Thesaurus

distantly: (*adv*) reservedly, aloofly, coldly, formally, coolly, frigidly, standoffishly, farly, removedly, vaguely, detachedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) intimately, passionately, clearly, warmly, nearby, alertly.
forbid: (*v*) prohibit, ban, disallow, bar, obstruct, exclude, deny, avert, frustrate, to prohibit, enjoin. ANTONYMS: (*v*) allow, let, approve, authorize, stand.
impure: (*adj*) defiled, dirty, unclean,

squalid, sordid, filthy, bastard, foul, immoral, profane, contaminated. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unmixed, clean.
manifestly: (*adv*) evidently, plainly, clearly, patently, obviously, openly, overtly, markedly, conspicuously, distinctly, transparently. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) furtively, unnecessarily, vaguely, covertly.
ornament: (*n*) decoration, adornment, embellishment, decor; (*v*) beautify, decorate, deck, embellish, adorn; (*n*,

v) garnish, dress. ANTONYM: (*v*) strip.
serenity: (*n*) quiet, peace, calm, quietness, equanimity, calmness, quietude, repose; (*adj, n*) composure, tranquility, placidity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) anxiety, uproar, chaos, anger, panic, bustle, disturbance, impatience, turbulence, turmoil.
soot: (*n*) smut, lampblack, carbon black, grime, carbon, crock, dirt; (*adj*) ink, ebony, coal pitch, jet.

ninety-seven acres, and is more fertile in fish; but it is comparatively shallow, and not remarkably pure. A walk through the woods thither was often my recreation. It was worth the while, if only to feel the wind blow on your cheek freely, and see the waves run, and remember the life of mariners. I went a-chestnutting there in the fall, on windy days, when the nuts were dropping into the water and were washed to my feet; and one day, as I crept along its sedgy shore, the fresh spray blowing in my face, I came upon the **mouldering** wreck of a boat, the sides gone, and hardly more than the impression of its flat bottom left amid the rushes; yet its model was sharply defined, as if it were a large decayed pad, with its veins. It was as impressive a wreck as one could imagine on the seashore, and had as good a moral. It is by this time mere vegetable mould and undistinguishable pond shore, through which rushes and flags have pushed up. I used to admire the ripple marks on the sandy bottom, at the north end of this pond, made firm and hard to the feet of the **wader** by the pressure of the water, and the rushes which grew in Indian file, in waving lines, corresponding to these marks, rank behind rank, as if the waves had planted them. There also I have found, in considerable quantities, curious balls, composed apparently of fine grass or roots, of **pipewort** perhaps, from half an inch to four inches in diameter, and perfectly **spherical**. These wash back and forth in shallow water on a sandy bottom, and are sometimes cast on the shore. They are either solid grass, or have a little sand in the middle. At first you would say that they were formed by the action of the waves, like a **pebble**; yet the smallest are made of equally coarse materials, half an inch long, and they are produced only at one season of the year. Moreover, the waves, I suspect, do not so much construct as wear down a material which has already acquired consistency. They preserve their form when dry for an indefinite period.

Flint's Pond! Such is the poverty of our **nomenclature**. What right had the **unclean** and stupid farmer, whose farm abutted on this sky water, whose shores he has ruthlessly laid bare, to give his name to it? Some skin-flint, who loved better the reflecting surface of a dollar, or a bright **cent**, in which he could see his own **brazen** face; who regarded even the wild ducks which settled in it as trespassers; his fingers grown into crooked and bony **talons** from the long habit

Thesaurus

brazen: (*adj*) audacious, impudent, brassy, insolent, bold, brash, impertinent, blatant, flagrant, forward, saucy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) shy, abashed, prudish, reserved, quiet, discreet, respectful, ashamed, veiled, modest.
cent: (*adj*) picayune, mill, pistareen; (*n*) subunit, rupee, red cent, centime.
mouldering: (*adj*) moldering, becoming rotten, rotten, rotting.
nomenclature: (*n*) language,

classification, appellation, denomination, linguistic communication, linguistic process, locution, lyric, markup language; (*v*) name.
pebble: (*n*) boulder, crystal, flint, rock, scree, cobblestone, calculus, crag, granite, pebblestone; (*adj*) quartz.
pipewort: (*n*) hydrophyte, hydrophytic plant, aquatic plant.
spherical: (*adj*) global, orbicular, globular, globose, circular, rotund,

spheric, rounded, orbiculate, sphere, full. ANTONYM: (*adj*) nonspherical.
talons: (*v*) claws, tenaculum, unguis, tentacle, teeth; (*n*) clutches.
unclean: (*adj*) foul, impure, nasty, dirty, grubby, muddy, squalid, grimy, sordid, dingy, soiled. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clean, hygienic, pure, uncontaminated.
wader: (*n*) shoebill, ortygan, limpkin, ibis, heron, hemipode, spoonbill, courlan, chungu, stork, trumpeter.

of grasping harpy-like; -- so it is not named for me. I go not there to see him nor to hear of him; who never saw it, who never bathed in it, who never loved it, who never protected it, who never spoke a good word for it, nor thanked God that He had made it. Rather let it be named from the fishes that swim in it, the wild **fowl** or quadrupeds which frequent it, the wild flowers which grow by its shores, or some wild man or child the thread of whose history is **interwoven** with its own; not from him who could show no title to it but the deed which a **like-minded** neighbor or legislature gave him -- him who thought only of its money value; whose presence perchance cursed all the shores; who exhausted the land around it, and would fain have exhausted the waters within it; who regretted only that it was not English hay or cranberry meadow -- there was nothing to **redeem** it, forsooth, in his eyes -- and would have drained and sold it for the mud at its bottom. It did not turn his mill, and it was no privilege to him to behold it. I respect not his labors, his farm where everything has its price, who would carry the landscape, who would carry his God, to market, if he could get anything for him; who goes to market for his god as it is; on whose farm nothing grows free, whose fields bear no crops, whose meadows no flowers, whose trees no fruits, but dollars; who loves not the beauty of his fruits, whose fruits are not ripe for him till they are turned to dollars. Give me the poverty that enjoys true wealth. Farmers are respectable and interesting to me in proportion as they are poor -- poor farmers. A model farm! where the house stands like a **fungus** in a **muckheap**, chambers for men horses, oxen, and **swine**, cleansed and uncleansed, all **contiguous** to one another! Stocked with men! A great grease-spot, **redolent** of manures and **buttermilk**! Under a high state of cultivation, being manured with the hearts and brains of men! As if you were to raise your potatoes in the churchyard! Such is a model farm.

No, no; if the fairest features of the landscape are to be named after men, let them be the noblest and worthiest men alone. Let our lakes receive as true names at least as the Icarian Sea, where "still the shore" a "brave attempt resounds."

Thesaurus

buttermilk: (*n*) milk.

contiguous: (*adj*) adjoining, close, conterminous, abutting, near, nearby, immediate, bordering upon, bordering, touching, connected.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) remote, removed, separated, apart.

fowl: (*n*) poultry, bird, domestic fowl, chick, cochin, birds, partlet, poult, hen, fowls, rooster.

fungus: (*n*) mushroom, blastomycete, ergot, earthstar, earthnut, candida,

growth, bolete, earthball, basidiomycete, ascomycete.

interwoven: (*adj*) interlinking, interlacing, interlocking, complex, interwove, twine, contextual, entangled, inseparable, knotted, related.

like-minded: (*adj*) unanimous, sympathetic, congenial, concurrent, amicable, compatible.

muckheap: (*n*) midden, dunghill, itchen midden, heap, kitchen

midden, muckhill, mound.

redeem: (*v*) recover, deliver, atone, recoup, expiate, ransom, reclaim, save, free, extricate, refund.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) hock, pawn, lose.

redolent: (*adj*) fragrant, reminiscent, evocative, odoriferous, odorous, sweet, balmy, suggestive, scented, spicy, remindful.

swine: (*n*) hog, boar, beast, sow, Eohyus, babiroussa, babirusa, barrow, brute, razorback, grunter.

Goose Pond, of small extent, is on my way to Flint's; Fair Haven, an expansion of Concord River, said to contain some seventy acres, is a mile **southwest**; and White Pond, of about forty acres, is a mile and a half beyond Fair Haven. This is my lake country. These, with Concord River, are my water privileges; and night and day, year in year out, they **grind** such **grist** as I carry to them.

Since the wood-cutters, and the railroad, and I myself have profaned Walden, perhaps the most attractive, if not the most beautiful, of all our lakes, the gem of the woods, is White Pond; -- a poor name from its **commonness**, whether derived from the remarkable purity of its waters or the color of its sands. In these as in other respects, however, it is a lesser twin of Walden. They are so much alike that you would say they must be connected under ground. It has the same stony shore, and its waters are of the same hue. As at Walden, in **sultry** dog-day weather, looking down through the woods on some of its bays which are not so deep but that the reflection from the bottom tinges them, its waters are of a misty bluish-green or **glaucous** color. Many years since I used to go there to collect the sand by cartloads, to make **sandpaper** with, and I have continued to visit it ever since. One who frequents it proposes to call it Virid Lake. Perhaps it might be called Yellow Pine Lake, from the following circumstance. About fifteen years ago you could see the top of a pitch pine, of the kind called yellow pine hereabouts, though it is not a distinct species, **projecting** above the surface in deep water, many rods from the shore. It was even supposed by some that the pond had sunk, and this was one of the primitive forest that formerly stood there. I find that even so long ago as 1792, in a "Topographical Description of the Town of Concord," by one of its citizens, in the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, the author, after speaking of Walden and White Ponds, adds, "In the middle of the latter may be seen, when the water is very low, a tree which appears as if it grew in the place where it now stands, although the roots are fifty feet below the surface of the water; the top of this tree is broken off, and at that place measures **fourteen** inches in diameter." In the spring of '49 I talked with the man who lives nearest the pond in Sudbury, who told me that it was he who got out this tree ten or fifteen years before. As near as he could remember, it

Thesaurus

commonness: (*n*) frequency, grossness, vulgarism, vulgarity, commonplaceness, commonality, community, normalcy, inelegance, normality, generality. ANTONYMS: (*n*) uncommonness, fame, tastefulness, uniqueness.
fourteen: (*adj*, *n*) XIV.
glaucous: (*adj*) olive, opaque, pruinose.
grind: (*n*, *v*) labor, toil, comminute, drudge; (*v*) grate, crunch, abrade,

chew, scrape, mash; (*n*) mill. ANTONYMS: (*v*) blunt, smooth.
grist: (*n*) cereal, fuel, plenty, raft, considerable, dose, profit, gain, avail, interest, abundance.
projecting: (*adj*) projected, protruding, jutting, protrusive, pendent; (*adj*, *v*) overhanging, jutting over, salient; (*v*) beetling, protuberant, convex.
sandpaper: (*v*) sand, smoothen, smooth, rasp, rub, rub down, scrape; (*n*) emery paper, abradant, abrasive

material.
southwest: (*adj*) southwestern, Colorado, California, Arizona; (*n*) Sw, geographic area, geographical region, geographic region, geographical area, compass point; (*adv*) sou'west.
sultry: (*adj*) hot, humid, muggy, oppressive, stifling, sticky, ardent, sensual, stuffy, sweltering, torrid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fresh, cool, cold, temperate, dry.

stood twelve or fifteen rods from the shore, where the water was thirty or forty feet deep. It was in the winter, and he had been getting out ice in the forenoon, and had resolved that in the afternoon, with the aid of his neighbors, he would take out the old yellow pine. He sawed a channel in the ice toward the shore, and hauled it over and along and out on to the ice with oxen; but, before he had gone far in his work, he was surprised to find that it was wrong end upward, with the stumps of the branches pointing down, and the small end firmly **fastened** in the sandy bottom. It was about a foot in diameter at the big end, and he had expected to get a good saw-log, but it was so rotten as to be fit only for fuel, if for that. He had some of it in his shed then. There were marks of an axe and of **woodpeckers** on the butt. He thought that it might have been a dead tree on the shore, but was finally blown over into the pond, and after the top had become water-logged, while the butt-end was still dry and light, had drifted out and sunk wrong end up. His father, eighty years old, could not remember when it was not there. Several pretty large logs may still be seen lying on the bottom, where, owing to the **undulation** of the surface, they look like huge water snakes in motion.

This pond has rarely been profaned by a boat, for there is little in it to **tempt** a fisherman. Instead of the white lily, which requires mud, or the common sweet flag, the blue flag (Iris **versicolor**) grows thinly in the pure water, rising from the stony bottom all around the shore, where it is visited by **hummingbirds** in June; and the color both of its **bluish** blades and its flowers and especially their reflections, is in **singular** harmony with the glaucous water.

White Pond and Walden are great crystals on the surface of the earth, Lakes of Light. If they were permanently congealed, and small enough to be **clutched**, they would, perchance, be carried off by slaves, like precious stones, to adorn the heads of emperors; but being liquid, and ample, and secured to us and our successors forever, we disregard them, and run after the diamond of Kohinoor. They are too pure to have a market value; they contain no **muck**. How much more beautiful than our lives, how much more transparent than our characters, are they! We never learned meanness of them. How much fairer than the pool

Thesaurus

bluish: (*adj*) blueish, blasphemous, powder blue, coloured, colorful, colored, chromatic, bluey, aristocratic, aristocratical.

clutched: (*adj*) tense, worried, anxious, neurotic.

fastened: (*adj*) tied, fast, buttoned, closed, tight, secure, pinned, binding, empight, steady, firm. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unfastened, unbuttoned.

hummingbirds: (*n*) trochilidae.

muck: (*n*) dirt, filth, dung, gook,

droppings, sludge, ooze; (*n, v*) manure, mire, soil, mud.

ANTONYM: (*n*) cleanliness.

singular: (*adj, n*) extraordinary; (*adj*) odd, individual, particular, peculiar, phenomenal, rare, queer, single, quaint, exceptional. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ordinary, normal, together, usual, customary.

tempt: (*adj, v*) attract, allure; (*v*) entice, decoy, charm, inveigle, invite, coax, seduce, fascinate, attempt.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) discourage, appall, repel.

undulation: (*v*) flutter, undulate; (*n*) fluctuation, oscillation, impulse, surge, pulsation, vibration, swell, swing, roll.

versicolor: (*v*) tricolor; (*adj*) motley, multicolored.

woodpeckers: (*n*) family Picidae, jacamars, order Piciformes, Picidae, Piciformes, puffbirds, toucans, barbets.

before the farmers door, in which his **ducks** swim! Hither the clean wild ducks come. Nature has no human inhabitant who appreciates her. The birds with their **plumage** and their notes are in **harmony** with the **flowers**, but what youth or **maiden** conspires with the wild **luxuriant** beauty of Nature? She flourishes most alone, far from the towns where they **reside**. Talk of heaven! ye **disgrace** earth.

Thesaurus

disgrace: (*adj, n, v*) dishonor; (*n, v*) discredit, shame, stain, blemish, blot, slur, reproach; (*v*) degrade, debase; (*n*) degradation. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) respect, esteem, credit; (*v*) glorify, dignify, praise; (*n*) merit, grace, pride, rise, worthiness.

ducks: (*n*) geese, family Anatidae, birds, Anseriformes, Anatidae, game birds, order Anseriformes, wildfowl.

flowers: (*n*) analecta, anthology.

harmony: (*n*) accord, consonance,

agreement, correspondence, accordance, congruity, consistency, amity; (*n, v*) concord, peace; (*v*) concert. ANTONYMS: (*n*) discord, disagreement, argument, conflict, bitterness, harshness, incongruity, uproar, hostility, misery, upheaval.

luxuriant: (*adj, n*) lush; (*adj*) abundant, lavish, exuberant, dense, thick, fertile, flourishing, fecund, opulent, profuse. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) barren, meager, unhealthy, arid, withering, sparse,

shabby, unadorned.

maiden: (*n*) maid, girl, demoiselle, damosel, wench, fille, lass, miss; (*adj*) first, initiatory, unmarried.

plumage: (*n*) feather, plume, feathering, quill, aftershaft, alula, marabou, finery, animal material; (*adj*) plumosity, alular.

reside: (*adj, v*) inhabit, dwell; (*v*) exist, occupy, remain, live, belong, abide, lodge, populate, lie.

BAKER FARM

Sometimes I rambled to pine groves, standing like temples, or like fleets at sea, full-rigged, with **wavy** boughs, and rippling with light, so soft and green and shady that the Druids would have forsaken their oaks to worship in them; or to the cedar wood beyond Flint's Pond, where the trees, covered with **hoary** blue berries, **spiriting** higher and higher, are fit to stand before Valhalla, and the creeping juniper covers the ground with wreaths full of fruit; or to swamps where the usnea **lichen** hangs in festoons from the white spruce trees, and **toadstools**, round tables of the swamp gods, cover the ground, and more beautiful fungi adorn the stumps, like butterflies or shells, vegetable winkles; where the swamp-pink and **dogwood** grow, the red alderberry glows like eyes of imps, the **waxwork** grooves and crushes the hardest woods in its **folds**, and the wild holly berries make the beholder forget his home with their beauty, and he is **dazzled** and tempted by nameless other wild forbidden fruits, too fair for mortal taste. Instead of calling on some scholar, I paid many a visit to particular trees, of kinds which are rare in this neighborhood, standing far away in the middle of some pasture, or in the depths of a wood or swamp, or on a hilltop; such as the black birch, of which we have some handsome specimens two feet in diameter; its cousin, the yellow birch, with its loose golden vest, **perfumed** like the first; the beech, which has so neat a **bole** and beautifully lichen-painted, perfect in all its details, of which, excepting scattered specimens, I know but one small grove of

Thesaurus

bole: (*adj, n*) trunk; (*n*) tree trunk, shaft, body, clay; (*adj*) main part, major part, skeleton greater part, hull, hulk, principal part.
dazzled: (*adj*) confused, dazzle, bewildered, blind, blinder, fascinated, unsighted.
dogwood: (*n*) cornel, bunchberry, crackerberry, cornelian cherry, dogwood tree, common European dogwood, common white dogwood.
folds: (*n*) laps.

hoary: (*adj*) ancient, hoar, old, white, grey, elderly, musty, dull, canescent, antique, archaic.
lichen: (*n*) crotal, crotle, crottal, basidiolichen, mold, moss, arctic moss, conferva, beard lichen, beard moss, crottles.
perfumed: (*adj*) fragrant, odoriferous, odorous, scented, sweet, honeyed, mellifluous, angelic, angelical, fresh, gratifying. ANTONYM: (*adj*) odorless.

spiriting: (*adj*) lofty.
toadstools: (*n*) bracket fungi, agarics, Hymenomycetes.
wavy: (*adj*) crinkled, crinkly, corrugated, waved, undulating, und, rippled, wavelike, undulate, undulatory, rolling. ANTONYM: (*adj*) straight.
waxwork: (*n*) *Celastrus scandens*, wax figure, staff vine, puppet, model, doll, mammet, aglet, American bittersweet, bittersweet, figurine.

sizable trees left in the township, supposed by some to have been planted by the pigeons that were once baited with beechnuts near by; it is worth the while to see the silver grain sparkle when you split this wood; the bass; the **hornbeam**; the *Celtis occidentalis*, or false elm, of which we have but one well-grown; some taller mast of a pine, a shingle tree, or a more perfect hemlock than usual, standing like a **pagoda** in the midst of the woods; and many others I could mention. These were the shrines I visited both summer and winter.

Once it chanced that I stood in the very **abutment** of a rainbow's arch, which filled the lower stratum of the atmosphere, tinging the grass and leaves around, and dazzling me as if I looked through colored crystal. It was a lake of rainbow light, in which, for a short while, I lived like a dolphin. If it had lasted longer it might have tinged my employments and life. As I walked on the railroad causeway, I used to wonder at the halo of light around my shadow, and would fain fancy myself one of the elect. One who visited me declared that the shadows of some Irishmen before him had no halo about them, that it was only **natives** that were so distinguished. Benvenuto Cellini tells us in his memoirs, that, after a certain terrible dream or vision which he had during his confinement in the castle of St. Angelo a **resplendent** light appeared over the shadow of his head at morning and evening, whether he was in Italy or France, and it was particularly conspicuous when the grass was moist with dew. This was probably the same phenomenon to which I have referred, which is especially observed in the morning, but also at other times, and even by moonlight. Though a constant one, it is not commonly noticed, and, in the case of an **excitable** imagination like Cellini's, it would be basis enough for superstition. Beside, he tells us that he showed it to very few. But are they not indeed distinguished who are conscious that they are regarded at all?

I set out one afternoon to go a-fishing to Fair Haven, through the woods, to eke out my **scanty** fare of vegetables. My way led through Pleasant Meadow, an **adjunct** of the Baker Farm, that retreat of which a poet has since sung, beginning,--

Thesaurus

abutment: (*n*) jamb, support, weir
abutment, osculation, union, joint,
meeting, thrust bearing, mullion.
adjunct: (*n*) addendum, addition,
appendage, extra, attachment,
adjutant, increment, coadjutor; (*adj*,
n) assistant; (*adj*) auxiliary,
appurtenant. ANTONYMS: (*n*)
lessening, detriment.
excitable: (*adj*) nervous, irritable,
combustible, hasty, edgy, fiery,
sensitive, volatile, passionate, warm,

quick. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)
unexcitable, calm, unflappable,
easygoing, easy, tranquil, reliable,
mild.

hornbeam: (*n*) tree, hardbeam.

natives: (*n*) nation, populace,
community, citizens, public.

pagoda: (*n*) tower, pagod, pagody,
temple.

resplendent: (*adj*, *n*) bright, lucid; (*adj*)
radiant, luminous, illustrious,
splendid, flamboyant, glorious,

magnificent, gorgeous, effulgent.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) dull.

scanty: (*adj*) insufficient, few,
inadequate, bare, deficient, poor,
narrow, scant, light; (*adj*, *v*) spare,
lean. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) generous,
abundant, ample, strong.

sizable: (*adj*) large, respectable, big,
good, substantial, ample, tidy,
goodly, hefty, appreciable, extensive.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) small, tiny,
ungenerous.

"Thy entry is a pleasant field,
Which some **mossy** fruit trees yield
Partly to a **ruddy** brook,
By **gliding musquash** undertook,
And **mercurial trout**,
Darting about."

I thought of living there before I went to Walden. I "hooked" the apples, leaped the brook, and scared the musquash and the trout. It was one of those afternoons which seem indefinitely long before one, in which many events may happen, a large portion of our natural life, though it was already half spent when I started. By the way there came up a shower, which compelled me to stand half an hour under a pine, piling boughs over my head, and wearing my handkerchief for a shed; and when at length I had made one cast over the **pickerelweed**, standing up to my middle in water, I found myself suddenly in the shadow of a cloud, and the thunder **began** to rumble with such emphasis that I could do no more than listen to it. The gods must be proud, thought I, with such **forked** flashes to rout a poor **unarmed** fisherman. So I made haste for shelter to the nearest hut, which stood half a mile from any road, but so much the nearer to the pond, and had long been uninhabited:--

"And here a poet builded,
In the completed years,
For behold a trivial cabin
That to destruction steers."

So the Muse fables. But therein, as I found, dwelt now John Field, an Irishman, and his wife, and several children, from the broad-faced boy who assisted his father at his work, and now came running by his side from the bog to escape the rain, to the wrinkled, sibyl-like, cone-headed infant that sat upon its

Thesaurus

began: (*v*) Gan.

forked: (*adj*) bifurcate, divided, branching, bifurcated, furcated, biramous, double, forked road, furcate, tined, forky.

gliding: (*adj*) sliding, flying, slipping, labent, elusory; (*n*) sailing, soaring, flight, glissando; (*v*) slither; (*adv*) glidingly.

mercurial: (*adj*) changeable, erratic, fickle, quick, flighty, agile, inconstant, changeful, quicksilver,

fidgety; (*v*) mobile. ANTONYM: (*adj*) steady.

mossy: (*adj*) floral, mosslike, moldy, hoary, musty, covered, musciform, stodgy, hoar, chromatic, canescent.

musquash: (*n*) mussacus, rodent, gnawing animal, gnawer, ondatra.

pickerelweed: (*n*) aquatic plant, genus Pontederia, hydrophyte, hydrophytic plant, wampee, Pontederia cordata, Pontederia.

rout: (*adj, n, v*) defeat; (*n, v*)

discomfiture, overthrow, discomfit (*v*) conquer, overpower, overcome, crush, beat, overwhelm; (*n*) flight.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) lose, surrender.

ruddy: (*adj*) cherry, rubicund, rosy, flushed, florid, sanguine, reddish, glowing, blooming, crimson; (*adj, adv*) blushing.

unarmed: (*adj*) naked, unprotected, open, simple, destitute, bare; (*v*) weaponless, harmless, unfortified, vincible, untenable.

father's knee as in the palaces of **nobles**, and looked out from its home in the midst of wet and hunger **inquisitively** upon the stranger, with the privilege of infancy, not knowing but it was the last of a noble line, and the hope and **cynosure** of the world, instead of John Field's poor **starveling brat**. There we sat together under that part of the roof which leaked the least, while it showered and thundered without. I had sat there many times of old before the ship was built that floated his family to America. An honest, **hard-working**, but shiftless man plainly was John Field; and his wife, she too was brave to cook so many successive dinners in the **recesses** of that **lofty** stove; with round greasy face and bare breast, still thinking to improve her condition one day; with the never absent mop in one hand, and yet no effects of it visible anywhere. The chickens, which had also taken shelter here from the rain, stalked about the room like members of the family, too humanized, methought, to roast well. They stood and looked in my eye or **pecked** at my shoe significantly. Meanwhile my host told me his story, how hard he worked "bogging" for a neighboring farmer, turning up a meadow with a spade or bog hoe at the rate of ten dollars an acre and the use of the land with manure for one year, and his little broad-faced son worked cheerfully at his father's side the while, not knowing how poor a bargain the latter had made. I tried to help him with my experience, telling him that he was one of my nearest neighbors, and that I too, who came a-fishing here, and looked like a **loafer**, was getting my living like himself; that I lived in a tight, light, and clean house, which hardly cost more than the annual rent of such a ruin as his commonly amounts to; and how, if he chose, he might in a month or two build himself a palace of his own; that I did not use tea, nor coffee, nor butter, nor milk, nor fresh meat, and so did not have to work to get them; again, as I did not work hard, I did not have to eat hard, and it cost me but a **trifle** for my food; but as he began with tea, and coffee, and butter, and milk, and beef, he had to work hard to pay for them, and when he had worked hard he had to eat hard again to repair the waste of his system -- and so it was as broad as it was long, indeed it was broader than it was long, for he was discontented and wasted his life into the bargain; and yet he had **rated** it as a gain in coming to America, that here you could get tea, and coffee, and meat every day. But the only true

Thesaurus

brat: (*n*) imp, bairn, rogue, urchin, scamp, kid, monkey, whippersnapper, scalawag, pickaninny, jackanapes.
cynosure: (*n*) guide, center, polestar, focus, North Star, wonder, celebrity, personality, pattern, paragon; (*adj*) mirror.
hard-working: (*adj*) studious, industrious, painstaking, active, dedicated, tireless.
inquisitively: (*adv*) pryingly, nosily,

inquiringly, questioningly, meddlesomely, speculatively, searchingly, meddlingly, interestedly, interrogatively, eagerly.
loafer: (*n*) dawdler, idler, bum, layabout, lounger, loon, shirker, slacker, tramp, dallier, blackguard.
lofty: (*adj, v*) high, elevated; (*adj*) exalted, eminent, arrogant, grand, tall, haughty, great, distinguished, majestic. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) short, lowly, base, modest, deferential,

humble.
nobles: (*n*) landed gentry, upper class.
pecked: (*adj*) bicched.
rated: (*adj*) specified.
recesses: (*n*) penetralia, bowels, inside.
starveling: (*n*) poor man, pauper, beggar, mendicant, mumper; (*adj*) hungry.
trifle: (*n, v*) play; (*adj, n, v*) trinket; (*v*) dally, fiddle, flirt, fool, frivol; (*n*) nothing, triviality, detail; (*adj, n*) bagatelle.

America is that country where you are at liberty to pursue such a mode of life as may enable you to do without these, and where the state does not endeavor to compel you to sustain the slavery and war and other superfluous expenses which directly or indirectly result from the use of such things. For I **purposely** talked to him as if he were a **philosopher**, or desired to be one. I should be glad if all the meadows on the earth were left in a wild state, if that were the consequence of men's beginning to redeem themselves. A man will not need to study history to find out what is best for his own culture. But alas! the culture of an Irishman is an enterprise to be undertaken with a sort of moral bog hoe. I told him, that as he worked so hard at bogging, he required thick boots and stout clothing, which yet were soon **soiled** and worn out, but I wore light shoes and thin clothing, which cost not half so much, though he might think that I was dressed like a gentleman (which, however, was not the case), and in an hour or two, without labor, but as a recreation, I could, if I wished, catch as many fish as I should want for two days, or earn enough money to support me a week. If he and his family would live simply, they might all go a-huckleberrying in the summer for their amusement. John heaved a sigh at this, and his wife stared with arms a-kimbo, and both appeared to be wondering if they had capital enough to begin such a course with, or arithmetic enough to carry it through. It was sailing by dead **reckoning** to them, and they saw not clearly how to make their port so; therefore I suppose they still take life **bravely**, after their fashion, face to face, giving it tooth and nail, not having skill to split its massive columns with any fine entering **wedge**, and rout it in detail; -- thinking to deal with it roughly, as one should handle a **thistle**. But they fight at an overwhelming disadvantage -- living, John Field, alas! without arithmetic, and failing so.

"Do you ever fish?" I asked. "Oh yes, I catch a mess now and then when I am lying by; good perch I catch. -- "What's your bait?" "I catch shiners with fishworms, and bait the perch with them." "You'd better go now, John," said his wife, with **glistening** and hopeful face; but John demurred.

The shower was now over, and a rainbow above the eastern woods promised a fair evening; so I took my departure. When I had got without I asked for a

Thesaurus

bravely: (*adv*) courageously, fearlessly, valiantly, boldly, intrepidly, dauntlessly, gallantly, audaciously, undauntedly, heroically, doughtily. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) timidly, fearfully, execrably, nervously.

glistening: (*adj*) shining, glossy, shiny, glisten, brilliant, beaming, sleek, lustrous, sparkling, reflecting light, gleaming. ANTONYM: (*adj*) dull.

philosopher: (*n*) thinker, bacon, libertarian, gymnosophist, empiricist,

necessitarian, moralist, theorist, wisdom, pundit, mechanist.

purposely: (*adj, adv*) designedly, advisedly, knowingly; (*adv*) intentionally, on purpose, by design, consciously, by choice, calculatedly, explicitly; (*adj*) wittingly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) unintentionally.

reckoning: (*n*) calculation, computation, bill, score, computing, liquidation, clearance; (*n, v*) count, enumeration, account, estimation.

soiled: (*adj*) grubby, dirty, nasty, grimy, unclean, filthy, muddy, black, mucky, polluted, foul. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pure, immaculate.

thistle: (*adj*) porcupine, beard, hedgehog, feather, mote, chevaux de frise, dust, down, brier; (*n*) nodding thistle, carline thistle.

wedge: (*v*) compress, jam, pack, ram, stuff, lodge; (*n*) chock, shim, slice, cuneus; (*n, v*) stick. ANTONYMS: (*v*) dislodge, remove; (*n*) whole.

drink, hoping to get a sight of the well bottom, to complete my survey of the premises; but there, alas! are shallows and quicksands, and rope broken withal, and bucket **irrecoverable**. Meanwhile the right culinary vessel was selected, water was seemingly **distilled**, and after consultation and long delay passed out to the thirsty one -- not yet suffered to cool, not yet to settle. Such **gruel** sustains life here, I thought; so, shutting my eyes, and excluding the motes by a skilfully directed **undercurrent**, I drank to genuine hospitality the heartiest draught I could. I am not **squeamish** in such cases when manners are concerned.

As I was leaving the Irishman's roof after the rain, bending my steps again to the pond, my haste to catch pickerel, wading in retired meadows, in sloughs and bog-holes, in **forlorn** and savage places, appeared for an instant trivial to me who had been sent to school and college; but as I ran down the hill toward the **reddening** west, with the rainbow over my shoulder, and some faint **tinkling** sounds borne to my ear through the cleansed air, from I know not what quarter, my Good Genius seemed to say -- Go fish and hunt far and wide day by day -- farther and wider -- and rest thee by many brooks and hearth-sides without **misgiving**. Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth. Rise free from care before the dawn, and seek adventures. Let the noon find thee by other lakes, and the night overtake thee everywhere at home. There are no larger fields than these, no worthier games than may here be played. Grow wild according to thy nature, like these **sedges** and brakes, which will never become English bay. Let the thunder rumble; what if it threaten ruin to farmers' crops? That is not its **errand** to thee. Take shelter under the cloud, while they flee to carts and sheds. Let not to get a living be thy trade, but thy sport. Enjoy the land, but own it not. Through want of enterprise and faith men are where they are, buying and selling, and spending their lives like serfs.

O Baker Farm!

"Landscape where the richest element
Is a little sunshine innocent." ...

Thesaurus

distilled: (*adj*) alcoholic.

errand: (*n*) chore, mission, job, task, assignment, embassy, duty, charge, messenger, communication, work.

forlorn: (*adj*) hopeless, desolate, despairing, unhappy, miserable, deserted, disconsolate, downcast, cheerless, wretched, abject.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) happy, hopeful, fine.

gruel: (*n*) mess, congee, loblolly, paste, waste, porridge, mush, pap, skilly,

wet feed.

irrecoverable: (*adj*) incurable, irreparable, remediless, irreclaimable, irremediable, unrecoverable, forgotten, desperate, lost, irrevocable, irreversible.

misgiving: (*adj, n*) apprehension, care; (*n*) fear, dread, distrust, doubt, hesitation, mistrust, suspicion, uncertainty, scruple. ANTONYMS: (*n*) confidence, certainty, trust.

reddening: (*n*) flush, rubescence; (*v*)

redden.

sedges: (*n*) grasses.

squeamish: (*adj*) fastidious, finicky, delicate, queasy, dainty, prudish, prissy, finical, difficult, touchy, overnice.

tinkling: (*adj*) clinking, tinkly,

tintinnabulary, reverberant; (*n*) ting.

undercurrent: (*n*) undertow, stream, tinge, cross fire, feeling, underset, vortex, flow, undertide; (*v*)

indraught, reflux.

"No one runs to **revel**
On thy rail-fenced lea." ...

"Debate with no man hast thou,
With questions art never **perplexed**,
As tame at the first sight as now,
In thy plain **russet gabardine** dressed." ...

"Come ye who love,
And ye who hate,
Children of the Holy Dove,
And Guy Faux of the state,
And hang conspiracies
From the tough rafters of the trees!"

Men come **tamely** home at night only from the next field or street, where their household echoes **haunt**, and their life pines because it breathes its own breath over again; their shadows, morning and evening, reach farther than their daily steps. We should come home from far, from **adventures**, and perils, and discoveries every day, with new experience and character.

Before I had reached the pond some fresh impulse had brought out John Field, with altered mind, letting go "bogging" ere this sunset. But he, poor man, disturbed only a couple of fins while I was catching a fair string, and he said it was his luck; but when we changed seats in the boat luck changed seats too. Poor John Field! -- I trust he does not read this, unless he will improve by it -- thinking to live by some derivative old-country mode in this primitive new country -- to catch perch with shiners. It is good bait sometimes, I allow. With his horizon all his own, yet he a poor man, born to be poor, with his inherited Irish poverty or poor life, his Adam's grandmother and **boggy** ways, not to rise in this world, he nor his posterity, till their wading **webbed** bog-trotting feet get talaria to their heels.

Thesaurus

adventures: (*n*) experiences, fortunes, confessions, journal, life, biography, autobiography, personal narrative.

boggy: (*adj*) swampy, quaggy, muddy, sloughy, fenny, miry, poachy, plashy, spongy, soggy, soft. ANTONYM: (*adj*) dry.

gabardine: (*n*) gaberдинe, flannel, doublet, CHUDDER, camisole, barbe, pants, material, textile, trousers, vest.

haunt: (*n, v*) resort, ghost; (*n*) den, hangout, home; (*v*) pursue, follow,

stalk, afflict, persecute; (*adj*) harass.

perplexed: (*adj*) confused, puzzled, baffled, confounded, doubtful, distracted, disconcerted; (*adj, v*) intricate, complicated, lost, involved. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unperplexed, assured, clear, knowing.

revel: (*n, v*) frolic; (*v*) drink, celebrate, exult, wallow, rejoice, bask, riot; (*n*) carousal, orgy; (*adj*) luxuriate.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) mourn; (*n*) mourning.

russet: (*adj, n*) auburn; (*adj*) tan, dun, drab, leaden, livid, pearly, dingy, brunette, bay, russety.

tamely: (*adv*) dully, blandly, gently, insipidly, obediently, uninterestingly, moderately, brokenly, subduedly, domestically, flatly. ANTONYMS:

(*adv*) cruelly, assertively, disobediently, interestingly, wildly.

webbed: (*adj*) lacy, netted, webby, reticulated, reticulate, reticular, palmated, keld, lacelike, weblike.

HIGHER LAWS

As I **came** home through the woods with my string of fish, **trailing** my pole, it being now quite dark, I caught a glimpse of a woodchuck stealing across my path, and felt a strange **thrill** of savage delight, and was strongly tempted to seize and devour him raw; not that I was hungry then, except for that **wildness** which he represented. Once or twice, however, while I lived at the pond, I found myself ranging the woods, like a half-starved **hound**, with a strange abandonment, seeking some kind of **venison** which I might devour, and no **morsel** could have been too savage for me. The wildest scenes had become **unaccountably** familiar. I found in myself, and still find, an instinct toward a higher, or, as it is named, spiritual life, as do most men, and another toward a primitive rank and savage one, and I reverence them both. I love the wild not less than the good. The wildness and adventure that are in fishing still recommended it to me. I like sometimes to take rank hold on life and spend my day more as the animals do. Perhaps I have owed to this employment and to hunting, when quite young, my closest acquaintance with Nature. They early introduce us to and **detain** us in scenery with which otherwise, at that age, we should have little acquaintance. Fishermen, hunters, woodchoppers, and others, spending their lives in the fields and woods, in a peculiar sense a part of Nature themselves, are often in a more favorable mood for observing her, in the intervals of their pursuits, than philosophers or poets even, who approach her with

Thesaurus

came: (*v*) arrive, come.

detain: (*v*) arrest, confine, catch, capture, apprehend, stay, keep, jail, imprison, incarcerate, retard.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) free, liberate, rush.

hound: (*v*) bloodhound, chase, hunt, follow, badger, course, bait, pursue; (*n*) greyhound, blackguard, cad.

ANTONYM: (*v*) soothe.

morsel: (*n, v*) bite, mouthful; (*n*) crumb, chew, particle, fragment, taste, piece, nibble; (*adj, v*) gobbet,

mite.

thrill: (*n, v*) delight, shudder, quiver, shiver; (*v*) excite, exhilarate, exalt, stir; (*n*) shake, excitement, chill.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) dishearten, discourage, disappoint, displeasure; (*n*) depression, calm, boredom, agony, sorrow; (*n, v*) bore.

trailing: (*n*) tracking, drift, pursuit, streaminess, hunt, heeling; (*adj*) following, rambling, sprawling, prone, procumbent.

unaccountably: (*adv*) mysteriously, especially, curiously, bizarrely.

venison: (*adj*) turtle; (*n*) beef, chicken, ham, lamb, mutton, pork, red meat, animal protein, white meat.

wildness: (*n*) fierceness, ferocity, savageness, abandon, rage, extravagance, ferociousness, intensity, vehemence; (*v*) wilderness; (*n, v*) waste. ANTONYMS: (*n*) tameness, order, meekness, gentleness, caution, orderliness.

expectation. She is not afraid to exhibit herself to them. The traveller on the prairie is naturally a hunter, on the head waters of the Missouri and Columbia a **trapper**, and at the Falls of St. Mary a fisherman. He who is only a traveller learns things at second-hand and by the **halves**, and is poor authority. We are most interested when science reports what those men already know practically or instinctively, for that alone is a true humanity, or account of human experience.

They mistake who assert that the Yankee has few amusements, because he has not so many public holidays, and men and boys do not play so many games as they do in England, for here the more primitive but solitary amusements of hunting, fishing, and the like have not yet given place to the former. Almost every New England boy among my contemporaries shouldered a fowling-piece between the ages of ten and fourteen; and his hunting and fishing grounds were not limited, like the preserves of an English nobleman, but were more **boundless** even than those of a savage. No wonder, then, that he did not oftener stay to play on the common. But already a change is taking place, owing, not to an increased humanity, but to an increased **scarcity** of game, for perhaps the hunter is the greatest friend of the animals hunted, not excepting the Humane Society.

Moreover, when at the pond, I wished sometimes to add fish to my fare for variety. I have actually fished from the same kind of necessity that the first **fishers** did. Whatever humanity I might **conjure** up against it was all factitious, and concerned my philosophy more than my feelings. I speak of fishing only now, for I had long felt differently about fowling, and sold my gun before I went to the woods. Not that I am less **humane** than others, but I did not perceive that my feelings were much affected. I did not pity the fishes nor the worms. This was habit. As for fowling, during the last years that I carried a gun my excuse was that I was studying **ornithology**, and sought only new or rare birds. But I confess that I am now inclined to think that there is a **finer** way of studying ornithology than this. It requires so much closer attention to the habits of the birds, that, if for that reason only, I have been willing to omit the gun. Yet notwithstanding the objection on the score of humanity, I am compelled to doubt

Thesaurus

boundless: (*adj*) limitless, endless, unlimited, infinite, bottomless, incalculable, immense, immeasurable, interminable, unbounded, vast. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) limited, restricted, confined, finite, incomplete, negligible, small.
conjure: (*v*) invoke, entreat, arouse, juggle, bewitch, beseech, bid, conjure up, evoke, implore, bring up.
finer: (*adj*) superior, advanced, bigger, higher, more, greater.

fishers: (*n*) family Mustelidae, ferrets, Mustelidae.
halves: (*n*) semi, share.
humane: (*adj, n*) gentle, compassionate, beneficent, gracious; (*adj*) clement, kind, charitable, merciful, good, tender, benignant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inhumane, foul, harsh, selfish.
ornithology: (*n*) vermeology, zoology, paleontology, oryctology, ophiology, entomology, helminthology,

ichthyology, malacology, mastology, herpetology.
scarcity: (*n*) paucity, dearth, lack, deficiency, rarity, insufficiency, scarceness, infrequency, defect, deficit, rareness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) plethora, abundance, affluence, excess, frequency, provision, glut, profusion, intensity.
trapper: (*n*) huntsman, trap, trappure, trappour, poacher, thread gripper plate, coureur de Bois.

if equally valuable sports are ever **substituted** for these; and when some of my friends have asked me anxiously about their boys, whether they should let them hunt, I have answered, yes -- remembering that it was one of the best parts of my education -- make them hunters, though sportsmen only at first, if possible, mighty hunters at last, so that they shall not find game large enough for them in this or any vegetable wilderness -- hunters as well as **fishers** of men. Thus far I am of the opinion of Chaucer's nun, who

"yave not of the text a pulled hen
That saith that hunters ben not holy men."

There is a period in the history of the individual, as of the race, when the hunters are the "best men," as the Algonquins called them. We cannot but pity the boy who has never fired a gun; he is no more humane, while his education has been sadly neglected. This was my answer with respect to those youths who were bent on this pursuit, **trusting** that they would soon **outgrow** it. No humane being, past the **thoughtless** age of **boyhood**, will **wantonly** murder any creature which holds its life by the same tenure that he does. The **hare** in its extremity cries like a child. I warn you, mothers, that my sympathies do not always make the usual philanthropic distinctions.

Such is oftenest the young man's introduction to the forest, and the most original part of himself. He goes thither at first as a hunter and fisher, until at last, if he has the seeds of a better life in him, he distinguishes his proper objects, as a poet or naturalist it may be, and leaves the gun and fish-pole behind. The mass of men are still and always young in this respect. In some countries a hunting parson is no uncommon sight. Such a one might make a good shepherd's dog, but is far from being the Good Shepherd. I have been surprised to consider that the only obvious employment, except wood-chopping, ice-cutting, or the like business, which ever to my knowledge detained at Walden Pond for a whole half-day any of my fellow-citizens, whether fathers or children of the town, with just one exception, was fishing. Commonly they did not think

Thesaurus

boyhood: (*n*) babyhood, adolescence, youth, youthhood, infancy, girlhood, age, boyism, puberty. ANTONYM: (*n*) adulthood.

fisher: (*n*) angler, black cat, marten, pekan, trawler, fisher cat, troller.

hare: (*n*) leporid, cony, puss, doe, jackrabbit, coney; (*adj*) antelope, courser, eagle, gazelle, greyhound.

outgrow: (*v*) overgrow, surpass, surmount, outstrip, outmatch, outgo, become overgrown, grow over,

exceed, develop, outdo.

substituted: (*v*) replace; (*prep*) deputed, delegated; (*adj*) substitutional.

thoughtless: (*adj, v*) careless, heedless, rash, improvident; (*adj*) reckless, inattentive, hasty, unthinking, negligent, neglectful, imprudent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) considerate, considered, heedful, prudent, kind, cautious, mindful, responsible, attentive, observant, sensible.

trusting: (*adj*) credulous, unsuspecting, naive, confident, confiding, simple, innocent, gullible, reliant, give, easy to fool.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) distrustful, suspicious, doubtful, hesitant, protective, shrewd, disingenuous, smart, jaded.

wantonly: (*adv*) licentiously, loosely, lasciviously, recklessly, lightly, wildly, dissolutely, dissipatedly, easily, sportively, waywardly.

that they were lucky, or well paid for their time, unless they got a long string of fish, though they had the opportunity of seeing the pond all the while. They might go there a thousand times before the sediment of fishing would sink to the bottom and leave their purpose pure; but no doubt such a **clarifying** process would be going on all the while. The Governor and his Council faintly remember the pond, for they went a-fishing there when they were boys; but now they are too old and dignified to go a-fishing, and so they know it no more forever. Yet even they expect to go to heaven at last. If the legislature regards it, it is chiefly to regulate the number of hooks to be used there; but they know nothing about the hook of hooks with which to angle for the pond itself, impaling the legislature for a bait. Thus, even in **civilized** communities, the embryo man passes through the hunter stage of development.

I have found repeatedly, of late years, that I cannot fish without falling a little in **self-respect**. I have tried it again and again. I have skill at it, and, like many of my **fellows**, a certain instinct for it, which revives from time to time, but always when I have done I feel that it would have been better if I had not fished. I think that I do not mistake. It is a faint **intimation**, yet so are the first streaks of morning. There is **unquestionably** this instinct in me which belongs to the lower orders of creation; yet with every year I am less a fisherman, though without more humanity or even wisdom; at present I am no fisherman at all. But I see that if I were to live in a wilderness I should again be tempted to become a fisher and hunter in earnest. Beside, there is something essentially unclean about this diet and all flesh, and I began to see where housework commences, and whence the endeavor, which costs so much, to wear a tidy and respectable appearance each day, to keep the house sweet and free from all ill odors and sights. Having been my own butcher and **scullion** and cook, as well as the gentleman for whom the dishes were served up, I can speak from an unusually complete experience. The practical objection to animal food in my case was its **uncleanness**; and besides, when I had caught and cleaned and cooked and eaten my fish, they seemed not to have fed me essentially. It was insignificant and unnecessary, and cost more than it came to. A little bread or a few potatoes would have done as well, with less trouble and **filth**. Like many of my contemporaries, I had rarely

Thesaurus

civilized: (*adj*) civil, refined, polite, civilised, cultivated, educated, courteous, urbane, kind, gentle, genteel. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) uncouth, noncivilized, discourteous, loutish, rude, inhumane, wild.
clarifying: (*adj*) illustrative, instructive, clarification, illuminating, elucidative, descriptive.
fellows: (*n*) fellow, membership, faculty.
filth: (*n*) grime, garbage, foulness,

impurity, soil, blot, stain, nastiness, squalor, uncleanness; (*adj*) impure. ANTONYMS: (*n*) cleanliness, luxury, loveliness.
intimation: (*n*) hint, inkling, implication, insinuation, suggestion, clue, allusion, indication, cue, notice, innuendo.
scullion: (*n*) cordon bleu, cook, chef de cuisine, servant, retainer, poltroon, cullion, Cinderella.
self-respect: (*n*) pride, self-esteem,

dignity, face, honesty.
uncleanness: (*n*) filth, dirtiness, dirt, defilement, squalor, grease, griminess, squalidness, dinginess, smuttiness, muck. ANTONYM: (*n*) purity.
unquestionably: (*adv*) certainly, definitely, indubitably, decidedly, indisputably, positively, surely, of course, assuredly, no doubt; (*adj*) doubtless. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) doubtfully, possibly, arguably.

for many years used animal food, or tea, or coffee, etc.; not so much because of any ill effects which I had traced to them, as because they were not agreeable to my imagination. The **repugnance** to animal food is not the effect of experience, but is an instinct. It appeared more beautiful to live low and fare hard in many respects; and though I never did so, I went far enough to please my imagination. I believe that every man who has ever been earnest to preserve his higher or poetic faculties in the best condition has been particularly inclined to abstain from animal food, and from much food of any kind. It is a significant fact, stated by entomologists -- I find it in Kirby and Spence -- that "some insects in their perfect state, though furnished with organs of feeding, make no use of them"; and they lay it down as "a general rule, that almost all insects in this state eat much less than in that of **larvae**. The voracious caterpillar when transformed into a butterfly ... and the **gluttonous** maggot when become a fly" content themselves with a drop or two of honey or some other sweet liquid. The abdomen under the wings of the butterfly still represents the larva. This is the **tidbit** which tempts his **insectivorous** fate. The gross feeder is a man in the larva state; and there are whole nations in that condition, nations without fancy or imagination, whose vast abdomens betray them.

It is hard to provide and cook so simple and clean a diet as will not offend the imagination; but this, I think, is to be fed when we feed the body; they should both sit down at the same table. Yet perhaps this may be done. The fruits eaten **temperately** need not make us ashamed of our appetites, nor interrupt the worthiest pursuits. But put an extra **condiment** into your dish, and it will poison you. It is not worth the while to live by rich cookery. Most men would feel shame if caught preparing with their own hands precisely such a dinner, whether of animal or vegetable food, as is every day prepared for them by others. Yet till this is otherwise we are not civilized, and, if gentlemen and ladies, are not true men and women. This certainly suggests what change is to be made. It may be vain to ask why the imagination will not be reconciled to flesh and fat. I am satisfied that it is not. Is it not a reproach that man is a **carnivorous** animal? True, he can and does live, in a great measure, by **preying** on other animals; but this is a miserable way -- as any one who will go to snaring

Thesaurus

carnivorous: (*adj*) phytivorous, gramivorous, granivorous, herbivorous, insectivorous, predaceous, predacious, zoophagous, hungry, omnivorous, sarcophagous.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) vegetarian, omnivorous, insectivorous.
condiment: (*n*) relish, dressing, flavoring, sauce, catsup, chutney, flavour, flavouring, seasoner, spice, paste.
gluttonous: (*adj*) insatiable, greedy,

ravenous, avid, hoggish, edacious, swinish, grasping, covetous, avaricious, glutton. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) abstemious.
insectivorous: (*adj*) carnivorous.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) carnivorous, herbivorous.
larvae: (*n*) larva.
preying: (*adj*) predatory; (*n*) predation, pillaging, depredation.
repugnance: (*n*) horror, hatred, antipathy, inconsistency, repulsion,

nausea, revulsion, loathing, detestation, aversion, hate.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) pleasantness, love, attractiveness, adoration, liking.
temperately: (*adv*) calmly, abstemiously, soberly, softly, mildly, restrainedly, continently, coolly, balmily, gently, measuredly.
tidbit: (*n*) delicacy, morsel, choice morsel, bit, appetizer, treat, taste, scrap, nibble, kickshaw, hors d'oeuvre.

rabbits, or slaughtering lambs, may learn -- and he will be regarded as a **benefactor** of his race who shall teach man to confine himself to a more innocent and wholesome diet. Whatever my own practice may be, I have no doubt that it is a part of the destiny of the human race, in its gradual improvement, to leave off eating animals, as surely as the savage tribes have left off eating each other when they came in contact with the more civilized.

If one listens to the faintest but constant suggestions of his genius, which are certainly true, he sees not to what **extremes**, or even insanity, it may lead him; and yet that way, as he grows more resolute and faithful, his road lies. The faintest assured objection which one healthy man feels will at length prevail over the arguments and customs of mankind. No man ever followed his genius till it misled him. Though the result were bodily weakness, yet perhaps no one can say that the consequences were to be regretted, for these were a life in conformity to higher principles. If the day and the night are such that you greet them with joy, and life emits a fragrance like flowers and **sweet**-scented herbs, is more elastic, more **starry**, more immortal -- that is your success. All nature is your **congratulation**, and you have cause momentarily to bless yourself. The greatest gains and values are farthest from being appreciated. We easily come to doubt if they exist. We soon forget them. They are the highest reality. Perhaps the facts most **astounding** and most real are never communicated by man to man. The true harvest of my daily life is somewhat as intangible and **indescribable** as the tints of morning or evening. It is a little star-dust caught, a segment of the rainbow which I have clutched.

Yet, for my part, I was never unusually squeamish; I could sometimes eat a **fried** rat with a good relish, if it were necessary. I am glad to have drunk water so long, for the same reason that I prefer the natural sky to an opium-eater's heaven. I would fain keep sober always; and there are infinite degrees of drunkenness. I believe that water is the only drink for a wise man; wine is not so noble a liquor; and think of dashing the hopes of a morning with a cup of warm coffee, or of an evening with a dish of tea! Ah, how low I fall when I am tempted by them! Even music may be **intoxicating**. Such apparently slight causes

Thesaurus

astounding: (*adj*) amazing, miraculous, wonderful, incredible, tremendous, spectacular, sensational, breathtaking, awesome, staggering, prodigious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unremarkable, comforting, predictable, boring, insignificant.
benefactor: (*n*) sponsor, patron, backer, supporter, giver, Good Samaritan, contributor, benefactress, philanthropist, helper, humanitarian. ANTONYMS: (*n*) antagonist,

opposer, detractor.
congratulation: (*n*) compliment, greeting, congratulate, congratulations, acknowledgement, gratulation, acknowledgment.
extremes: (*n*) excess; (*adv*) overboard.
fried: (*adj*) fry, grilled, inebriated, daft, deranged, done, intoxicated.
indescribable: (*adj*) indefinable, ineffable, unutterable, vague, beyond expression, nameless, inexpressible, nondescript, terrible, intangible,

termless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) explainable, conceivable, concrete.
intoxicating: (*adj*) intoxicant, strong, alcoholic, effective, exciting, impetuous, inebriant, inebrious, powerful, provocative, forcible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) soft, weak.
starry: (*adj*) sidereal, starlike, radiant, showy, gleaming, bright, lustrous, shiny, lucid, stellar, fulgent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) starless, dull.
sweet-scented: (*adj*) fragrant.

destroyed Greece and Rome, and will destroy England and America. Of all ebriosity, who does not prefer to be intoxicated by the air he breathes? I have found it to be the most serious objection to coarse labors long continued, that they compelled me to eat and drink **coarsely** also. But to tell the truth, I find myself at present somewhat less particular in these respects. I carry less religion to the table, ask no blessing; not because I am wiser than I was, but, I am obliged to confess, because, however much it is to be regretted, with years I have grown more coarse and indifferent. Perhaps these questions are entertained only in youth, as most believe of poetry. My practice is "nowhere," my opinion is here. Nevertheless I am far from regarding myself as one of those privileged ones to whom the Ved refers when it says, that "he who has true faith in the Omnipresent Supreme Being may eat all that exists," that is, is not bound to inquire what is his food, or who prepares it; and even in their case it is to be observed, as a Hindoo **commentator** has remarked, that the Vedant limits this privilege to "the time of distress."

Who has not sometimes derived an inexpressible satisfaction from his food in which appetite had no share? I have been thrilled to think that I owed a mental perception to the commonly gross sense of taste, that I have been inspired through the **palate**, that some berries which I had eaten on a hillside had fed my genius. "The soul not being mistress of herself," says Thseng-tseu, "one looks, and one does not see; one listens, and one does not hear; one eats, and one does not know the **savor** of food." He who distinguishes the true savor of his food can never be a **glutton**; he who does not cannot be otherwise. A **puritan** may go to his brown-bread crust with as gross an appetite as ever an **alderman** to his turtle. Not that food which entereth into the mouth defileth a man, but the appetite with which it is eaten. It is neither the quality nor the quantity, but the devotion to sensual savors; when that which is eaten is not a **viand** to sustain our animal, or inspire our spiritual life, but food for the worms that possess us. If the hunter has a taste for mud-turtles, muskrats, and other such savage tidbits, the fine lady indulges a taste for jelly made of a calf's foot, or for **sardines** from over the sea, and they are even. He goes to the mill-pond, she to her preserve-pot. The

Thesaurus

alderman: (*n*) councilman, constable, portreeve, warden, ealdorman, deputy mayor, seneschal, councilwoman, burgomaster, Corregidor.
coarsely: (*adv*) grossly, rudely, harshly, roughly, crudely, commonly, vulgarly, bluntly, uncouthly, inelegantly, offensively.
 ANTONYMS: (*adv*) politely, evenly, finely, smoothly, tastefully.
commentator: (*n*) annotator, reviewer,

critic, announcer, newscaster, reporter, expositor, scholiast, glossarist, glossographer, exponent.
glutton: (*n*) wolverine, gormandizer, devourer, feeder, trencherman, cormorant, gourmand, eater, Gulo Gulo, mustelid; (*adj*) voracious.
 ANTONYM: (*n*) Dieter.
palate: (*n*) gusto, savour, flavour, gustation, liking, tooth, taste, relish, roof of the mouth, smack, fancy.
puritan: (*adj*) blue, puritanic,

puritanical, Methodist, formalist, religionist; (*n*) precisian, devotee, sanyasi, yogi; (*v*) coquette.
sardines: (*n*) anchovies, Clupeidae, etc, family Clupeidae, herring, Isospondyli, order Isospondyli.
savor: (*n, v*) taste, smack, smell, savour; (*n*) flavor, gusto, sapidity, tang, flavour; (*v*) enjoy, bask.
 ANTONYM: (*v*) dislike.
viand: (*n*) dish.

wonder is how they, how you and I, can live this **slimy**, beastly life, eating and drinking.

Our whole life is **startlingly** moral. There is never an instant's truce between virtue and vice. Goodness is the only investment that never fails. In the music of the harp which **trembles** round the world it is the insisting on this which thrills us. The harp is the travelling **patterer** for the Universe's Insurance Company, recommending its laws, and our little goodness is all the assessment that we pay. Though the youth at last grows indifferent, the laws of the universe are not indifferent, but are forever on the side of the most sensitive. Listen to every zephyr for some reproof, for it is surely there, and he is unfortunate who does not hear it. We cannot touch a string or move a stop but the charming moral transfixes us. Many an **irksome** noise, go a long way off, is heard as music, a proud, sweet satire on the meanness of our lives.

We are conscious of an animal in us, which **awakens** in proportion as our higher nature slumbers. It is **reptile** and sensual, and perhaps cannot be wholly expelled; like the worms which, even in life and health, occupy our bodies. Possibly we may withdraw from it, but never change its nature. I fear that it may enjoy a certain health of its own; that we may be well, yet not pure. The other day I picked up the lower jaw of a hog, with white and sound teeth and tusks, which suggested that there was an animal health and vigor distinct from the spiritual. This creature succeeded by other means than temperance and purity. "That in which men differ from brute beasts," says Mencius, "is a thing very **inconsiderable**; the common herd lose it very soon; superior men preserve it carefully." Who knows what sort of life would result if we had attained to purity? If I knew so wise a man as could teach me purity I would go to seek him forthwith. "A command over our passions, and over the external senses of the body, and good acts, are declared by the Ved to be indispensable in the mind's approximation to God." Yet the spirit can for the time **pervade** and control every member and function of the body, and **transmute** what in form is the grossest sensuality into purity and devotion. The generative energy, which, when we are loose, dissipates and makes us unclean, when we are continent invigorates and

Thesaurus

awakens: (*adj*) awakened.

inconsiderable: (*adj*) inconsequential, immaterial, small, petty, slight, negligible, trivial, fractional, minute, imperceptible, slender. ANTONYM: (*adj*) major.

irksome: (*adj, v*) wearisome, tiresome; (*adj*) boring, dull, annoying, tedious, trying, burdensome, bothersome, irritating, prosaic. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) delightful, pleasant, refreshing, soothing.

patterer: (*v*) improvisator.

pervade: (*adj, v*) fill; (*v*) infiltrate, penetrate, diffuse, imbue, percolate, occupy, impregnate, saturate, pass through, charge.

reptile: (*n*) reptilian, creeper, basilisk, sneak, wretch, mammal, bird, shellfish; (*adj*) abject, vile, sordid.

slimy: (*adj*) greasy, slippery, muddy, sludgy, squalid, oily, oozy, ropy, viscous, slimed, sordid. ANTONYM: (*adj*) reputable.

startlingly: (*adv*) wonderfully, astonishingly, amazingly, astoundingly, shockingly, remarkably, unexpectedly, staggeringly, marvelously, alarmingly, strikingly.

transmute: (*v*) change, metamorphose, alter, turn, convert, translate, transfigure, modify, process, become, aurify.

trembles: (*n*) animal disease, nervousness.

inspires us. Chastity is the flowering of man; and what are called Genius, Heroism, Holiness, and the like, are but various fruits which succeed it. Man flows at once to God when the channel of purity is open. By turns our purity inspires and our impurity casts us down. He is blessed who is assured that the animal is dying out in him day by day, and the divine being established. Perhaps there is none but has cause for shame on account of the inferior and brutish nature to which he is allied. I fear that we are such gods or demigods only as fauns and satyrs, the divine allied to **beasts**, the creatures of appetite, and that, to some extent, our very life is our disgrace.--

"How happy's he who hath due place assigned
To his beasts and disafforested his mind!

.....

Can use this horse, goat, wolf, and ev'ry beast,
And is not ass himself to all the rest!
Else man not only is the herd of swine,
But he's those devils too which did incline
Them to a headlong rage, and made them worse."

All sensuality is one, though it takes many forms; all purity is one. It is the same whether a man eat, or drink, or **cohabit**, or sleep **sensually**. They are but one appetite, and we only need to see a person do any one of these things to know how great a **sensualist** he is. The impure can neither stand nor sit with purity. When the reptile is **attacked** at one mouth of his burrow, he shows himself at another. If you would be chaste, you must be temperate. What is chastity? How shall a man know if he is chaste? He shall not know it. We have heard of this virtue, but we know not what it is. We speak **conformably** to the **rumor** which we have heard. From exertion come wisdom and purity; from sloth ignorance and sensuality. In the student sensuality is a sluggish habit of mind. An unclean person is universally a **slothful** one, one who sits by a stove, whom the sun shines on **prostrate**, who reposes without being **fatigued**. If you

Thesaurus

attacked: (*adj*) assaulted, corroded.

beasts: (*n*) stock.

cohabit: (*v*) shack, dwell, inhabit, live, people, populate, reside, cohabiting, accustom, shack up, miscegenate.

conformably: (*adv*) consistently, agreeably, alike, correspondingly, pursuantly, correspondently.

fatigued: (*adj*) tired, weary, beat, worn, tired out, jaded, spent, worn out, done in, fagged, run-down.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) refreshed, alert,

lively, energized, energetic.

prostrate: (*adj, v*) prone, exhaust, level, fatigue; (*v*) fell, overwhelm, overcome, floor, overthrow; (*adj*) deject, knock down. ANTONYM: (*adj*) upright.

rumor: (*n*) hearsay, talk, news; (*n, v*) gossip, fame, buzz, bruit, noise, rumour; (*v*) repute, reputation. ANTONYM: (*n*) truth.

sensualist: (*n*) epicure, hedonist, voluptuary, gastronome, cocksucker,

bisexual, sensationalist, lecher, glutton, gourmet, rake.

sensually: (*adv*) carnally, voluptuously, lasciviously, lustfully, raunchily, fleshly, libidinosly, sexually, lewdly, sexily, erotically.

slothful: (*adj*) indolent, idle, sluggish, slack, inactive, slow, otiose, faineant, inert, listless; (*adj, v*) remiss.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) energetic, lively, industrious.

would avoid uncleanness, and all the sins, work earnestly, though it be at cleaning a stable. Nature is hard to be overcome, but she must be overcome. What **avails** it that you are Christian, if you are not purer than the heathen, if you deny yourself no more, if you are not more religious? I know of many systems of religion esteemed heathenish whose precepts fill the reader with shame, and provoke him to new **endeavors**, though it be to the performance of rites merely.

I hesitate to say these things, but it is not because of the subject -- I care not how obscene my words are -- but because I cannot speak of them without **betraying** my impurity. We discourse freely without shame of one form of **sensuality**, and are silent about another. We are so degraded that we cannot speak simply of the necessary functions of human nature. In earlier ages, in some countries, every function was **reverently** spoken of and regulated by law. Nothing was too trivial for the Hindoo **lawgiver**, however offensive it may be to modern taste. He teaches how to eat, drink, cohabit, void **excrement** and urine, and the like, **elevating** what is mean, and does not falsely excuse himself by calling these things trifles.

Every man is the builder of a temple, called his body, to the god he worships, after a style purely his own, nor can he get off by hammering marble instead. We are all sculptors and painters, and our material is our own flesh and blood and bones. Any nobleness begins at once to refine a man's features, any meanness or sensuality to **imbrute** them.

John Farmer sat at his door one September evening, after a hard day's work, his mind still running on his labor more or less. Having bathed, he sat down to re-create his intellectual man. It was a rather cool evening, and some of his neighbors were **apprehending** a frost. He had not attended to the train of his thoughts long when he heard some one playing on a flute, and that sound harmonized with his mood. Still he thought of his work; but the burden of his thought was, that though this kept running in his head, and he found himself planning and **contriving** it against his will, yet it concerned him very little. It was no more than the **scurf** of his skin, which was constantly **shuffled** off. But the notes of the flute came home to his ears out of a different sphere from that he

Thesaurus

apprehending: (*v*) apprehend; (*n*) perception, thought, recognition.

avails: (*n*) Vail.

betraying: (*adj*) treacherous, revealing, Judas.

contriving: (*adj*) designing, deep, calculating, shifty.

elevating: (*adj*) inspiring, exhilarating.

endeavors: (*n*) activities, deeds, events, Comings and Goings, undertakings, accomplishments, happenings.

excrement: (*adj, n*) faeces; (*n*) dirt, evacuation, excretion, dung, ordure, excreta, urine, body waste, droppings; (*adj*) feces.

imbrute: (*v*) embrute.

lawgiver: (*n*) lawmaker, politician, statemonger, statist, leader, nomothete, promulgator, strategist, statesman, draconian, Draco.

reverently: (*adv*) reverentially, piously, religiously, devoutly, deferentially, worshipfully, solemnly, godly,

courteously, politely, obsequiously. ANTONYM: (*adv*) irreverently.

scurf: (*n*) scale, dander, scruff, flake, scrap, scurfiness, bit, musical scale, ordered series, scaliness, scale of measurement.

sensuality: (*n*) sensualism, animalism, sensualness, lust, carnality, concupiscence, animal gratification, bodily enjoyment, hedonism, sensationalism, debauchery.

shuffled: (*adj*) disorganized.

worked in, and **suggested** work for certain faculties which slumbered in him. They gently did away with the street, and the village, and the state in which he lived. A voice said to him -- Why do you stay here and live this mean moiling life, when a **glorious** existence is possible for you? Those same stars **twinkle** over other fields than these. -- But how to come out of this condition and actually **migrate** thither? All that he could think of was to **practise** some new **austerity**, to let his mind **descend** into his body and redeem it, and treat himself with ever increasing respect.

Thesaurus

austerity: (*adj, n*) acerbity, stringency; (*n*) asceticism, strictness, sternness, gravity, severity, hardship, harshness, plainness, simplicity.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) permissiveness, leniency, lenience, exuberance, abandonment, gentleness, indulgence, joy, warmth, affluence, cheerfulness.
descend: (*v*) settle, condescend, down, drop, deign, subside, go down, dismount, derive, get off, come

down. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) ascend, climb, float, scale, increase, level, mount.
glorious: (*adj*) distinguished, beautiful, bright, celebrated, brilliant, eminent, magnificent, super, great, splendid; (*adj, v*) illustrious. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) sorrowful, despicable, horrible, shameful, lowly.
migrate: (*v*) emigrate, transmigrate, move, commigrate, flit, move away, wander, travel, transport, roam,

moving.
practise: (*v*) execute, practice, perform, exercise, drill, do, rehearse, learn, take, work out, read.
suggested: (*adj*) advisable, proposed, tacit, optional, not compulsory, nominal, implied.
twinkle: (*n, v*) flash, gleam, shimmer, glimmer, glisten, glitter, scintillate, wink; (*adj, n, v*) flicker; (*v*) shine, blink.
worked: (*adj*) elaborated, beaten.

BRUTE NEIGHBORS

Sometimes I had a companion in my fishing, who came through the village to my house from the other side of the town, and the catching of the dinner was as much a social exercise as the eating of it.

Hermit. I wonder what the world is doing now. I have not heard so much as a **locust** over the sweet-fern these three hours. The pigeons are all asleep upon their roosts -- no **flutter** from them. Was that a farmer's noon horn which sounded from beyond the woods just now? The hands are coming in to boiled salt beef and **cider** and Indian bread. Why will men worry themselves so? He that does not eat need not work. I wonder how much they have reaped. Who would live there where a body can never think for the barking of Bose? And oh, the housekeeping! to keep bright the devil's door-knobs, and **scour** his tubs this bright day! Better not keep a house. Say, some hollow tree; and then for morning calls and dinner-parties! Only a **woodpecker** tapping. Oh, they swarm; the sun is too warm there; they are born too far into life for me. I have water from the spring, and a **loaf** of brown bread on the shelf. -- Hark! I hear a **rustling** of the leaves. Is it some ill-fed village hound yielding to the instinct of the chase? or the lost pig which is said to be in these woods, whose tracks I saw after the rain? It comes on **apace**; my sumachs and sweetbriars **tremble**. -- Eh, Mr. Poet, is it you? How do you like the world to-day?

Thesaurus

apace: (*adj, adv*) speedily, quickly; (*adv*) fast, rapidly, hastily, soon, promptly; (*adj*) forthwith, immediately, incontinently, shortly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) slowly.

cider: (*v*) Brazil tea, ice water, claret; (*n*) inebriant, alcoholic beverage, hard cider, pomade, sicer, sider, alcohol, beverage.

flutter: (*adj, n, v*) bustle, flurry; (*n, v*) beat, palpitate, flap, wave, waver, quiver; (*v*) flit, flitter; (*n*) excitement.

loaf: (*adj, v*) lounge; (*v*) hang around, loiter, loll, linger, laze, mess about, be idle; (*adj, n*) block; (*adj*) lump, poke. ANTONYM: (*v*) work.

locust: (*n*) courbaril, cicada, wood, carob, clammy locust, Colorado beetle, black locust, acridid, honey locust, locust tree; (*v*) losel.

rustling: (*n*) rustle, whispering, whisper, larceny; (*adj*) murmurous, susurrous, active, sougning.

scour: (*v*) scrub, ransack, burnish,

abrade, furbish, polish, search, cleanse, graze, buff; (*adj, v*) flush. ANTONYM: (*v*) dirty.

tremble: (*adj, n, v*) shiver; (*n, v*) quiver, shudder, thrill, palpitate; (*adj, v*) totter, quake; (*n*) throb; (*v*) flutter, quail, falter. ANTONYMS: (*v*) steady, calm.

woodpecker: (*n*) redhead, ivorybill, pecker, piculet, nib, woodpeck, tool, Speight, Specht, shaft, redheaded woodpecker.

Poet. See those clouds; how they hang! That's the greatest thing I have seen to-day. There's nothing like it in old paintings, nothing like it in foreign lands -- unless when we were off the coast of Spain. That's a true Mediterranean sky. I thought, as I have my living to get, and have not eaten to-day, that I might go a-fishing. That's the true industry for poets. It is the only trade I have learned. Come, let's along.

Hermit. I cannot resist. My brown bread will soon be gone. I will go with you **gladly** soon, but I am just concluding a serious meditation. I think that I am near the end of it. Leave me alone, then, for a while. But that we may not be delayed, you shall be digging the bait meanwhile. Angeworms are rarely to be met with in these parts, where the soil was never **fattened** with manure; the race is nearly **extinct**. The sport of digging the bait is nearly equal to that of catching the fish, when one's appetite is not too keen; and this you may have all to yourself today. I would advise you to set in the spade down yonder among the ground-nuts, where you see the johnswort waving. I think that I may warrant you one worm to every three sods you turn up, if you look well in among the roots of the grass, as if you were weeding. Or, if you choose to go farther, it will not be **unwise**, for I have found the increase of fair bait to be very nearly as the squares of the distances.

Hermit alone. Let me see; where was I? Methinks I was nearly in this frame of mind; the world lay about at this angle. Shall I go to heaven or a-fishing? If I should soon bring this meditation to an end, would another so sweet occasion be likely to offer? I was as near being resolved into the essence of things as ever I was in my life. I fear my thoughts will not come back to me. If it would do any good, I would whistle for them. When they make us an offer, is it wise to say, We will think of it? My thoughts have left no track, and I cannot find the path again. What was it that I was thinking of? It was a very **hazy** day. I will just try these three sentences of Confutsee; they may fetch that state about again. I know not whether it was the **dumps** or a **budding** ecstasy. Mem. There never is but one opportunity of a kind.

Thesaurus

budding: (*adj*) blossoming, emergent, green, juvenile, youthful, incipient, puiſe, sappy, under age, flourishing; (*n*) shooting.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) shrinking, unlikely, withering.
dumps: (*n*) doldrums, depression, gloom, melancholy, dismay, mood; (*adj*) melancholia, dismal, dudgeon, scowl, sulks.
extinct: (*adj*) dead, deceased, defunct, departed, obsolete, extinguished,

exhausted, inanimate, out, quenched, gone. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) alive, living, extant, active, dormant, thriving, existing, live.
fattened: (*adj*) finished.
gladly: (*adv, v*) happily; (*adv*) gleefully, contentedly, cheerfully, fain, joyfully, jovially, cheerily, delightedly, gladly, readily. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) reluctantly, unwillingly, sadly, resentfully, miserably.
hazy: (*adj*) fuzzy, cloudy, vague,

blurred, foggy, nebulous, misty, indistinct, blurry, faint, dull.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) bright, distinct, precise, sunny, thick, detailed, definite, strong.
unwise: (*adj, n*) silly, stupid, absurd, indiscreet; (*adj*) imprudent, injudicious, ridiculous, senseless, inadvisable, impolitic, unreasonable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sensible, prudent, thoughtful, sagacious, judicious, advisable.

Poet. How now, Hermit, is it too soon? I have got just **thirteen** whole ones, beside several which are imperfect or **undersized**; but they will do for the smaller fry; they do not cover up the hook so much. Those village worms are quite too large; a shiner may make a meal off one without finding the skewer.

Hermit. Well, then, let's be off. Shall we to the Concord? There's good sport there if the water be not too high.

Why do precisely these objects which we behold make a world? Why has man just these species of animals for his neighbors; as if nothing but a mouse could have filled this **crevice**? I suspect that Pilpay & Co. have put animals to their best use, for they are all beasts of burden, in a sense, made to carry some portion of our thoughts.

The mice which **haunted** my house were not the common ones, which are said to have been introduced into the country, but a wild native kind not found in the village. I sent one to a distinguished naturalist, and it interested him much. When I was building, one of these had its nest underneath the house, and before I had laid the second floor, and swept out the **shavings**, would come out regularly at lunch time and pick up the crumbs at my feet. It probably had never seen a man before; and it soon became quite familiar, and would run over my shoes and up my clothes. It could readily **ascend** the sides of the room by short impulses, like a squirrel, which it resembled in its motions. At length, as I leaned with my elbow on the bench one day, it ran up my clothes, and along my sleeve, and round and round the paper which held my dinner, while I kept the latter close, and dodged and played at bopeep with it; and when at last I held still a piece of cheese between my thumb and finger, it came and nibbled it, sitting in my hand, and afterward cleaned its face and paws, like a fly, and walked away.

A **phoebe** soon built in my shed, and a robin for protection in a pine which grew against the house. In June the partridge (*Tetrao umbellus*), which is so shy a bird, led her **brood** past my windows, from the woods in the rear to the front of my house, clucking and calling to them like a hen, and in all her behavior proving herself the hen of the woods. The young suddenly **disperse** on your

Thesaurus

ascend: (*n, v*) mount; (*v*) arise, scale, uprise, climb, go up, come up, increase, elevate; (*n*) ascending, ascent. ANTONYMS: (*v*) descend, drop, decline, fall, lower, set, sink.
brood: (*n, v*) breed; (*v*) sulk, think, incubate; (*n*) offspring, issue, progeny, young, posterity, family; (*adj, n*) herd. ANTONYMS: (*v*) reassure, delight, console.
crevice: (*n*) cleft, break, chink, cranny, chap, fissure, interstice, rift, gap,

hole, fracture.
disperse: (*v*) dispel, spread, circulate, break up, disband, scatter, dissipate, diffuse, dispense, disseminate, break. ANTONYMS: (*v*) gather, collect, converge, centralize, capture, congregate, garner, concentrate, swarm, crowd, aggravate.
haunted: (*adj*) ghostly, ghostlike, phantom, taken up, preoccupied, possessed, unearthly, magical, mad, infatuated, concerned.

phoebe: (*n*) quintet, quint, Phoebe bird, Phebe, fins, quintuplet, v, pentad, Louvre, louver, Little Phoebe.
shavings: (*n*) residue, pencil shavings, chips, trash.
thirteen: (*n*) long dozen, large integer.
undersized: (*adj*) little, undersize, short, diminutive, stunted, tiny, puny, dwarf, underweight, weak, underdeveloped. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) big, robust.

approach, at a signal from the mother, as if a **whirlwind** had swept them away, and they so exactly resemble the dried leaves and twigs that many a **traveler** has placed his foot in the midst of a brood, and heard the whir of the old bird as she flew off, and her anxious calls and mewing, or seen her trail her wings to attract his attention, without suspecting their neighborhood. The parent will sometimes roll and spin round before you in such a **dishabille**, that you cannot, for a few moments, detect what kind of creature it is. The young squat still and flat, often running their heads under a leaf, and mind only their mother's directions given from a distance, nor will your approach make them run again and betray themselves. You may even tread on them, or have your eyes on them for a minute, without **discovering** them. I have held them in my open hand at such a time, and still their only care, obedient to their mother and their instinct, was to squat there without fear or trembling. So perfect is this instinct, that once, when I had laid them on the leaves again, and one accidentally fell on its side, it was found with the rest in exactly the same position ten minutes afterward. They are not **callow** like the young of most birds, but more perfectly developed and precocious even than chickens. The remarkably adult yet innocent expression of their open and serene eyes is very memorable. All intelligence seems reflected in them. They suggest not merely the purity of infancy, but a wisdom clarified by experience. Such an eye was not born when the bird was, but is **coeval** with the sky it reflects. The woods do not yield another such a gem. The traveller does not often look into such a **limpid** well. The ignorant or reckless sportsman often shoots the parent at such a time, and leaves these innocents to fall a prey to some prowling beast or bird, or gradually **mingle** with the decaying leaves which they so much resemble. It is said that when **hatched** by a hen they will directly disperse on some alarm, and so are lost, for they never hear the mother's call which gathers them again. These were my hens and chickens.

It is remarkable how many creatures live wild and free though secret in the woods, and still sustain themselves in the neighborhood of towns, suspected by hunters only. How retired the otter manages to live here! He grows to be four feet long, as big as a small boy, perhaps without any human being getting a glimpse of him. I formerly saw the **raccoon** in the woods behind where my

Thesaurus

callow: (*adj*) inexperienced, juvenile, youthful, young, green, unsophisticated, naive, unfledged, beardless; (*v*) bald; (*n*) cub.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sophisticated, worldly, mature, urbane.
coeval: (*adj, n*) contemporary; (*adj*) coetaneous, concurrent, contemporaneous, simultaneous, synchronous, present, coevous, synchronal, concomitant; (*n*) compeer.

discovering: (*adj*) observant, oracular.
dishabille: (*n*) morning dress, status, negligé, bareness; (*adj*) dirty, nude.
hatched: (*adj*) crosshatched, born, ruled.
limpid: (*adj*) transparent, bright, diaphanous, crystal clear, crystalline, perspicuous, pellucid, lucid, liquid, hyaline, glassy. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) opaque.
mingle: (*v*) compound, combine, merge, amalgamate, intermix, mix,

commingle, associate, confuse, join, intermingle. **ANTONYM:** (*v*) part.
raccoon: (*n*) coon, racoon, ringtail, pelt, common raccoon, common racoon, procyonid, fur.
traveler: (*n*) tourist, wayfarer, migrant, wanderer, itinerant, voyager, traveller, visitor, flier, flyer, footer. **ANTONYM:** (*n*) resident.
whir: (*n, v*) buzz, whirr; (*v*) whiz, hum, whizz, purr, rustle; (*n*) verticity, whirl, whirlpool, vortex.

house is built, and probably still heard their whinpering at night. Commonly I rested an hour or two in the shade at noon, after planting, and ate my lunch, and read a little by a spring which was the source of a swamp and of a brook, **oozing** from under Brister's Hill, half a mile from my field. The approach to this was through a succession of descending grassy hollows, full of young pitch pines, into a larger wood about the swamp. There, in a very secluded and shaded spot, under a spreading white pine, there was yet a clean, firm sward to sit on. I had dug out the spring and made a well of clear gray water, where I could dip up a pailful without **roiling** it, and thither I went for this purpose almost every day in **midsummer**, when the pond was warmest. Thither, too, the **woodcock** led her brood, to probe the mud for worms, flying but a foot above them down the bank, while they ran in a **troop** beneath; but at last, spying me, she would leave her young and circle round and round me, nearer and nearer till within four or five feet, pretending broken wings and legs, to attract my attention, and get off her young, who would already have taken up their march, with faint, **wiry peep**, single file through the swamp, as she directed. Or I heard the peep of the young when I could not see the parent bird. There too the turtle **doves** sat over the spring, or fluttered from bough to bough of the soft white pines over my head; or the red squirrel, **coursing** down the nearest bough, was particularly familiar and inquisitive. You only need sit still long enough in some attractive spot in the woods that all its inhabitants may exhibit themselves to you by turns.

I was witness to events of a less peaceful character. One day when I went out to my wood-pile, or rather my pile of stumps, I observed two large ants, the one red, the other much larger, nearly half an inch long, and black, fiercely **contending** with one another. Having once got hold they never let go, but struggled and wrestled and rolled on the chips incessantly. Looking farther, I was surprised to find that the chips were covered with such combatants, that it was not a duellum, but a bellum, a war between two races of ants, the red always **pitted** against the black, and frequently two red ones to one black. The legions of these Myrmidons covered all the hills and vales in my wood-yard, and the ground was already strewn with the dead and dying, both red and black. It was the only battle which I have ever witnessed, the only battle-field I ever trod while

Thesaurus

contending: (*adj*) contentious, conflicting, competitive, competing, competitory, combatant, challenging, factious, militant, warlike, fighting.
coursing: (*v*) chase, shooting, fishing, hunting, steeple chase, race; (*n, v*) hunt.
doves: (*n*) Columbiformes, order Columbiformes.
midsummer: (*n*) summer, solstice, June solstice, June.
oozing: (*n*) ooze, leakage, exudation,

seepage, sweating, extravasation, distillation, flow, leak, discharge; (*adj*) seeping.
peep: (*n, v*) glance, peek, look, gaze, glint, squeal; (*n*) glimpse, cheep; (*v*) chirp, peer, pry. ANTONYMS: (*v*) stare, gaze; (*n*) examination.
pitted: (*adj*) pockmarked, alveolate, faveolate, cavities, hollow, rough, discolored, cellular, foveate, freckled, notched.
roiling: (*adj*) churning, nettled,

agitated, annoyed, disruptive, pissed, miffed, riotous, roily, peeved, riled.
troop: (*n*) group, corps, gang, crowd, band, brigade, crew, herd, swarm, horde; (*n, v*) flock.
wiry: (*adj*) lean, muscular, sinewy, fibrous, brawny, stalwart, ropy, thin, supple, vigorous, rough.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) straight, small, tiny, smooth, soft, stout, fat.
woodcock: (*n*) shore bird, shorebird, snipe, limicoline bird.

the battle was raging; **internecine** war; the red **republicans** on the one hand, and the black imperialists on the other. On every side they were engaged in deadly combat, yet without any noise that I could hear, and human soldiers never fought so resolutely. I watched a couple that were fast locked in each other's embraces, in a little sunny valley amid the chips, now at noonday prepared to fight till the sun went down, or life went out. The smaller red champion had fastened himself like a vice to his adversary's front, and through all the tumblings on that field never for an instant ceased to gnaw at one of his **feelers** near the root, having already caused the other to go by the board; while the stronger black one dashed him from side to side, and, as I saw on looking nearer, had already divested him of several of his members. They fought with more **pertinacity** than bulldogs. Neither manifested the least disposition to retreat. It was evident that their battle-cry was "Conquer or die." In the meanwhile there came along a single red ant on the hillside of this valley, evidently full of **excitement**, who either had despatched his foe, or had not yet taken part in the battle; probably the latter, for he had lost none of his limbs; whose mother had charged him to return with his shield or upon it. Or perchance he was some Achilles, who had **nourished** his wrath apart, and had now come to **avenge** or rescue his Patroclus. He saw this unequal combat from **afar** -- for the blacks were nearly twice the size of the red -- he drew near with rapid pace till he stood on his guard within half an inch of the combatants; then, watching his opportunity, he sprang upon the black warrior, and commenced his operations near the root of his right fore leg, leaving the foe to select among his own members; and so there were three united for life, as if a new kind of attraction had been invented which put all other **locks** and cements to shame. I should not have wondered by this time to find that they had their respective musical bands stationed on some eminent chip, and playing their national **airs** the while, to excite the slow and cheer the dying combatants. I was myself excited somewhat even as if they had been men. The more you think of it, the less the difference. And certainly there is not the fight recorded in Concord history, at least, if in the history of America, that will bear a moment's comparison with this, whether for the numbers engaged in it, or for the

Thesaurus

afar: (*adv*) off, away, far away, distantly, beyond, Afar off, in the distance, by far, apart; (*adj*) outlying, far. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) close, nearby, near; (*prep*) within.

airs: (*n, v*) pretension; (*n*) affectation, pride, pose, pretensions, attitude; (*adj, n*) arrogance; (*v*) precisionism, euphuism, purism, pedantry. ANTONYMS: (*n*) humility, personality, realness, truthfulness, honesty.

avenge: (*v*) revenge, punish, retaliate, wreak, vindicate, repay, get even, penalize, requite, vengeance, venge. ANTONYMS: (*v*) excuse, overlook, tolerate, pardon.

excite: (*v*) arouse, enliven, disturb, agitate, awaken, incite, inspire, rouse, electrify; (*n, v*) energize; (*adj, v*) quicken. ANTONYMS: (*v*) calm, pacify, bore, soothe, stifle, tranquilize, placate, quiet, dampen.

feelers: (*n*) feeler.

internecine: (*adj*) deadly, lethal, bloody, fatal, pernicious, internecive, harmful, internal, internecinal, malignant, mutually ruinous.

locks: (*n*) hair, tresses, head of hair.

nourished: (*adj*) fostered.

pertinacity: (*n*) persistence, persistency, doggedness, obstinacy, tenacity, contumacy, pertinacy, purpose, endurance, firmness, constancy.

republicans: (*n*) Tories, socialists.

patriotism and heroism displayed. For numbers and for **carnage** it was an Austerlitz or Dresden. Concord Fight! Two killed on the patriots' side, and Luther Blanchard wounded! Why here every ant was a Buttrick -- "Fire! for God's sake fire!" -- and thousands shared the fate of Davis and Hosmer. There was not one **hireling** there. I have no doubt that it was a principle they fought for, as much as our ancestors, and not to avoid a three-penny tax on their tea; and the results of this battle will be as important and memorable to those whom it concerns as those of the battle of Bunker Hill, at least.

I took up the chip on which the three I have particularly described were struggling, carried it into my house, and placed it under a **tumbler** on my window-sill, in order to see the issue. Holding a microscope to the first-mentioned red ant, I saw that, though he was **assiduously gnawing** at the near fore leg of his enemy, having severed his remaining **feeler**, his own breast was all torn away, exposing what vitals he had there to the jaws of the black warrior, whose **breastplate** was apparently too thick for him to pierce; and the dark carbuncles of the sufferer's eyes shone with ferocity such as war only could excite. They struggled half an hour longer under the tumbler, and when I looked again the black soldier had severed the heads of his foes from their bodies, and the still living heads were hanging on either side of him like ghastly trophies at his saddle-bow, still apparently as firmly fastened as ever, and he was endeavoring with feeble struggles, being without feelers and with only the **remnant** of a leg, and I know not how many other wounds, to **divest** himself of them; which at length, after half an hour more, he accomplished. I raised the glass, and he went off over the window-sill in that crippled state. Whether he finally survived that combat, and spent the remainder of his days in some Hotel des Invalides, I do not know; but I thought that his industry would not be worth much thereafter. I never learned which party was victorious, nor the cause of the war; but I felt for the rest of that day as if I had had my feelings excited and harrowed by witnessing the struggle, the ferocity and carnage, of a human battle before my door.

Thesaurus

assiduously: (*adv*) diligently, industriously, busily, sedulously, carefully, attentively, studiously, constantly, untiringly, thoroughly, scrupulously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) carelessly, inconsistently, hastily.
breastplate: (*n*) corselet, armour plate, armor plating, armor plate; (*n, v*) shield, bulletproof vest; (*v*) cuirass, mask, gauntlet, apron, armored vest.
carnage: (*n, v*) slaughter, havoc; (*n*) bloodshed, bloodbath, murder,

massacre, holocaust, slaying, battue, killing, mass murder.

divest: (*v*) bereave, dispossess, dismantle, denude, despoil, strip, disrobe, free, relieve, discharge, unclothe. ANTONYMS: (*v*) invest, clothe, cover, dress, provide, bequeath, harbor, add.
feeler: (*n*) overture, advance, approach, barbel, sensitiveness, sensitivity, aerial, palpus, tentacle, hand; (*v*) zetetic philosophy.

gnawing: (*v*) corroding, biting; (*n*) arrosion.

hireling: (*n*) employee, pensionary, hackney, puppet, hack, pensioner, servant, labor, soldier of fortune, tool; (*adj*) venal.

remnant: (*n*) end, relic, remains, residue, fragment, leftover, survival, trace, oddment, balance, stub.

tumbler: (*n*) acrobat, beaker, turner, mime, roller, buffoon, tumbler switch, cup, bowl, flute; (*v*) glass.

Kirby and Spence tell us that the battles of ants have long been celebrated and the date of them recorded, though they say that Huber is the only modern author who appears to have witnessed them. "AENEAS SYLVIUS," say they, "after giving a very **circumstantial** account of one contested with great obstinacy by a great and small species on the trunk of a pear tree," adds that "this action was fought in the **pontificate** of Eugenius the Fourth, in the presence of Nicholas Pistoriensis, an eminent lawyer, who related the whole, history of the battle with the greatest fidelity." A similar engagement between great and small ants is recorded by Olaus Magnus, in which the small ones, being victorious, are said to have buried the bodies of their own soldiers, but left those of their giant enemies a prey to the birds. This event happened previous to the expulsion of the **tyrant** Christiern the Second from Sweden." The battle which I witnessed took place in the Presidency of Polk, five years before the passage of Webster's Fugitive-Slave Bill.

Many a village Bose, fit only to course a mud-turtle in a victualling cellar, sported his heavy quarters in the woods, without the knowledge of his master, and **ineffectually** smelled at old fox burrows and woodchucks' holes; led perchance by some slight cur which **nimbly** threaded the wood, and might still inspire a natural terror in its denizens; -- now far behind his guide, barking like a **canine** bull toward some small squirrel which had **treed** itself for scrutiny, then, cantering off, bending the bushes with his weight, imagining that he is on the track of some stray member of the jerbilla family. Once I was surprised to see a cat walking along the stony shore of the pond, for they rarely wander so far from home. The surprise was mutual. Nevertheless the most domestic cat, which has lain on a rug all her days, appears quite at home in the woods, and, by her sly and **stealthy** behavior, proves herself more native there than the regular inhabitants. Once, when berrying, I met with a cat with young **kittens** in the woods, quite wild, and they all, like their mother, had their backs up and were fiercely spitting at me. A few years before I lived in the woods there was what was called a "winged cat" in one of the farm-houses in Lincoln nearest the pond, Mr. Gilian Baker's. When I called to see her in June, 1842, she was gone a-hunting in the woods, as was her wont (I am not sure whether it was a male or female, and so use the more common pronoun), but her mistress told me that she

Thesaurus

canine: (*n*) canine tooth, canid, dogtooth, eyetooth, cuspid, fang; (*adj*) laniary, bovine, animal, feline, fishy.
circumstantial: (*adj*) particular, detailed, incidental, thorough, presumptive, precise, coincidental, elaborate, exact, special, specific. ANTONYM: (*adj*) concrete.
ineffectually: (*adv*) uselessly, futilely, inefficiently, fruitlessly, vainly, inefficaciously, abortively, pointlessly, bootlessly,

incompetently, ineptly.
 ANTONYMS: (*adv*) competently, fruitfully, well, usefully, successfully, efficiently, admirably, convincingly.
kittens: (*n*) dust, fuzz.
nimbly: (*adv*) adroitly, alertly, lightly, energetically, cleverly, hastily, deftly, rapidly, readily; (*adj*) dexterously; (*adj, adv*) neatly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) lethargically, heavily, awkwardly.
pontificate: (*v*) speak, address, swagger, spout; (*n*) primacy, regime,

authorities, archiepiscopacy, archbishopric, government.
stealthy: (*adj*) clandestine, secret, surreptitious, sneaky, covert, private, backstairs, concealed, feline; (*adj, v*) sly, insidious. ANTONYM: (*adj*) blatant.
treed: (*adj*) cornered, trapped, unfree.
tyrant: (*n*) dictator, oppressor, autocrat, disciplinarian, bully, authoritarian, sovereign, czar, monarch, suzerain, stickler.

came into the neighborhood a little more than a year before, in April, and was finally taken into their house; that she was of a dark brownish-gray color, with a white spot on her throat, and white feet, and had a large bushy tail like a fox; that in the winter the fur grew thick and flatted out along her sides, forming stripes ten or twelve inches long by two and a half wide, and under her chin like a **muff**, the upper side loose, the under **matted** like felt, and in the spring these appendages dropped off. They gave me a pair of her "wings," which I keep still. There is no appearance of a membrane about them. Some thought it was part flying squirrel or some other wild animal, which is not impossible, for, according to naturalists, prolific hybrids have been produced by the union of the **marten** and domestic cat. This would have been the right kind of cat for me to keep, if I had kept any; for why should not a poet's cat be winged as well as his horse?

In the fall the loon (*Colymbus glacialis*) came, as usual, to **moult** and **bathe** in the pond, making the woods ring with his wild laughter before I had risen. At rumor of his arrival all the Mill-dam sportsmen are on the alert, in gigs and on foot, two by two and three by three, with patent **rifles** and **conical** balls and spy-glasses. They come rustling through the woods like autumn leaves, at least ten men to one loon. Some station themselves on this side of the pond, some on that, for the poor bird cannot be **omnipresent**; if he dive here he must come up there. But now the kind October wind rises, rustling the leaves and rippling the surface of the water, so that no loon can be heard or seen, though his foes sweep the pond with spy-glasses, and make the woods resound with their discharges. The waves generously rise and dash angrily, taking sides with all water-fowl, and our sportsmen must beat a retreat to town and shop and unfinished jobs. But they were too often successful. When I went to get a pail of water early in the morning I frequently saw this **stately** bird sailing out of my cove within a few rods. If I endeavored to **overtake** him in a boat, in order to see how he would manoeuvre, he would dive and be completely lost, so that I did not discover him again, sometimes, till the latter part of the day. But I was more than a match for him on the surface. He commonly went off in a rain.

Thesaurus

bathe: (*adj, v*) steep, lave, immerse, soak; (*v*) take a bath, tub, clean, rinse, bath; (*n, v*) swim; (*n*) bathing.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) smudge, stain, soil, dip.
conical: (*adj*) pyramidal, tapering, copped, conelike, coniform, taper, cone, tapered, copped, pointed.
marten: (*n*) sable, fisher, musteline, mustelid, pekan, marten cat, black cat, beech marten, fisher cat.
matted: (*adj*) entangled, tangled,

knotted, flat, matt, matte, knotty, fixed, kinky, twisted; (*v*) crossed.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) tidy, straight, free.

moult: (*n, v*) moulting, molting, ecdysis; (*v*) cast, drop, exuviate, throw, shed, desquamate, cast off, shake off.
muff: (*n, v*) blunder, mollicoddle, slip; (*v*) bungle, botch, miss, flub, muck up, bobble, fail, spoil.

omnipresent: (*adj*) pervasive, universal, worldwide, supreme,

persistent, omnipotent, invincible, invasive, almighty, divine; (*adj, adv*) everywhere.

overtake: (*v*) catch, attain, catch up with, exceed, overpower, overcome, go by, gain, devastate, outstrip, beat.
rifles: (*n*) chasseur, light infantry.
stately: (*adj*) solemn, imposing, elegant; (*adj, v*) noble, dignified, grand, proud, great; (*adj, adv*) regal, majestic, royal. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) boisterous, humble, modest, lowly.

As I was **paddling** along the north shore one very calm October afternoon, for such days especially they settle on to the lakes, like the **milkweed** down, having looked in vain over the pond for a loon, suddenly one, sailing out from the shore toward the middle a few rods in front of me, set up his wild laugh and betrayed himself. I pursued with a **paddle** and he dived, but when he came up I was nearer than before. He dived again, but I **miscalculated** the direction he would take, and we were fifty rods apart when he came to the surface this time, for I had helped to widen the interval; and again he laughed long and loud, and with more reason than before. He manoeuvred so **cunningly** that I could not get within half a dozen rods of him. Each time, when he came to the surface, turning his head this way and that, he **cooly** surveyed the water and the land, and apparently chose his course so that he might come up where there was the widest expanse of water and at the greatest distance from the boat. It was surprising how quickly he made up his mind and put his resolve into execution. He led me at once to the widest part of the pond, and could not be driven from it. While he was thinking one thing in his brain, I was endeavoring to divine his thought in mine. It was a pretty game, played on the smooth surface of the pond, a man against a loon. Suddenly your adversary's **checker** disappears beneath the board, and the problem is to place **yours** nearest to where his will appear again. Sometimes he would come up unexpectedly on the opposite side of me, having apparently passed directly under the boat. So **long-winded** was he and so unweariable, that when he had swum farthest he would immediately plunge again, nevertheless; and then no wit could divine where in the deep pond, beneath the smooth surface, he might be speeding his way like a fish, for he had time and ability to visit the bottom of the pond in its deepest part. It is said that loons have been caught in the New York lakes eighty feet beneath the surface, with hooks set for trout -- though Walden is deeper than that. How surprised must the fishes be to see this **ungainly** visitor from another sphere speeding his way amid their schools! Yet he appeared to know his course as surely under water as on the surface, and swam much faster there. Once or twice I saw a ripple where he approached the surface, just put his head out to **reconnoitre**, and instantly dived again. I found that it was as well for me to rest

Thesaurus

checker: (*n*) checkers, examiner, counter, superintendent, supervisor, inspector, overseer; (*adj*) variegate; (*v*) chequer, vary, diversify.

cooly: (*adv*) calmly, soberly, coldly, composedly, coolly, collectedly.

cunningly: (*adv*) craftily, artfully, cleverly, ingeniously, trickily, shrewdly, astutely, insidiously, smartly, foxily, slipperily.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) ineptly, openly.

long-winded: (*adj*) interminable,

wordy, garrulous, loquacious, redundant, talkative, verbose, diffuse, long, ponderous, gabby.

milkweed: (*n*) chiggerflower, *Sonchus oleraceus*, *Asclepias*, blood flower, butterfly weed, genus *Asclepias*, horsetail milkweed, milk thistle, swallowwort.

miscalculated: (*adj*) wrong.

paddle: (*n*) blade, vane, oar, rowing; (*v*) dabble, dodder, row, pull, spank, toddle, totter.

paddling: (*n*) defeat, boating.

reconnoitre: (*v*) explore, scout, reconnaissance, investigate, examine, inspect, probe, survey, observe, make a reconnaissance.

ungainly: (*adj*) clumsy, gawky, unwieldy, inelegant, inept, maladroit, uncouth, graceless, stiff, wooden, unmanageable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) graceful, manageable, adroit, fitting, elegant.

yours: (*adj*) own.

on my oars and wait his reappearing as to endeavor to calculate where he would rise; for again and again, when I was straining my eyes over the surface one way, I would suddenly be startled by his **unearthly** laugh behind me. But why, after displaying so much cunning, did he invariably betray himself the moment he came up by that loud laugh? Did not his white breast enough betray him? He was indeed a silly loon, I thought. I could commonly hear the splash of the water when he came up, and so also detected him. But after an hour he seemed as fresh as ever, dived as willingly, and swam yet farther than at first. It was surprising to see how **serenely** he sailed off with **unruffled** breast when he came to the surface, doing all the work with his webbed feet beneath. His usual note was this **demoniac** laughter, yet somewhat like that of a water-fowl; but occasionally, when he had balked me most successfully and come up a long way off, he uttered a long-drawn unearthly howl, probably more like that of a wolf than any bird; as when a beast puts his muzzle to the ground and deliberately howls. This was his looning -- perhaps the wildest sound that is ever heard here, making the woods ring far and wide. I concluded that he laughed in **derision** of my efforts, confident of his own resources. Though the sky was by this time overcast, the pond was so smooth that I could see where he broke the surface when I did not hear him. His white breast, the stillness of the air, and the smoothness of the water were all against him. At length having come up fifty rods off, he uttered one of those prolonged howls, as if calling on the god of loons to aid him, and immediately there came a wind from the east and rippled the surface, and filled the whole air with misty rain, and I was impressed as if it were the prayer of the loon answered, and his god was angry with me; and so I left him disappearing far away on the tumultuous surface.

For hours, in fall days, I watched the ducks cunningly tack and **veer** and hold the middle of the pond, far from the sportsman; tricks which they will have less need to practise in Louisiana bayous. When compelled to rise they would sometimes circle round and round and over the pond at a considerable height, from which they could easily see to other ponds and the river, like black motes in the sky; and, when I thought they had gone off thither long since, they would settle down by a **slanting** flight of a quarter of a mile on to a distant part which

Thesaurus

demoniac: (*adj*) diabolic, devilish, possessed, demoniacal, amuck, amok, berserk, violent; (*n*) fiend, monster, ogre.
derision: (*n*) contempt, mockery, scorn, banter, jeering, disdain, scoff, insult, irony, sport, gibe.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) applause, esteem, admiration, praise, approval.
serenely: (*adv*) calmly, composedly, quietly, placidly, stilly, steadily, impassively, peacefully, Pacifically,

clearly, coolly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) nervously, agitatedly, boisterously, manically.
slanting: (*adj*) oblique, sloping, diagonal, askew, slanted, aslant, aslope, awry, leaning, sloped; (*adj, adv*) sideways. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) upright, direct.
unearthly: (*adj*) weird, ghostly, uncanny, ethereal, unworldly, preternatural, spectral, eerie, spiritual, strange, heavenly.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) natural, physical, acceptable, normal, human.
unruffled: (*adj*) still, tranquil, composed, quiet, serene, cool, peaceful, placid, collected, sedate; (*adj, v*) undisturbed. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) agitated, bothered, disturbed, excitable, excited, fiery, frivolous, perturbed, scatterbrained, anxious.
veer: (*v*) swerve, shift, deviate, curve, change, trend, sheer, slew, slide, bend, deflect.

was **left** free; but what **beside safety** they got by **sailing** in the **middle** of Walden I do not know, **unless** they love its water for the same **reason** that I do.

Thesaurus

beside: (*adv*) on, abreast, aside, closely, nearly; (*prep*) about; (*adv, prep*) besides; (*adj*) adjacent; (*n*) while, at; (*adj, prep*) near.

left: (*adj*) gone, absent, port, odd, remaining, larboard, gauche, sinister; (*n*) left hand, left wing, mitt.
ANTONYMS: (*adj, adv, n*) right; (*adj*) remaining, center, starboard, present.

middle: (*n*) heart, hub, core, center; (*adj, n*) mean, median, mid; (*adj*) intermediate, halfway, mediate,

central. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) extreme, outer, late, early; (*adj, n*) outside; (*n*) extremity, perimeter, beginning, end, circumference, surface.

reason: (*n*) account, intellect, occasion, object, understanding, argument, purpose; (*n, v*) cause; (*v*) argue, debate; (*adj, n*) rationality.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) inconsistency, disincentive.

safety: (*n*) guard, security, refuge, safe, bingle, base hit, sanctuary, asylum,

preservation, cover, shelter.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) danger, hazard, instability.

sailing: (*adj*) nautical, at sea; (*adj, n*) seafaring; (*n*) departure, glide, gliding, boating, cruise, soaring, going, leaving.

unless: (*adv*) but, if, yet, besides, except with, further; (*adv, conj*) save; (*conj*) without, if not; (*n*) provisionally; (*adj*) not necessary.

HOUSE - WARMING

In October I went a-graping to the river meadows, and loaded myself with clusters more precious for their beauty and fragrance than for food. There, too, I admired, though I did not gather, the cranberries, small **waxen gems**, pendants of the meadow grass, **pearly** and red, which the farmer plucks with an ugly **rake**, leaving the smooth meadow in a **snarl**, heedlessly measuring them by the bushel and the dollar only, and sells the **spoils** of the meads to Boston and New York; destined to be jammed, to satisfy the tastes of lovers of Nature there. So butchers rake the tongues of bison out of the prairie grass, regardless of the torn and **drooping** plant. The barberry's brilliant fruit was likewise food for my eyes merely; but I collected a small store of wild apples for **coddling**, which the proprietor and travellers had **overlooked**. When chestnuts were ripe I laid up half a bushel for winter. It was very exciting at that season to **roam** the then boundless chestnut woods of Lincoln -- they now sleep their long sleep under the railroad -- with a bag on my shoulder, and a stick to open burs with in my hand, for I did not always wait for the frost, amid the rustling of leaves and the loud reproofs of the red squirrels and the jays, whose half-consumed nuts I sometimes stole, for the burs which they had selected were sure to contain sound ones. Occasionally I climbed and shook the trees. They grew also behind my house, and one large tree, which almost overshadowed it, was, when in flower, a bouquet which **scented** the whole neighborhood, but the squirrels and the jays

Thesaurus

coddling: (*n*) indulgence.

drooping: (*adj*) flabby, pendulous, limp, flaccid, cernuous, flagging, languid, floppy, lax, tired; (*n*) droop. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) taut, firm.

gems: (*n*) jewels, Gemes, jewellery, trinkets, ornaments, charms.

overlooked: (*adj*) ignored, neglected, unobserved, unnoted, unmarked.

pearly: (*adj*) fair, iridescent, leaden, livid, drab, milky, dingy, dun, creamy, roan; (*n*) chopper.

rake: (*n, v*) tilt; (*adj, v*) comb; (*v*) hoe, harrow, graze, draw, plow; (*n*) debauchee, roue, slant, blood. ANTONYMS: (*v*) glance.

roam: (*adj, v*) stray; (*v*) wander, gallivant, meander, range, gad, walk, drift, tramp, journey, stroll. ANTONYMS: (*v*) rush, settle.

scented: (*adj*) fragrant, perfumed, aromatic, balmy, sweet, redolent, odoriferous, spicy, savory, smelling, angelical. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

scentless, smelly.

snarl: (*n, v*) tangle, growl, knot, muddle, yap, howl, bark; (*adj, v*) snap; (*v*) entangle; (*n*) kink, maze. ANTONYMS: (*v*) facilitate, undo.

spoils: (*n*) prize, stolen goods, booty, plunder, haul, swag, pickings, trophy, boodle, prize money, treasure.

waxen: (*adj*) pale, waxy, white, colorless, wan, ashen, yielding, soft, gray, drawn, cereous.

got most of its fruit; the last coming in flocks early in the morning and picking the nuts out of the burs before they fell, I **relinquished** these trees to them and visited the more distant woods composed wholly of chestnut. These nuts, as far as they went, were a good substitute for bread. Many other substitutes might, perhaps, be found. Digging one day for fishworms, I discovered the ground-nut (*Apios tuberosa*) on its string, the potato of the aborigines, a sort of fabulous fruit, which I had begun to doubt if I had ever dug and eaten in childhood, as I had told, and had not dreamed it. I had often since seen its crumpled red velvety blossom supported by the stems of other plants without knowing it to be the same. Cultivation has well-nigh **exterminated** it. It has a **sweetish** taste, much like that of a frost-bitten potato, and I found it better boiled than **roasted**. This tuber seemed like a faint promise of Nature to rear her own children and feed them simply here at some future period. In these days of **fatted cattle** and waving grain-fields this humble root, which was once the **totem** of an Indian tribe, is quite forgotten, or known only by its **flowering** vine; but let wild Nature reign here once more, and the tender and luxurious English grains will probably disappear before a myriad of foes, and without the care of man the crow may carry back even the last seed of corn to the great cornfield of the Indian's God in the southwest, whence he is said to have brought it; but the now almost exterminated ground-nut will perhaps revive and flourish in **spite** of frosts and wildness, prove itself indigenous, and resume its ancient importance and dignity as the diet of the hunter tribe. Some Indian Ceres or Minerva must have been the inventor and **bestower** of it; and when the reign of poetry commences here, its leaves and string of nuts may be represented on our works of art.

Already, by the first of September, I had seen two or three small maples turned scarlet across the pond, beneath where the white stems of three aspens diverged, at the point of a **promontory**, next the water. Ah, many a tale their color told! And gradually from week to week the character of each tree came out, and it admired itself reflected in the smooth mirror of the lake. Each morning the manager of this gallery substituted some new picture, distinguished by more brilliant or harmonious **coloring**, for the old upon the walls.

Thesaurus

bestower: (*n*) donor, disposer.

cattle: (*n*) stock, cows, neat, bull, beef, bovine, livestock, ox, kine, cow, oxen.

coloring: (*n*) color, paint, coloration, tint, colouring, dye, complexion, pigment, colour, dyeing, colouration.

exterminated: (*adj*) broken, extinct, destroyed completely, lost, wiped out, annihilated.

fatted: (*adj*) stalled.

flowering: (*adj*) blooming, abloom, efflorescent, flourishing; (*n*) bloom,

blossom, flower, anthesis, inflorescence, efflorescence, florescence.

promontory: (*n*) cape, headland, mull, point, ness, head, bluff, foreland, projection, peninsula, cliff.

relinquished: (*adj*) forsaken, deserted, derelict, unoccupied, given, surrendered.

roasted: (*adj*) fried, baked.

spite: (*n*) malice, grudge, hatred, malevolence, rancour, venom, rancor,

maliciousness, ill will, animosity; (*n, v*) pique. ANTONYMS: (*v*) please; (*n*) benevolence, goodwill, love, affection, harmony.

sweetish: (*adj*) somewhat sweet.

totem: (*n*) clan, God, kin, kin group, kindred, kinship group, column, emblem.

tuber: (*n*) Olfactory tuber, groundnut, root, corm, tuberosity, tubercle, rhizome, sweet potato, stem, root tuber, genus tuber.

The **wasps** came by thousands to my lodge in October, as to winter quarters, and settled on my windows within and on the walls overhead, sometimes **detering** visitors from entering. Each morning, when they were **numbed** with cold, I swept some of them out, but I did not trouble myself much to get rid of them; I even felt complimented by their regarding my house as a desirable shelter. They never molested me seriously, though they **bedded** with me; and they gradually disappeared, into what crevices I do not know, avoiding winter and **unspeakable** cold.

Like the wasps, before I finally went into winter quarters in November, I used to resort to the northeast side of Walden, which the sun, reflected from the pitch pine woods and the stony shore, made the fireside of the pond; it is so much pleasanter and wholesomer to be warmed by the sun while you can be, than by an artificial fire. I thus warmed myself by the still glowing **embers** which the summer, like a departed hunter, had left.

When I came to build my chimney I studied masonry. My bricks, being second-hand ones, required to be cleaned with a **trowel**, so that I learned more than usual of the qualities of bricks and trowels. The mortar on them was fifty years old, and was said to be still growing harder; but this is one of those sayings which men love to repeat whether they are true or not. Such sayings themselves grow harder and adhere more firmly with age, and it would take many blows with a trowel to clean an old **wisacre** of them. Many of the villages of Mesopotamia are built of second-hand bricks of a very good quality, obtained from the ruins of Babylon, and the cement on them is older and probably harder still. However that may be, I was struck by the peculiar **toughness** of the steel which bore so many violent blows without being worn out. As my bricks had been in a chimney before, though I did not read the name of Nebuchadnezzar on them, I picked out its many fireplace bricks as I could find, to save work and waste, and I filled the **spaces** between the bricks about the fireplace with stones from the pond shore, and also made my mortar with the white sand from the same place. I lingered most about the fireplace, as the most vital part of the

Thesaurus

bedded: (*adj*) lay, laminal, laminar, layered, foliate, foliated.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unstratified, bedless.

detering: (*adj*) discouraging.

embers: (*v*) cinder, ash, scoriae; (*n*) fire, ashes.

numbed: (*adj*) deadened, benumbed, stupefied, insensate, stiff, made torpid, insensitive, dulled, dead, blunted, cold.

spaces: (*n*) seats, seating.

toughness: (*n*) hardness, firmness, stamina, ruggedness, difficulty, durability, sturdiness, stoutness, robustness, endurance; (*n, v*) tenacity.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) ease, flimsiness, weakness, defeatism, flexibility.

trowel: (*n*) spatula, watch glass, dipper, transplanter, thimble, tablespoon, pointing trowel, plastering trowel, brick trowel, garden trowel; (*v*) delve.

unspeakable: (*adj*) ineffable, dreadful,

awful, terrible, inexpressible, nasty, horrible, atrocious, indefinable, shocking; (*adj, v*) unutterable.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) nice, wonderful, pleasant, good, lovely, bearable.

wasps: (*n*) hymenoptera, gall wasps, sawflies, order hymenoptera, etc, ants, ichneumons.

wisacre: (*n*) witling, fool, tomfool, idiot, weisenheimer, smart aleck, upstart, whippersnapper, wisenheimer, wisingel, simpleton.

house. Indeed, I worked so deliberately, that though I commenced at the ground in the morning, a course of bricks raised a few inches above the floor served for my pillow at night; yet I did not get a stiff neck for it that I remember; my stiff neck is of older date. I took a poet to board for a fortnight about those times, which caused me to be put to it for room. He brought his own knife, though I had two, and we used to scour them by **thrusting** them into the earth. He shared with me the labors of cooking. I was pleased to see my work rising so square and solid by degrees, and reflected, that, if it **proceeded** slowly, it was calculated to endure a long time. The chimney is to some extent an independent structure, standing on the ground, and rising through the house to the heavens; even after the house is burned it still stands sometimes, and its importance and independence are apparent. This was toward the end of summer. It was now November.

The north wind had already begun to cool the pond, though it took many weeks of steady blowing to **accomplish** it, it is so deep. When I began to have a fire at evening, before I plastered my house, the chimney carried smoke particularly well, because of the numerous chinks between the boards. Yet I passed some cheerful evenings in that cool and **airy** apartment, surrounded by the rough brown boards full of knots, and rafters with the **bark** on high overhead. My house never pleased my eye so much after it was plastered, though I was obliged to confess that it was more comfortable. Should not every apartment in which man dwells be lofty enough to create some **obscurity** overhead, where **flickering** shadows may play at evening about the rafters? These forms are more agreeable to the fancy and imagination than **fresco** paintings or other the most expensive furniture. I now first began to inhabit my house, I may say, when I began to use it for warmth as well as shelter. I had got a couple of old fire-dogs to keep the wood from the **hearth**, and it did me good to see the soot form on the back of the chimney which I had built, and I poked the fire with more right and more satisfaction than usual. My dwelling was small, and I could hardly entertain an echo in it; but it seemed larger for being a single

Thesaurus

accomplish: (*v*) perform, reach, do, compass, perfect, attain, make, fulfill, realize, execute, carry out.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) abandon, neglect, choke, blow, lose.

airy: (*adj*) light, windy, aery, aerial, ethereal, insubstantial, sprightly, perky, volatile, aeriform, aired.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) airless, hot, massive, wooden, weighty, substantial, stifling, sluggish, ponderous, musty, lumbering.

bark: (*n, v*) skin, yelp, snarl, cry, rind, shout; (*v*) growl, roar; (*n*) bay, peel, crust. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) whisper.

flickering: (*adj*) sparkling, afflicker, desultory, capricious, glistening, shimmering, glittering; (*n*) twinkling, flicker, fluttering; (*adv*) flickeringly.

fresco: (*n*) mural, wall painting, painting; (*v*) distemper, water glass, tempera, paint, gouache, color; (*adj*) frigidity, inclemency.

hearth: (*n*) fire, oven, fireside, stove,

chimney, focus, furnace, dwelling, kiln, home, abode.

obscurity: (*n*) gloom, darkness, shade, dimness, obscureness, night, oblivion, haze, ambiguity, shadow, cloudiness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) clarity, fame, light, simplicity, prominence, celebrity, brightness.

proceeded: (*v*) proceed, yode.

thrusting: (*n*) thrust, push, jab, poke, jabbing, stab, driving force, scoke, sack, punch, *Phytolacca Americana*.

apartment and remote from neighbors. All the attractions of a house were concentrated in one room; it was kitchen, chamber, parlor, and keeping-room; and whatever satisfaction parent or child, master or servant, derive from living in a house, I enjoyed it all. Cato says, the master of a family (*patremfamilias*) must have in his rustic villa "cellam oleariam, vinariam, dolia multa, uti lubeat caritatem expectare, et rei, et virtuti, et gloriae erit," that is, "an oil and wine cellar, many casks, so that it may be pleasant to expect hard times; it will be for his advantage, and virtue, and glory." I had in my cellar a **firkin** of potatoes, about two quarts of peas with the **weevil** in them, and on my shelf a little rice, a jug of molasses, and of rye and Indian meal a peck each.

I sometimes dream of a larger and more **populous** house, standing in a golden age, of enduring materials, and without **gingerbread** work, which shall still consist of only one room, a vast, rude, substantial, primitive hall, without ceiling or plastering, with bare rafters and purlins supporting a sort of lower heaven over one's head -- useful to keep off rain and snow, where the king and queen posts stand out to receive your homage, when you have done reverence to the prostrate Saturn of an older dynasty on **stepping** over the sill; a **cavernous** house, **wherein** you must reach up a torch upon a pole to see the roof; where some may live in the fireplace, some in the recess of a window, and some on settles, some at one end of the hall, some at another, and some aloft on rafters with the spiders, if they choose; a house which you have got into when you have opened the outside door, and the ceremony is over; where the weary traveller may wash, and eat, and converse, and sleep, without further journey; such a shelter as you would be glad to reach in a tempestuous night, containing all the essentials of a house, and nothing for house-keeping; where you can see all the treasures of the house at one view, and everything hangs upon its peg, that a man should use; at once kitchen, **pantry**, parlor, chamber, **storehouse**, and garret; where you can see so necessary a thing, as a barrel or a ladder, so convenient a thing as a cupboard, and hear the pot boil, and pay your respects to the fire that cooks your dinner, and the oven that bakes your bread, and the necessary furniture and utensils are the chief ornaments; where the washing is not put out, nor the fire, nor the mistress, and perhaps you are sometimes

Thesaurus

cavernous: (*adj*) profound, concave, echoing, resonant, sepulchral, yawning, huge, deep, depressed, sunken, vast. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cramped, claustrophobic, convex, crowded, shallow, small, tiny, confined, narrow.

firkin: (*n*) barrel, keg, tub, kit, caldron, cag, vat, container, butt, drum, rundlet.

gingerbread: (*adj*) bedizened, extra, fancy; (*v*) flimsy, unsubstantial,

insubstantial; (*n*) ornament, trim, embellishment, frill, garnish.

pantry: (*n*) buttery, store, basement, kitchen, stowage, scullery, store cupboard, covey, storeroom, stomach, stillroom.

populous: (*adj*) multitudinous, crowded, densely populated, multiple, thick, inhabited, numerous, manifold, multiplied; (*adj, v*) teeming; (*v*) closely packed. ANTONYM: (*adj*) uninhabited.

stepping: (*n*) steps.

storehouse: (*adj, n, v*) magazine; (*n*) granary, depot, barn, depository, arsenal, repertory, treasury, storage, entrepot; (*adj, n*) repository.

weevil: (*n*) seed weevil, seed beetle, beetle, black weevil, boll weevil, boud, darkling beetle, darkling ground beetle, tenebrionid, rice weevil, snout beetle.

wherein: (*adv*) in what, in which, where.

requested to move from off the trap-door, when the cook would descend into the cellar, and so learn whether the ground is solid or hollow beneath you without **stamping**. A house whose inside is as open and manifest as a bird's nest, and you cannot go in at the front door and out at the back without seeing some of its inhabitants; where to be a guest is to be presented with the freedom of the house, and not to be carefully excluded from seven eighths of it, shut up in a particular cell, and told to make yourself at home there -- in solitary **confinement**. Nowadays the host does not admit you to his hearth, but has got the mason to build one for yourself somewhere in his **alley**, and hospitality is the art of keeping you at the greatest distance. There is as much secrecy about the cooking as if he had a design to poison you. I am aware that I have been on many a man's premises, and might have been legally ordered off, but I am not aware that I have been in many men's houses. I might visit in my old clothes a king and queen who lived simply in such a house as I have described, if I were going their way; but backing out of a modern palace will be all that I shall desire to learn, if ever I am caught in one.

It would seem as if the very language of our **parlors** would lose all its nerve and degenerate into **palaver** wholly, our lives pass at such remoteness from its symbols, and its **metaphors** and **tropes** are necessarily so far fetched, through slides and dumb-waiters, as it were; in other words, the parlor is so far from the kitchen and workshop. The dinner even is only the **parable** of a dinner, commonly. As if only the savage dwelt near enough to Nature and Truth to borrow a trope from them. How can the scholar, who dwells away in the North West Territory or the Isle of Man, tell what is parliamentary in the kitchen?

However, only one or two of my guests were ever bold enough to stay and eat a **hasty**-pudding with me; but when they saw that crisis approaching they beat a hasty retreat rather, as if it would shake the house to its foundations. Nevertheless, it stood through a great many hasty-puddings.

I did not plaster till it was freezing weather. I brought over some whiter and cleaner sand for this purpose from the opposite shore of the pond in a boat, a sort of **conveyance** which would have tempted me to go much farther if necessary.

Thesaurus

alley: (*n*) track, road, passage, lane, alleyway, aisle, path, runway, pathway, street, back street.

confinement: (*n, v*) childbirth, delivery; (*n*) detention, custody, restraint, internment, prison, labor, containment, incarceration, arrest. ANTONYMS: (*n*) release, death, liberation.

conveyance: (*n*) transfer, vehicle, assignment, alienation, transference, delivery, transportation, negotiation,

portage; (*n, v*) carriage, ecstasy.

hasty: (*adj*) fast, abrupt, cursory, fleet, sudden, rash, impetuous, careless, speedy, hurried, quick. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) deliberate, considered, leisurely, sensible, gradual, thorough, cautious, careful, roundabout, prudent, patient.

metaphors: (*n*) images, descriptions.

palaver: (*v*) chatter, babble, coax, gabble, clack; (*n, v*) talk; (*n*) gab, negotiation, cajolery, flattery; (*adj, v*)

prate.

parable: (*n*) fable, comparison, tale, proverb, myth, legend, fiction, story; (*adj, n, v*) apologue; (*adj*) simile, metalepsis.

parlors: (*n*) parlour.

stamping: (*n*) impression, blocking, coin, postage, stamping of rail.

trope: (*n*) metaphor, figure of speech, image, hyperbole, personification, shape, simile, synecdoche, irony, kenning, metonymy.

My house had in the meanwhile been shingled down to the ground on every side. In lathing I was pleased to be able to send home each nail with a single blow of the hammer, and it was my ambition to transfer the plaster from the board to the wall neatly and rapidly. I remembered the story of a **conceited** fellow, who, in fine clothes, was wont to lounge about the village once, giving advice to workmen. Venturing one day to substitute deeds for words, he turned up his **cuffs**, seized a plasterer's board, and having loaded his trowel without **mishap**, with a complacent look toward the lathing overhead, made a bold gesture thitherward; and straightway, to his complete discomfiture, received the whole contents in his **ruffled bosom**. I admired anew the economy and convenience of plastering, which so effectually **shuts** out the cold and takes a handsome finish, and I learned the various casualties to which the plasterer is liable. I was surprised to see how thirsty the bricks were which drank up all the moisture in my plaster before I had smoothed it, and how many pailfuls of water it takes to **christen** a new hearth. I had the previous winter made a small quantity of lime by burning the shells of the *Unio fluviatilis*, which our river affords, for the sake of the experiment; so that I knew where my materials came from. I might have got good limestone within a mile or two and burned it myself, if I had cared to do so.

The pond had in the meanwhile skimmed over in the shadiest and shallowest coves, some days or even weeks before the general freezing. The first ice is especially interesting and perfect, being hard, dark, and transparent, and affords the best opportunity that ever offers for examining the bottom where it is shallow; for you can lie at your length on ice only an inch thick, like a skater insect on the surface of the water, and study the bottom at your leisure, only two or three inches distant, like a picture behind a glass, and the water is necessarily always smooth then. There are many furrows in the sand where some creature has travelled about and **doubled** on its tracks; and, for wrecks, it is strewn with the cases of caddis-worms made of minute grains of white **quartz**. Perhaps these have **creased** it, for you find some of their cases in the furrows, though they are

Thesaurus

bosom: (*n*) heart, interior, boob, thorax, chest, bust, tit; (*n, v*) embrace; (*v*) cherish, hug; (*adj*) intimate.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) outside, exteriority.
christen: (*v*) entitle, baptize, dub, name, baptise, designate, style, term, specify, define, denominate.
conceited: (*adj*) arrogant, cocky, vain, boastful, proud, smug, affected, assuming, egotistical, haughty, pompous. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) modest, insecure, meek, selfless,

unassuming.
creased: (*adj*) wrinkled, wrinkly, ruffled, lined, furrowed, corrugated, wizened, bent.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) straight.
cuffs: (*n*) handcuffs, manacles, manacle, handcuff, shackles, fetters, bond, bonds, handlock, chains.
doubled: (*adj*) twofold, multiple, doubles, folded, repeated, dual, bivalent, reduplicate.
mishap: (*n*) adversity, misfortune,

casualty, mischance, misery, calamity, misadventure, disaster, ill, bad luck, catastrophe.
quartz: (*adj*) flint, fossil, crag, marble, pebble; (*n*) quartz glass, citrine, chalcedony, lechatelierite, aventurine, cairngorm.
ruffled: (*adj*) rippled, frilly, frilled, upset, disordered, excited, disconcerted, decorated, tousled, tangled, turbulent.
shuts: (*adj*) closed.

deep and broad for them to make. But the ice itself is the object of most interest, though you must improve the earliest opportunity to study it. If you examine it closely the morning after it freezes, you find that the greater part of the bubbles, which at first appeared to be within it, are against its under surface, and that more are continually rising from the bottom; while the ice is as yet comparatively solid and dark, that is, you see the water through it. These bubbles are from an eightieth to an eighth of an inch in diameter, very clear and beautiful, and you see your face reflected in them through the ice. There may be thirty or forty of them to a square inch. There are also already within the ice narrow **oblong perpendicular** bubbles about half an inch long, sharp cones with the **apex** upward; or oftener, if the ice is quite fresh, minute spherical bubbles one directly above another, like a string of beads. But these within the ice are not so numerous nor obvious as those beneath. I sometimes used to cast on stones to try the strength of the ice, and those which broke through carried in air with them, which formed very large and conspicuous white bubbles beneath. One day when I came to the same place forty-eight hours afterward, I found that those large bubbles were still perfect, though an inch more of ice had formed, as I could see distinctly by the seam in the edge of a cake. But as the last two days had been very warm, like an Indian summer, the ice was not now transparent, showing the dark green color of the water, and the bottom, but **opaque** and **whitish** or gray, and though twice as thick was hardly stronger than before, for the air bubbles had greatly expanded under this heat and run together, and lost their regularity; they were no longer one directly over another, but often like silvery coins **poured** from a bag, one **overlapping** another, or in thin flakes, as if occupying slight cleavages. The beauty of the ice was gone, and it was too late to study the bottom. Being curious to know what position my great bubbles occupied with regard to the new ice, I broke out a cake containing a **middling sized** one, and turned it bottom upward. The new ice had formed around and under the bubble, so that it was included between the two ices. It was wholly in the lower ice, but close against the upper, and was flattish, or perhaps slightly **lenticular**, with a rounded edge, a quarter of an inch deep by four inches in diameter; and I was surprised to find that directly under the bubble the ice was

Thesaurus

apex: (*n*) top, peak, vertex, crown, acme, apices, extremity, height, summit, pinnacle, point.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) base, nadir, trough, bottom, abyss, depth.
lenticular: (*adj, v*) lentiform; (*adj*) biconvex, phacoid, bulging, convex.
middling: (*adj*) indifferent, average, mediocre, medium, intermediate, common, passable, standard; (*adv*) fairly, passably; (*adj, adv*) clean.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) excellent; (*adv*)

unreasonably.
oblong: (*adj*) oval, elliptical, rectangular, rounded; (*v*) longitudinal; (*n*) block, quadrangle.
opaque: (*adj*) dense, muddy, obscure, cloudy, hazy, murky, thick, unintelligible, milky, misty, vague.
 ANTONYM: (*adj*) transparent.
overlapping: (*n*) lapping, imbrication, lap, repetition, duplication, covering, garbling; (*adj*) obvoluted, contorted, convolute, related.

perpendicular: (*adj*) upright, vertical, steep, plumb, straight, right, sheer, orthogonal, normal, precipitous, true.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) horizontal, parallel, inclined, oblique, prone, gentle.
poured: (*adj*) concrete.
sized: (*adj*) pasted.
whitish: (*adj*) pale, milklike, fair, milk, creamy, light, colorless, not clear, achromatic, opaque, blond.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rosy, dark.

melted with great **regularity** in the form of a **saucer** reversed, to the height of five eighths of an inch in the middle, leaving a thin partition there between the water and the bubble, hardly an eighth of an inch thick; and in many places the small bubbles in this partition had burst out downward, and probably there was no ice at all under the largest bubbles, which were a foot in diameter. I inferred that the infinite number of minute bubbles which I had first seen against the under surface of the ice were now frozen in likewise, and that each, in its degree, had **operated** like a burning-glass on the ice beneath to melt and rot it. These are the little air-guns which contribute to make the ice crack and whoop.

At length the winter set in good **earnest**, just as I had finished plastering, and the wind began to **howl** around the house as if it had not had permission to do so till then. Night after night the geese came lumbering in the dark with a clangor and a **whistling** of wings, even after the ground was covered with snow, some to **alight** in Walden, and some flying low over the woods toward Fair Haven, bound for Mexico. Several times, when returning from the village at ten or eleven o'clock at night, I heard the tread of a flock of geese, or else ducks, on the dry leaves in the woods by a pond-hole behind my dwelling, where they had come up to feed, and the faint **honk** or **quack** of their leader as they hurried off. In 1845 Walden froze entirely over for the first time on the night of the 22d of December, Flint's and other shallower ponds and the river having been frozen ten days or more; in '46, the 16th; in '49, about the 31st; and in '50, about the 27th of December; in '52, the 5th of January; in '53, the 31st of December. The snow had already covered the ground since the 25th of November, and surrounded me suddenly with the scenery of winter. I withdrew yet farther into my shell, and endeavored to keep a bright fire both within my house and within my breast. My employment out of doors now was to collect the dead wood in the forest, bringing it in my hands or on my shoulders, or sometimes trailing a dead pine tree under each arm to my shed. An old forest fence which had seen its best days was a great haul for me. I sacrificed it to Vulcan, for it was past serving the god Terminus. How much more interesting an event is that man's supper who has

Thesaurus

alight: (*v*) light, land, perch, dismount, get down, settle, get off, descend; (*adj*) ablaze, burning, blazing.

ANTONYM: (*v*) mount.

earnest: (*adj, v*) devout; (*adj*) eager, solemn, heartfelt, diligent, studious, sincere, intense, ardent, staid; (*n*) guarantee. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) flippant, halfhearted, uncertain, insincere, unimportant, nonchalant, lethargic, apathetic, unenthusiastic, indifferent, frivolous.

honk: (*v*) blare, toot, tootle, hoot, puke, gag, heave, cronk, claxon, blow; (*n, v*) blast.

howl: (*n, v*) cry, roar, scream, bark, shout, yell, bay, yelp; (*v*) bawl, growl, yawl. ANTONYM: (*v*) laugh.

operated: (*adj*) driven.

quack: (*n*) fraud, fake, cheat, mountebank, empiric, physician, doctor, charlatan, medicaster; (*v*) cackle; (*n, v*) cry.

regularity: (*n*) constancy, evenness,

punctuality, orderliness, uniformity, steadiness, method, accuracy, discipline, system, exactness.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) lateness, asymmetry, irregularity, disorder, variability, variety, abnormality.

saucer: (*n*) plate, platter, discus, bowl, pan, dot, calabash, disk, dish antenna, point, porringer.

whistling: (*n*) whistle, sound, tin whistle, music, pennywhistle, sign, signal, signaling.

just been forth in the snow to hunt, nay, you might say, steal, the fuel to cook it with! His bread and meat are sweet. There are enough fagots and waste wood of all kinds in the forests of most of our towns to support many fires, but which at present warm none, and, some think, hinder the growth of the young wood. There was also the driftwood of the pond. In the course of the summer I had discovered a raft of pitch pine logs with the bark on, pinned together by the Irish when the railroad was built. This I hauled up partly on the shore. After soaking two years and then lying high six months it was perfectly sound, though **waterlogged** past drying. I amused myself one winter day with sliding this piecemeal across the pond, nearly half a mile, **skating** behind with one end of a log fifteen feet long on my shoulder, and the other on the ice; or I tied several logs together with a birch **withe**, and then, with a longer birch or alder which had a book at the end, dragged them across. Though completely waterlogged and almost as heavy as lead, they not only burned long, but made a very hot fire; nay, I thought that they burned better for the soaking, as if the pitch, being confined by the water, burned longer, as in a lamp.

Gilpin, in his account of the forest borderers of England, says that "the encroachments of trespassers, and the houses and fences thus raised on the borders of the forest," were "considered as great nuisances by the old forest law, and were severely punished under the name of purprestures, as tending ad terrorem ferarum -- ad nocumentum forestae, etc.," to the frightening of the game and the detriment of the forest. But I was interested in the preservation of the venison and the **vert** more than the hunters or woodchoppers, and as much as though I had been the Lord Warden himself; and if any part was burned, though I burned it myself by accident, I **grieved** with a grief that lasted longer and was more **inconsolable** than that of the proprietors; nay, I grieved when it was cut down by the proprietors themselves. I would that our farmers when they cut down a forest felt some of that awe which the old Romans did when they came to thin, or let in the light to, a **consecrated** grove (*lucum conlucare*), that is, would believe that it is sacred to some god. The Roman made an **expiatory** offering, and prayed, Whatever god or goddess thou art to whom this grove is sacred, be **propitious** to me, my family, and children, etc.

Thesaurus

consecrated: (*adj*) consecrate, blessed, sanctified, hallowed, holy, dedicated, divine, devoted, adopted; (*adj, prep*) set apart; (*prep*) dedicate.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) secular.
expiatory: (*adj*) propitiatory, expiatorious, expiative, piacular, atrociously bad, cleansing, atoning, purgatorian, purgatory, apologetic, criminal.
grieved: (*adj*) sore, sad, sorry, sorrowful, upset, woeful, pained,

affected, brokenhearted.
inconsolable: (*adj*) disconsolate, desolate, forlorn, desperate, despairing, dejected, heartbroken, sad, wretched, comfortless; (*adj, v*) inconsolable. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) hopeful, euphoric, happy.
propitious: (*adj*) fortunate, lucky, good, benign, happy, opportune; (*adj, v*) auspicious; (*adj, n, v*) friendly; (*adj, n*) promising, advantageous, kind. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) unfortunate,

unlucky, unpropitious, inopportune, hopeless.
skating: (*adj*) sliding; (*n*) roller skating, athletics, skateboarding.
vert: (*adj*) green; (*n*) vertical.
waterlogged: (*adj*) sodden, wet, damp, doughy, awash, covered with water, moist; (*v*) tumbledown, shaky, ramshackle, crumbling.
withe: (*n*) twig, withy, osier, sprig, wickerwork, branchlet, band, wicker.

It is remarkable what a value is still put upon wood even in this age and in this new country, a value more permanent and universal than that of gold. After all our discoveries and inventions no man will go by a pile of wood. It is as precious to us as it was to our Saxon and Norman ancestors. If they made their bows of it, we make our gun-stocks of it. Michaux, more than thirty years ago, says that the price of wood for fuel in New York and Philadelphia "nearly **equals**, and sometimes exceeds, that of the best wood in Paris, though this immense capital annually requires more than three hundred thousand cords, and is surrounded to the distance of three hundred miles by cultivated plains." In this town the price of wood rises almost steadily, and the only question is, how much higher it is to be this year than it was the last. Mechanics and **tradesmen** who come in person to the forest on no other errand, are sure to attend the wood auction, and even pay a high price for the privilege of **gleaning** after the woodchopper. It is now many years that men have resorted to the forest for fuel and the materials of the arts: the New Englander and the New Hollander, the Parisian and the Celt, the farmer and Robin Hood, Goody Blake and Harry Gill; in most parts of the world the prince and the peasant, the scholar and the savage, equally require still a few sticks from the forest to warm them and cook their food. Neither could I do without them.

Every man looks at his wood-pile with a kind of affection. I love to have mine before my window, and the more chips the better to remind me of my **pleasing** work. I had an old axe which nobody claimed, with which by spells in winter days, on the sunny side of the house, I played about the stumps which I had got out of my bean-field. As my driver prophesied when I was plowing, they warmed me twice -- once while I was **splitting** them, and again when they were on the fire, so that no fuel could give out more heat. As for the axe, I was advised to get the village **blacksmith** to "jump" it; but I jumped him, and, putting a hickory helve from the woods into it, made it do. If it was dull, it was at least **hung** true.

A few pieces of fat pine were a great treasure. It is interesting to remember how much of this food for fire is still **concealed** in the **bowels** of the earth. In

Thesaurus

blacksmith: (*n*) farrier, horseshoer, forger, locksmith, metalworker, sailmaker, wheelwright, smithy, smith.

bowels: (*n*) gut, compassion, pity, inside, bowel, viscera, innards, belly, guts, insides, intestines.

concealed: (*adj*) covert, clandestine, blind, occult, secret, mysterious, obscure, buried, invisible, secreted, surreptitious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unconcealed, available, overt, open,

divulged, Shown, revealed, disclosed, uncovered, noticeable, mainstream.

equals: (*n*) classmates, colleagues, contemporaries, generation, age group.

gleaning: (*n*) farming, excretion, selection, crop.

hung: (*n*) hanging; (*v*) Heng; (*adj*) fatigued, puzzled, decorated.

pleasing: (*adj, n*) acceptable; (*adj*) amiable, lovable, amusing, attractive,

gratifying, lovely, pleasant, charming, delightful, inviting. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unpleasant, unwelcome, infuriating, disappointing, straight, hurtful, maddening, displeasing, discordant, harsh, frustrating.

splitting: (*adj*) ripping; (*n*) fission, partition, division, schism, crack, breakup, disunion, dissociation, cleavage; (*v*) to split.

tradesmen: (*n*) fellow tradesmen.

previous years I had often gone **prospecting** over some bare hillside, where a pitch pine wood had formerly stood, and got out the fat pine roots. They are almost **indestructible**. Stumps thirty or forty years old, at least, will still be sound at the core, though the **sapwood** has all become vegetable mould, as appears by the **scales** of the thick bark forming a ring level with the earth four or five inches distant from the heart. With axe and **shovel** you explore this mine, and follow the **marrowy** store, yellow as beef **tallow**, or as if you had struck on a vein of gold, deep into the earth. But commonly I kindled my fire with the dry leaves of the forest, which I had stored up in my shed before the snow came. Green hickory finely split makes the woodchopper's kindlings, when he has a camp in the woods. Once in a while I got a little of this. When the villagers were lighting their fires beyond the horizon, I too gave notice to the various wild inhabitants of Walden vale, by a smoky **streamer** from my chimney, that I was awake.--

Light-winged Smoke, Icarian bird,
Melting thy pinions in thy upward flight,
Lark without song, and messenger of dawn,
Circling above the hamlets as thy nest;

Or else, **departing** dream, and **shadowy** form
Of midnight vision, gathering up thy skirts;

By night star-veiling, and by day
Darkening the light and blotting out the sun;
Go thou my **incense** upward from this hearth,
And ask the gods to pardon this clear flame.

Hard green wood just cut, though I used but little of that, answered my purpose better than any other. I sometimes left a good fire when I went to take a walk in a winter afternoon; and when I returned, three or four hours afterward, it

Thesaurus

departing: (*adj, v*) parting; (*adj, n*) leaving, going away; (*adj*) outgoing, outbound, outward, passing, decedent, valedictory, retiring; (*v*) depart. ANTONYM: (*n*) arrival.
incense: (*v*) enrage, anger, provoke, irritate, infuriate, aggravate, rile, cense, inflame; (*n*) fragrance, aroma. ANTONYMS: (*v*) please, pacify.
indestructible: (*adj*) immortal, eternal, everlasting, undestroyable, undying, durable, perdurable, permanent,

indelible, incorruptible, lasting. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fragile, destructible, vulnerable, ephemeral, soft, perishable, temporary.
marrowy: (*adj*) pithy, compact.
prospecting: (*adj*) searching.
sapwood: (*n*) alburnum, wood, sap.
scales: (*adj*) balance, weighbridge; (*n*) steelyard, mill Scales.
shadowy: (*adj*) indistinct, misty, dark, faint, obscure, hazy, gloomy, vague, shady, insubstantial, dusky.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clear, palpable, light, distinct, open.
shovel: (*v*) dig, rake, broom, delve, mop; (*n*) excavator, digger, shovelful, dipper, power shovel, poker.
streamer: (*n*) banner, standard, ensign, pennant, pennon, emblem, pennoncelle, pennoncel, colors, sign, ribbon.
tallow: (*n*) grease, lard, oil, suet, cream, butter, cicatrix, beef tallow, dubbin, animal oil, scar.

would be still alive and glowing. My house was not empty though I was gone. It was as if I had left a cheerful housekeeper behind. It was I and Fire that lived there; and commonly my housekeeper proved **trustworthy**. One day, however, as I was splitting wood, I thought that I would just look in at the window and see if the house was not on fire; it was the only time I remember to have been particularly anxious on this score; so I looked and saw that a spark had caught my bed, and I **went** in and extinguished it when it had burned a place as big as my hand. But my house occupied so sunny and sheltered a position, and its roof was so low, that I could afford to let the fire go out in the middle of almost any winter day.

The **moles** nested in my cellar, **nibbling** every third potato, and making a snug bed even there of some hair left after plastering and of brown paper; for even the wildest animals love comfort and warmth as well as man, and they survive the winter only because they are so careful to secure them. Some of my friends spoke as if I was coming to the woods on purpose to freeze myself. The animal merely makes a bed, which he warms with his body, in a sheltered place; but man, having discovered fire, boxes up some air in a spacious apartment, and warms that, instead of robbing himself, makes that his bed, in which he can move about divested of more **cumbrous** clothing, maintain a kind of summer in the midst of winter, and by means of windows even admit the light, and with a lamp **lengthen** out the day. Thus he goes a step or two beyond instinct, and saves a little time for the fine arts. Though, when I had been exposed to the rudest blasts a long time, my whole body began to grow torpid, when I reached the genial atmosphere of my house I soon recovered my faculties and prolonged my life. But the most luxuriously housed has little to boast of in this respect, nor need we trouble ourselves to **speculate** how the human race may be at last destroyed. It would be easy to cut their **threads** any time with a little **sharper** blast from the north. We go on **dating** from Cold Fridays and Great Snows; but a little colder Friday, or greater snow would put a period to man's existence on the globe.

Thesaurus

cumbrous: (*adj*) unwieldy, weighty, massive, heavy, bulky, awkward, ponderous, clumsy, vexatious, burdensome, inept.

dating: (*n*) invitation.

lengthen: (*adj, v*) elongate; (*v*) enlarge, prolong, draw, draw out, increase, expand, stretch, protract, continue, drag out. ANTONYMS: (*v*) clip, curtail.

moles: (*n*) suborder Lipotyphla, order Insectivora, Talpidae, hedgehogs,

family Talpidae, Lipotyphla.

nibbling: (*n*) rate cutting, feeding, eating.

sharper: (*n, v*) cheat; (*n*) rogue, impostor, swindler, chiseler, deceiver, cheater, welsher, sharpie; (*v*) shark, fraud.

speculate: (*v*) contemplate, deliberate, suppose, imagine, venture, consider, hazard, meditate, muse, reflect, ponder.

threads: (*n*) duds, clothing, apparel,

clothes, wear, vesture, coat, cords, dress, garb, garment.

trustworthy: (*adj*) honest, trusty, dependable, safe, faithful, sound, certain, good, responsible; (*adj, n, v*) credible; (*adj, n*) true. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) suspect, dubious, untrustworthy, undependable, sneaky, doubtful, deceitful, disloyal, disreputable, irresponsible, degenerate.

went: (*v*) walked, proceeded.

The next winter I used a small cooking-stove for economy, since I did not own the forest; but it did not keep fire so well as the open fireplace. Cooking was then, for the most part, no longer a poetic, but merely a **chemic** process. It will soon be forgotten, in these days of stoves, that we used to roast potatoes in the ashes, after the Indian fashion. The stove not only took up room and scented the house, but it concealed the fire, and I felt as if I had lost a companion. You can always see a face in the fire. The **laborer**, looking into it at evening, purifies his thoughts of the dross and **earthiness** which they have accumulated during the day. But I could no longer sit and look into the fire, and the pertinent words of a poet recurred to me with new force.--

"Never, bright flame, may be denied to me
 Thy dear, life **imaging**, close sympathy.
 What but my hopes shot upward **e'er** so bright?
 What but my fortunes sunk so low in night?
 Why art thou banished from our hearth and hall,
 Thou who art welcomed and beloved by all?
 Was thy existence then too fanciful
 For our life's common light, who are so dull?
 Did thy bright **gleam** mysterious converse hold
 With our **congenial** souls? secrets too bold?"

Well, we are safe and strong, for now we sit
 Beside a hearth where no dim shadows **flit**,
 Where nothing cheers nor saddens, but a fire
 Warms feet and hands -- nor does to more aspire;
 By whose compact **utilitarian** heap
 The present may sit down and go to sleep,
 Nor fear the ghosts who from the dim past walked,
 And with us by the unequal light of the old wood fire talked."

Thesaurus

chemic: (*adj*) chemical, hermetical.

congenial: (*adj, v*) concordant, consonant, accordant; (*adj*) compatible, affable, kindred, genial, kind, pleasant, pleasing, delightful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) uncongenial, unfriendly, disagreeable, hostile, incompatible, despicable, abominable, unsavory, reserved.

earthiness: (*n*) offensiveness, uncouthness, vulgarity, terreity, crudity, rudeness, crudeness.

ANTONYM: (*n*) decency.

e'er: (*adv*) ever, forever.

flit: (*n, v*) dart; (*v*) flicker, fly, fleet, flutter, zip, flash, speed, flitter, run; (*adj*) stir.

gleam: (*n, v*) glance, beam, blaze, shine, glimmer, glow, flash, flicker, sparkle, glitter; (*v*) twinkle.

imaging: (*n*) imagery, evocation, imagination, radiology, chimera, dream, dreaming, envisioning, image transfer, imaginativeness, mental

imagery.

laborer: (*n*) hand, labourer, operative, drudge, labor, employee, manual laborer, peon, navy, docker, day laborer.

utilitarian: (*adj*) functional, practical, pragmatic, philanthropic, utile, serviceable, humanitarian, helpful, convenient; (*n*) Benthamite, philanthropist. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) surrender, relinquish, soulful, luxury, decorative, useless.

FORMER INHABITANTS AND WINTER VISITORS

I **weathered** some merry snow-storms, and spent some cheerful winter evenings by my fireside, while the snow whirled wildly without, and even the hooting of the owl was **hushed**. For many weeks I met no one in my walks but those who came occasionally to cut wood and sled it to the village. The elements, however, abetted me in making a path through the deepest snow in the woods, for when I had once gone through the wind blew the oak leaves into my tracks, where they lodged, and by **absorbing** the rays of the sun melted the snow, and so not only made a my bed for my feet, but in the night their dark line was my guide. For human society I was obliged to conjure up the former occupants of these woods. Within the memory of many of my townsmen the road near which my house stands resounded with the laugh and gossip of inhabitants, and the woods which border it were **notched** and **dotted** here and there with their little gardens and dwellings, though it was then much more shut in by the forest than now. In some places, within my own **remembrance**, the pines would **scrape** both sides of a **chaise** at once, and women and children who were compelled to go this way to Lincoln alone and on foot did it with fear, and often ran a good part of the distance. Though mainly but a humble route to neighboring villages, or for the woodman's team, it once amused the traveller more than now by its variety, and lingered longer in his memory. Where now

Thesaurus

absorbing: (*adj*) fascinating, engrossing, charming, enthralling, gripping, captivating, riveting, absorbent, attractive, readable; (*adj, v*) exciting. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dull, irksome, tedious, repellent, uninteresting.
chaise: (*n*) shay, carriage, equipage, rig, coach, daybed, chaise longue, bed, cabriole chair, chair.
dotted: (*adj*) speckled, dappled, specked, spotted, dashed, stippled,

scattered, spotty, dot, mottled, broken.
hushed: (*adj*) calm, silent, still, subdued, placid, muffled, noiseless, soft, soundless, tranquil, gentle. ANTONYM: (*adj*) noisy.
notched: (*adj*) serrated, jaggy, serrate, toothed, erose, rough, uneven, indented, ragged, apprenticed, indentured. ANTONYM: (*adj*) smooth.
remembrance: (*n, v*) recollection,

mind; (*n*) commemoration, memorial, recall, relic, monument, keepsake, reminiscence, recognition; (*adj, n*) memento.
scrape: (*n, v*) scratch, graze, score, mark; (*v*) rub, pare, rake, grate, chafe, abrade; (*n*) abrasion.
weathered: (*adj*) worn, wrinkled, lined, battered, hardened, wrinkly, rugged, tested, windswept, weatherbeaten, weatherworn. ANTONYM: (*adj*) smooth.

firm open fields stretch from the village to the woods, it then ran through a **maple** swamp on a foundation of logs, the **remnants** of which, doubtless, still underlie the present dusty highway, from the Stratton, now the Alms-House Farm, to Brister's Hill.

East of my bean-field, across the road, lived Cato Ingraham, slave of Duncan Ingraham, Esquire, gentleman, of Concord village, who built his slave a house, and gave him permission to live in Walden Woods; -- Cato, not Uticensis, but Concordiensis. Some say that he was a Guinea Negro. There are a few who remember his little patch among the **walnuts**, which he let grow up till he should be old and need them; but a younger and whiter **speculator** got them at last. He too, however, occupies an equally narrow house at present. Cato's half-obliterated cellar-hole still remains, though known to few, being concealed from the traveller by a fringe of pines. It is now filled with the smooth sumach (*Rhus glabra*), and one of the earliest species of goldenrod (*Solidago stricta*) grows there luxuriantly.

Here, by the very corner of my field, still nearer to town, Zilpha, a colored woman, had her little house, where she **spun** linen for the **townsfolk**, making the Walden Woods ring with her **shrill** singing, for she had a loud and notable voice. At length, in the war of 1812, her dwelling was set on fire by English soldiers, prisoners on **parole**, when she was away, and her cat and dog and hens were all burned up together. She led a hard life, and somewhat **inhumane**. One old frequenter of these woods remembers, that as he passed her house one noon he heard her muttering to herself over her gurgling pot -- "Ye are all bones, bones!" I have seen bricks amid the oak copse there.

Down the road, on the right hand, on Brister's Hill, lived Brister Freeman, "a handy Negro," slave of Squire Cummings once -- there where grow still the apple trees which Brister planted and tended; large old trees now, but their fruit still wild and ciderish to my taste. Not long since I read his **epitaph** in the old Lincoln burying-ground, a little on one side, near the unmarked graves of some British **grenadiers** who fell in the retreat from Concord -- where he is **styled** "Scipio Brister" -- Scipio Africanus he had some title to be called -- "a man of

Thesaurus

epitaph: (*n*) memorial, lettering, inscription, commemoration, epitaphic, legend.

grenadiers: (*n*) Macrouridae.

inhumane: (*adj*) brutal, inhuman, ferocious, merciless, barbarous, unkind, truculent, savage, remorseless, pitiless, unmerciful. ANTONYM: (*adj*) caring.

maple: (*n*) box elder, full moon maple, moosewood, hedge maple, great maple, dwarf maple, goosefoot

maple, field maple.

parole: (*n*) countersign, password, word, watchword, pledge, plight, location, oral communication, parlance, prattle; (*v*) free.

remnants: (*n*) leavings, remains, remainder, rest, leftovers, remnant, offal, leftover, vestige, relics, refuse.

shrill: (*adj*) piercing, penetrating, strident, keen, shrewd; (*v*) shriek, screech, scream, yell; (*adj, v*) high, sharp. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) low, quiet,

resonant.

speculator: (*n*) adventurer, profiteer, plunger, investor, scalper, gambler, venturer, speculatist, entrepreneur, facient, financier.

spun: (*adj*) spined; (*v*) rotate, revolve.

styled: (*v*) titled, named, benempt.

townsfolk: (*n*) borough, town, municipality.

walnuts: (*n*) walnut family, family Juglandaceae, hickories, Juglandaceae, pecans.

color," as if he were **discolored**. It also told me, with staring emphasis, when he died; which was but an indirect way of informing me that he ever lived. With him dwelt Fenda, his **hospitable** wife, who told fortunes, yet pleasantly -- large, round, and black, blacker than any of the children of night, such a **dusky** orb as never rose on Concord before or since.

Farther down the hill, on the left, on the old road in the woods, are marks of some homestead of the Stratton family; whose orchard once covered all the slope of Brister's Hill, but was long since **killed** out by pitch pines, excepting a few stumps, whose old roots furnish still the wild stocks of many a **thrifty** village tree.

Nearer yet to town, you come to Breed's location, on the other side of the way, just on the edge of the wood; ground famous for the pranks of a demon not distinctly named in old mythology, who has acted a prominent and astounding part in our New England life, and deserves, as much as any mythological character, to have his biography written one day; who first comes in the guise of a friend or hired man, and then robs and murders the whole family -- New-England Rum. But history must not yet tell the tragedies enacted here; let time intervene in some measure to **assuage** and lend an azure tint to them. Here the most indistinct and dubious tradition says that once a tavern stood; the well the same, which tempered the traveller's beverage and refreshed his steed. Here then men saluted one another, and heard and told the news, and went their ways again.

Breed's hut was standing only a dozen years ago, though it had long been unoccupied. It was about the size of mine. It was set on fire by mischievous boys, one Election night, if I do not mistake. I lived on the edge of the village then, and had just lost myself over Davenant's "Gondibert," that winter that I **labored** with a lethargy -- which, by the way, I never knew whether to regard as a family complaint, having an uncle who goes to sleep shaving himself, and is obliged to **sprout** potatoes in a cellar Sundays, in order to keep awake and keep the Sabbath, or as the consequence of my attempt to read Chalmers' collection of English poetry without skipping. It fairly overcame my Nervii. I had just sunk

Thesaurus

assuage: (*n, v*) alleviate, appease, ease, solace; (*v*) calm, abate, mitigate, relieve, temper, soften; (*adj, v*) pacify. ANTONYMS: (*v*) aggravate, upset, accentuate, exacerbate.

discolored: (*adj*) wan, blond, flecked, flawed, faded, dirty, rusty, dingy, dark, freckled, crusty. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clean, plain, unblemished.

dusky: (*adj*) dark, cloudy, gloomy, black, swarthy, dull, murky, obscure, dingy, sooty, somber. ANTONYMS:

(*adj*) light, bright, sunny, radiant, clear.

hospitable: (*adj*) affable, receptive, gracious, cordial, generous, amiable, convivial, genial, pleasant, warm, to enjoy having guests. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unwelcoming, inhospitable, sinister, hostile.

killed: (*n*) casualty; (*adj*) fallen.

labored: (*adj*) elaborate, strained, laborious, heavy, arduous, hard, artificial, laboured, awkward,

unnatural, studied. ANTONYM: (*adj*) easy.

sprout: (*v*) bud, burgeon, burgeon, germinate, grow, pullulate; (*n, v*) sprit; (*n*) offshoot, germ, scion, acrospire.

thrifty: (*adj*) careful, economical, provident, sparing, prudent, stingy, saving, spare, parsimonious, chary, scotch. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) wasteful, spendthrift, profligate, extravagant, generous.

my head on this when the bells rung fire, and in hot haste the engines rolled that way, led by a straggling troop of men and boys, and I among the foremost, for I had leaped the brook. We thought it was far south over the woods -- we who had run to fires before -- barn, shop, or dwelling-house, or all together. "It's Baker's barn," cried one. "It is the Codman place," **affirmed** another. And then fresh **sparks** went up above the wood, as if the roof fell in, and we all shouted "Concord to the rescue!" Wagons shot past with furious speed and crushing loads, bearing, perchance, among the rest, the agent of the Insurance Company, who was bound to go however far; and ever and **anon** the engine bell tinkled behind, more slow and sure; and **rearmost** of all, as it was afterward whispered, came they who set the fire and gave the alarm. Thus we kept on like true idealists, rejecting the evidence of our senses, until at a turn in the road we heard the **crackling** and actually felt the heat of the fire from over the wall, and realized, alas! that we were there. The very **nearness** of the fire but **cooled** our **ardor**. At first we thought to throw a frog-pond on to it; but concluded to let it burn, it was so far gone and so worthless. So we stood round our engine, jostled one another, expressed our sentiments through speaking-trumpets, or in lower tone referred to the great conflagrations which the world has witnessed, including Bascom's shop, and, between ourselves, we thought that, were we there in season with our "tub," and a full frog-pond by, we could turn that threatened last and universal one into another flood. We finally retreated without doing any mischief -- returned to sleep and "Gondibert." But as for "Gondibert," I would except that passage in the preface about wit being the soul's powder -- "but most of mankind are strangers to wit, as Indians are to powder."

It chanced that I walked that way across the fields the following night, about the same hour, and hearing a low **moaning** at this spot, I drew near in the dark, and discovered the only survivor of the family that I know, the heir of both its virtues and its vices, who alone was interested in this burning, lying on his stomach and looking over the cellar wall at the still **smouldering cinders** beneath, muttering to himself, as is his wont. He had been working far off in the river meadows all day, and had improved the first moments that he could call his own to visit the home of his fathers and his youth. He gazed into the cellar

Thesaurus

affirmed: (*adj*) acknowledged, avowed, guaranteed.

anon: (*adv*) directly, immediately, early, readily, soon, instantly, again, forthwith, promptly, shortly, rath.

ardor: (*adj, n*) eagerness, zeal; (*n*) fervor, fervency, fire, flame, passion, enthusiasm, ardency, heat, avidity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) apathy, coolness, coldness, hatred.

cinders: (*n*) cinder, dust, ash, flue dust, powder, residue, slag; (*adj*)

mother, scoriae, precipitate.

cooled: (*adj*) refrigerated, frozen; (*n*) cooler.

crackling: (*adj, n*) crisp; (*adj*) snapping, crepitant, cheerful, brittle, noisy; (*n*) crepitation, decrepitation, crackleware, crackle China, bohemian crackle.

moaning: (*n, v*) lamentation; (*adj*) groaning, whining, funereal, inarticulate, dirgeful; (*n*) complaining, mourning.

nearness: (*n*) closeness, contiguity, vicinity, familiarity, adjacency, proximity, propinquity, presence, immediacy, neighborhood, nearby. ANTONYMS: (*n*) distance, farness, remoteness.

rearmost: (*adj*) backmost, hindmost, last, final, finishing, hindermost, back, latter, ultimate, extreme, furthest back.

smouldering: (*adj*) live, angry.

sparks: (*n*) fire.

from all sides and points of view by turns, always lying down to it, as if there was some treasure, which he remembered, concealed between the stones, where there was absolutely nothing but a heap of bricks and ashes. The house being gone, he looked at what there was left. He was soothed by the sympathy which my mere presence, implied, and showed me, as well as the darkness permitted, where the well was covered up; which, thank Heaven, could never be burned; and he groped long about the wall to find the well-sweep which his father had cut and mounted, feeling for the iron hook or **staple** by which a burden had been fastened to the heavy end -- all that he could now cling to -- to convince me that it was no common "rider." I felt it, and still remark it almost daily in my walks, for by it hangs the history of a family.

Once more, on the left, where are seen the well and **lilac** bushes by the wall, in the now open field, lived Nutting and Le Grosse. But to return toward Lincoln.

Farther in the woods than any of these, where the road approaches nearest to the pond, Wyman the potter squatted, and furnished his townsmen with **earthenware**, and left descendants to succeed him. Neither were they rich in **worldly** goods, holding the land by **sufferance** while they lived; and there often the sheriff came in vain to collect the taxes, and "attached a chip," for form's sake, as I have read in his **accounts**, there being nothing else that he could lay his hands on. One day in midsummer, when I was hoeing, a man who was carrying a load of pottery to market stopped his horse against my field and inquired concerning Wyman the younger. He had long ago bought a potter's wheel of him, and wished to know what had become of him. I had read of the potter's clay and wheel in Scripture, but it had never occurred to me that the pots we use were not such as had come down unbroken from those days, or grown on trees like gourds somewhere, and I was pleased to hear that so **fictile** an art was ever **practiced** in my neighborhood.

The last inhabitant of these woods before me was an Irishman, Hugh Quoil (if I have spelt his name with coil enough), who occupied Wyman's tenement -- Col. Quoil, he was called. Rumor said that he had been a soldier at Waterloo. If he

Thesaurus

accounts: (*n*) financial statement.

earthenware: (*v*) China, porcelain, pottery, ceramic ware; (*adj*) ceramic; (*n*) ceramics, delft, clay, stoneware, faience, majolica.

fictile: (*adj*) pliable, elastic, ductile, susceptible, bendable, moldable.

lilac: (*adj*) lavender, mauve, purple, violet, puce, chromatic; (*n*) shrub, heliotrope, ash, common lilac, family Oleaceae.

practiced: (*adj*) adept, expert, skillful,

versed, proficient, accomplished, skillful, skilled, trained, practised, able. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

inexperienced, untrained, incompetent, clumsy, unqualified.

staple: (*n, v*) nail, pin, tack; (*n*) raw material, material, stuff; (*adj, n*) basic; (*adj*) fundamental, central, main; (*v*) hook. ANTONYMS: (*v*) undo; (*adj*) minor.

sufferance: (*n*) allowance, patience, permission, forbearance, leave,

toleration, suffering, resignation, acceptance; (*n, v*) tolerance; (*adj, v*) supportance.

worldly: (*adj, adv*) earthly; (*adj*) mundane, secular, terrestrial, temporal, carnal, sophisticated, lay, profane; (*adv*) mundanely, temporally. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) spiritual, naive, cloistered, religious, unsophisticated, unworldly, unrefined, otherworldly, low, heavenly, immaterial.

had lived I should have made him fight his battles over again. His trade here was that of a **ditcher**. Napoleon went to St. Helena; Quoil came to Walden Woods. All I know of him is tragic. He was a man of manners, like one who had seen the world, and was capable of more civil speech than you could well attend to. He wore a greatcoat in midsummer, being affected with the trembling **delirium**, and his face was the color of **carmine**. He died in the road at the foot of Brister's Hill shortly after I came to the woods, so that I have not remembered him as a neighbor. Before his house was pulled down, when his comrades avoided it as "an unlucky castle," I visited it. There lay his old clothes curled up by use, as if they were himself, upon his raised plank bed. His pipe lay broken on the hearth, instead of a bowl broken at the fountain. The last could never have been the symbol of his death, for he **confessed** to me that, though he had heard of Brister's Spring, he had never seen it; and soiled cards, kings of diamonds, spades, and hearts, were scattered over the floor. One black chicken which the administrator could not catch, black as night and as silent, not even **croaking**, awaiting Reynard, still went to roost in the next apartment. In the rear there was the dim outline of a garden, which had been planted but had never received its first hoeing, owing to those terrible shaking fits, though it was now harvest time. It was overrun with Roman wormwood and beggar-ticks, which last stuck to my clothes for all fruit. The skin of a woodchuck was freshly stretched upon the back of the house, a trophy of his last Waterloo; but no warm cap or **mittens** would he want more.

Now only a dent in the earth marks the site of these dwellings, with buried cellar stones, and strawberries, raspberries, thimble-berries, hazel-bushes, and sumachs growing in the sunny sward there; some pitch pine or **gnarled** oak occupies what was the chimney **nook**, and a sweet-scented black birch, perhaps, waves where the door-stone was. Sometimes the well dent is visible, where once a spring oozed; now dry and tearless grass; or it was covered deep -- not to be discovered till some late day -- with a flat stone under the sod, when the last of the race departed. What a **sorrowful** act must that be -- the covering up of wells! **coincident** with the opening of wells of tears. These cellar dents, like deserted fox burrows, old holes, are all that is left where once were the stir and bustle of

Thesaurus

carmine: (*adj, n*) scarlet; (*n*) vermilion, cardinal, carnation, couleur de rose, lake, maroon, pink, redness; (*adj*) crimson; (*v*) redden.
coincident: (*adj*) concurrent, simultaneous, consistent, coincidental, identical, congruent, accordant, concomitant, coexisting, at the same time, corresponding.
 ANTONYM: (*adj*) inconsistent.
confessed: (*adj*) known.
croaking: (*adj*) hollow, raucous,

sepulchral, dry, cacophonous, harsh, guttural, gruff, croaky, cacophonous, husky.
delirium: (*n*) craze, insanity, mania, disturbance, fever, ecstasy, derangement; (*adj, n*) fury; (*adj*) furor, rage, distraction. ANTONYMS: (*n*) indifference, dejection.
ditcher: (*n*) trench excavator, Diker, ditch digger.
gnarled: (*adj*) knotty, knotted, gnarly, asperous, crisp, deformed, crabbed,

roughhewn, wrinkled, unsmooth, unpolished. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) smooth, unknotted, straight.
mittens: (*n*) glove, gloves.
nook: (*n*) angle, niche, recess, hole, coign, bay, compartment, oriel, cove, refuge, haven.
sorrowful: (*adj*) melancholy, doleful, sad, rueful, lugubrious, gloomy, dreary, grievous, piteous, unhappy, mournful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cheerful, content, joyful, successful.

human life, and "fate, free will, **foreknowledge** absolute," in some form and dialect or other were by turns discussed. But all I can learn of their **conclusions** amounts to just this, that "Cato and Brister pulled wool"; which is about as **edifying** as the history of more famous schools of philosophy.

Still grows the vivacious lilac a generation after the door and **lintel** and the sill are gone, unfolding its sweet-scented flowers each spring, to be plucked by the **musings** traveller; planted and tended once by children's hands, in front-yard plots -- now standing by wallsides in retired pastures, and giving place to new-rising forests; -- the last of that stirp, sole survivor of that family. Little did the dusky children think that the puny slip with its two eyes only, which they stuck in the ground in the shadow of the house and daily watered, would root itself so, and outlive them, and house itself in the rear that shaded it, and grown man's garden and orchard, and tell their story faintly to the lone **wanderer** a half-century after they had grown up and died -- **blossoming** as fair, and smelling as sweet, as in that first spring. I mark its still tender, civil, cheerful lilac colors.

But this small village, germ of something more, why did it fail while Concord keeps its ground? Were there no natural advantages -- no water privileges, forsooth? Ay, the deep Walden Pond and cool Brister's Spring -- privilege to drink long and healthy draughts at these, all unimproved by these men but to dilute their glass. They were universally a thirsty race. Might not the basket, stable-broom, mat-making, corn-parching, linen-spinning, and pottery business have thrived here, making the wilderness to blossom like the rose, and a numerous posterity have inherited the land of their fathers? The sterile soil would at least have been proof against a low-land degeneracy. Alas! how little does the memory of these human inhabitants enhance the beauty of the landscape! Again, perhaps, Nature will try, with me for a first settler, and my house raised last spring to be the oldest in the hamlet.

I am not aware that any man has ever built on the spot which I occupy. Deliver me from a city built on the site of a more ancient city, whose materials are ruins, whose gardens cemeteries. The soil is **blanched** and **accursed** there,

Thesaurus

accursed: (*adj*) execrable, abominable, detestable, accurst, hateful, damned, damnable, maledict, blasted; (*v*) atrocious, stranded.

blanched: (*adj*) ashen, colorless, white, bleached, bloodless, benevolent, wan, pale, lightened, fair, faded.

blossoming: (*n*) bloom, florescence, flowering, anthesis, blossom, efflorescence, inflorescence, ontogeny, ontogenesis; (*adj*) budding, growing. ANTONYM: (*adj*) failing.

conclusions: (*n*) data.

edifying: (*adj*) enlightening, didactic, instructive, educational, advantageous, rewarding, benignant, improving, profitable, illuminating, helpful. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unedifying.

foreknowledge: (*n*) precognition, prevision, clairvoyance, vision, prescience, ESP, forecast, sign, prenotation; (*v*) foreknow, presage.

lintel: (*n*) header, rafter, joist, Travis,

mantel, summer, trave, transom, coping, corner stone, cope.

musings: (*adj*) contemplative, meditative, thoughtful, pensive; (*n*) meditation, consideration, reflection, rumination, reverie, thought, cogitation.

wanderer: (*n*) vagabond, roamer, tramp, nomad, drifter, traveler, wayfarer, stranger, hobo, traveller; (*n, v*) rambler.

and before that becomes necessary the earth itself will be destroyed. With such **reminders** I repopled the woods and lulled myself asleep.

At this season I seldom had a visitor. When the snow lay deepest no wanderer ventured near my house for a week or fortnight at a time, but there I lived as snug as a meadow mouse, or as cattle and **poultry** which are said to have survived for a long time buried in drifts, even without food; or like that early settler's family in the town of Sutton, in this State, whose cottage was completely covered by the great snow of 1717 when he was absent, and an Indian found it only by the hole which the chimney's breath made in the drift, and so relieved the family. But no friendly Indian concerned himself about me; nor needed he, for the master of the house was at home. The Great Snow! How cheerful it is to hear of! When the farmers could not get to the woods and swamps with their teams, and were obliged to cut down the shade trees before their houses, and, when the crust was harder, cut off the trees in the swamps, ten feet from the ground, as it appeared the next spring.

In the deepest snows, the path which I used from the highway to my house, about half a mile long, might have been represented by a **meandering** dotted line, with wide intervals between the dots. For a week of even weather I took exactly the same number of steps, and of the same length, coming and going, stepping deliberately and with the precision of a pair of **dividers** in my own deep tracks -- to such routine the winter reduces us -- yet often they were filled with heaven's own blue. But no weather interfered **fatally** with my walks, or rather my going abroad, for I frequently tramped eight or ten miles through the deepest snow to keep an appointment with a **beech** tree, or a yellow **birch**, or an old acquaintance among the pines; when the ice and snow causing their limbs to **droop**, and so **sharpening** their tops, had changed the pines into fir trees; wading to the tops of the highest hills when the snow was nearly two feet deep on a level, and shaking down another snow-storm on my head at every step; or sometimes **creeping** and **floundering** thither on my hands and knees, when the hunters had gone into winter quarters. One afternoon I amused myself by

Thesaurus

beech: (*n*) Black beech, copper beech, tree, common beech, wood, beech tree, beech wood.

birch: (*v*) lash, flog, scourge, wipe, warm, whop; (*adj*) birchen; (*n*) birch tree, stick, white birch, rod.

creeping: (*n*) creep, crawl, locomotion, spreading; (*v*) lenter; (*adj*) reptile, slow, reptant, reptatory, serpiginous, moving.

dividers: (*n*) compass, compasses, pair of compasses.

droop: (*adj, v*) decline; (*v*) dangle, wilt, hang, flag, sink, slump, loll, collapse; (*n, v*) sag, pine. ANTONYMS: (*v*) rise, bloom.

fatally: (*adv*) lethally, fatefully, perniciously, disastrously, destructively, terminally, deadly, pestilently, killingly, calamitously; (*adj, adv*) dangerously.

floundering: (*adj*) awkward, maladroit, purposeless.

meandering: (*adj*) circuitous, indirect,

zigzag, tortuous, winding, serpentine, sinuous, roundabout, snaky, windy; (*v*) twirl.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) straight; (*n*) directness.

poultry: (*n*) chicken, fowl, hen, domestic fowl, bird, Guinea, cochin, dove, fowls, capon, chick.

reminders: (*n*) memoirs.

sharpening: (*n*) grinding, training, filing, dressing, acumination, aggravation; (*adj*) abrasive.

watching a barred owl (*Strix nebulosa*) sitting on one of the lower dead limbs of a white pine, close to the trunk, in broad daylight, I standing within a rod of him. He could hear me when I moved and crouched the snow with my feet, but could not plainly see me. When I made most noise he would stretch out his neck, and erect his neck feathers, and open his eyes wide; but their **lids** soon fell again, and he began to nod. I too felt a **slumberous** influence after watching him half an hour, as he sat thus with his eyes half open, like a cat, winged brother of the cat. There was only a narrow slit left between their lids, by which he preserved a pennisular relation to me; thus, with half-shut eyes, looking out from the land of dreams, and endeavoring to realize me, vague object or mote that interrupted his visions. At length, on some louder noise or my nearer approach, he would grow uneasy and **sluggishly** turn about on his perch, as if impatient at having his dreams disturbed; and when he launched himself off and flapped through the pines, spreading his wings to unexpected breadth, I could not hear the slightest sound from them. Thus, guided amid the pine boughs rather by a delicate sense of their neighborhood than by sight, feeling his twilight way, as it were, with his sensitive pinions, he found a new perch, where he might in peace await the **dawning** of his day.

As I walked over the long causeway made for the railroad through the meadows, I encountered many a **blustering** and **nipping** wind, for nowhere has it freer play; and when the frost had **smitten** me on one cheek, heathen as I was, I turned to it the other also. Nor was it much better by the carriage road from Brister's Hill. For I came to town still, like a friendly Indian, when the contents of the broad open fields were all piled up between the walls of the Walden road, and half an hour sufficed to **obliterate** the **tracks** of the last traveller. And when I returned new drifts would have formed, through which I floundered, where the busy northwest wind had been depositing the **powdery** snow round a sharp angle in the road, and not a rabbit's track, nor even the fine print, the small type, of a meadow mouse was to be seen. Yet I rarely failed to find, even in midwinter, some warm and **springly** swamp where the grass and the skunk-cabbage still put forth with perennial verdure, and some hardier bird occasionally awaited the return of spring.

Thesaurus

blustering: (*adj, v*) stormy; (*adj*) raging, blusterous, blustery, turbulent, loud, vaporing, vociferous, noisy, hectoring; (*adv*) blusteringly.
dawning: (*n*) daybreak, sunrise, start, beginning, aurora, cockcrow, dayspring, morning, birth, first light, break of day. ANTONYM: (*n*) sunset.
lids: (*n*) lid.
nipping: (*adj*) bitter, keen, barbed, frosty, crisp, cutting, inclement, fresh, pinching, snappy, raw.

obliterate: (*v*) annihilate, extinguish, eradicate, expunge, efface, wipe out, kill, destroy, cancel, blot out; (*adj, v*) abolish. ANTONYMS: (*v*) create, build, protect, engrave, insert.
powdery: (*adj*) powdered, fine, sandy, farinaceous, floury, mealy, pulverized, pulverulent, psammous, sabulous, crumbly.
sluggishly: (*adv*) dully, inertly, torpidly, indolently, languidly, lethargically, listlessly, lazily,

dilatorily, slothfully, stagnantly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) brightly, dynamically, nimbly.
slumberous: (*adj*) soporific, somnolent, drowsy, sleepy, lethargic, quiet, somniferous, heavy, soporiferous, sluggish, torpid.
smitten: (*adj, v*) stricken; (*adj*) in love, crazy, enamored, struck, nuts, dotty, besotted, gaga, taken with, affected.
springly: (*adv*) elastically, resiliently.
tracks: (*n*) network.

Sometimes, notwithstanding the snow, when I returned from my walk at evening I crossed the deep tracks of a woodchopper leading from my door, and found his pile of whittlings on the hearth, and my house filled with the odor of his pipe. Or on a Sunday afternoon, if I chanced to be at home, I heard the croning of the snow made by the step of a long-headed farmer, who from far through the woods sought my house, to have a social "crack"; one of the few of his vocation who are "men on their farms"; who donned a **frock** instead of a professor's gown, and is as ready to extract the moral out of church or state as to haul a load of manure from his barn-yard. We talked of rude and simple times, when men sat about large fires in cold, **bracing** weather, with clear heads; and when other dessert failed, we tried our teeth on many a nut which wise squirrels have long since abandoned, for those which have the thickest shells are commonly empty.

The one who came from farthest to my lodge, through deepest snows and most dismal tempests, was a poet. A farmer, a hunter, a soldier, a reporter, even a philosopher, may be **daunted**; but nothing can deter a poet, for he is **actuated** by pure love. Who can predict his comings and goings? His business calls him out at all hours, even when doctors sleep. We made that small house ring with **boisterous mirth** and resound with the murmur of much sober talk, making amends then to Walden vale for the long silences. Broadway was still and deserted in comparison. At suitable intervals there were regular salutes of laughter, which might have been referred indifferently to the last-uttered or the forth-coming jest. We made many a "bran new" theory of life over a thin dish of gruel, which combined the advantages of **conviviality** with the clear-headedness which philosophy requires.

I should not forget that during my last winter at the pond there was another welcome visitor, who at one time came through the village, through snow and rain and darkness, till he saw my lamp through the trees, and shared with me some long winter evenings. One of the last of the philosophers -- Connecticut gave him to the world -- he peddled first her wares, afterwards, as he declares, his brains. These he peddles still, prompting God and **disgracing** man, bearing

Thesaurus

actuated: (*adj*) motivated, actuate.

boisterous: (*adj, n*) rough; (*adj*) furious, loud, noisy, fierce, raucous, wild, rude, vociferous; (*adj, v*)

tempestuous, rampant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) restrained, orderly, calm, dignified, silent, tranquil, gentle, placid.

bracing: (*n*) brace, backing; (*adj*) invigorating, brisk, exhilarating, refreshing, tonic, enlivening, cool, benign, energizing. ANTONYMS:

(*adj*) soporific, tiring, debilitating, draining, exhausting, soothing, warm, balmy, still.

conviviality: (*n*) merrymaking, joviality, geniality, hospitality, festivity, jollification, sociability, revelry, celebration, friendliness, mirth. ANTONYMS: (*n*) hostility, shyness, unfriendliness.

daunted: (*adj*) downcast, dispirited, discouraged, frightened, intimidated, disheartened, dismayed, afraid,

abashed, bashful, discomposed.

disgracing: (*adj*) opprobrious, disgraceful; (*n*) dehonoration.

frock: (*n*) dress, gown, clothing, attire, robe, kirtle, habit, clothes, coat, chemise, caftan.

mirth: (*adj, n*) merriment, jollity; (*n*) amusement, happiness, delight, joy, hilarity, cheerfulness, festivity, gladness, exhilaration. ANTONYMS: (*n*) gloom, sadness, misery.

for fruit his brain only, like the nut its kernel. I think that he must be the man of the most faith of any alive. His words and attitude always suppose a better state of things than other men are acquainted with, and he will be the last man to be disappointed as the ages **revolve**. He has no venture in the present. But though comparatively **disregarded** now, when his day comes, laws **unsuspected** by most will take effect, and masters of families and rulers will come to him for advice.

"How blind that cannot see serenity!"

A true friend of man; almost the only friend of human progress. An Old Mortality, say rather an Immortality, with unwearied patience and faith making plain the image engraven in men's bodies, the God of whom they are but **defaced** and leaning monuments. With his hospitable intellect he embraces children, beggars, insane, and scholars, and entertains the thought of all, adding to it commonly some breadth and elegance. I think that he should keep a **caravansary** on the world's highway, where philosophers of all nations might put up, and on his sign should be printed, "Entertainment for man, but not for his beast. Enter ye that have leisure and a quiet mind, who earnestly seek the right road." He is perhaps the sanest man and has the fewest crotchets of any I chance to know; the same yesterday and tomorrow. Of yore we had sauntered and talked, and effectually put the world behind us; for he was pledged to no institution in it, **freeborn**, ingenuous. Whichever way we turned, it seemed that the heavens and the earth had met together, since he enhanced the beauty of the landscape. A blue-robed man, whose fittest roof is the overarching sky which reflects his serenity. I do not see how he can ever die; Nature cannot spare him.

Having each some shingles of thought well dried, we sat and **whittled** them, trying our knives, and admiring the clear **yellowish** grain of the pumpkin pine. We waded so gently and reverently, or we pulled together so smoothly, that the fishes of thought were not scared from the stream, nor feared any **angler** on the bank, but came and went **grandly**, like the **clouds** which float through the

Thesaurus

angler: (*n*) monkfish, allmouth, plotter, schemer, fisher, fisherman, troller, angler fish, piscator, anglerfish, angelfish.

caravansary: (*n*) caravanserai, caravan inn, hotel, lodge, hospice, dak bungalow, inn, hostelry, hostel, khan, tavern.

clouds: (*n*) exhaust, fumes, gas, smoke, vapors.

defaced: (*adj*) marred.

disregarded: (*adj*) unnoticed,

neglected, unseen, written off, wretched, unvalued, unheeded, overlooked, lost, irrecoverable; (*v*) unregarded.

freeborn: (*adj*) freer, ingenuous, free.

grandly: (*adv*) splendidly, gorgeously, magnificently, regally, majestically, beautifully, stately, grandiosely, illustriously, superbly, greatly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) simply, humbly.

revolve: (*v*) consider, meditate, deliberate, ponder, circle,

contemplate, return, circulate, orbit, rotate; (*n, v*) gyrate.

unsuspected: (*v*) unspied; (*adj*) unimagined, covert, adventitious, unseen, unanticipated.

whittled: (*adj*) maudlin, muddled, muzzy, raddled.

yellowish: (*adj*) sallow, yellowed, flavescent, xanthous, turning yellow, sensationalistic, jaundiced, luteous, chickenhearted, easily frightened, chicken.

western sky, and the mother-o'-pearl flocks which sometimes form and **dissolve** there. There we worked, **revising mythology**, rounding a fable here and there, and building castles in the air for which earth offered no worthy foundation. Great Looker! Great Expecter! to **converse** with whom was a New England Night's Entertainment. Ah! such discourse we had, hermit and philosopher, and the old settler I have spoken of -- we three -- it expanded and **racked** my little house; I should not dare to say how many pounds' weight there was above the atmospheric pressure on every circular inch; it opened its seams so that they had to be calked with much dulness thereafter to stop the consequent **leak**; -- but I had enough of that kind of **oakum** already picked.

There was one other with whom I had "solid seasons," long to be remembered, at his house in the village, and who looked in upon me from time to time; but I had no more for society there.

There too, as everywhere, I sometimes expected the Visitor who never comes. The Vishnu Purana says, "The house-holder is to remain at **eventide** in his courtyard as long as it takes to milk a cow, or longer if he pleases, to await the arrival of a guest." I often performed this duty of hospitality, waited long enough to milk a whole herd of cows, but did not see the man approaching from the town.

Thesaurus

converse: (*n, v*) chat, discourse, argue; (*v*) confer, confabulate, speak; (*n*) conversation, colloquy, contrast; (*adj, n*) opposite; (*adj*) counter.
ANTONYMS: (*adj, n*) equal; (*adj*) similar, complementary; (*n*) similarity.
dissolve: (*v*) break up, disperse, dissipate, evaporate, fuse, melt, disband, fade, vanish, resolve, dispel.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) solidify, appear, harden, thicken, coagulate, congeal,

continue, integrate, materialize, open, start.
eventide: (*n*) eve, dusk, night, twilight, nightfall, eleventh hour, sunset, daytime, daylight, day, curfew.
leak: (*n*) crevice, disclosure, breach, hole, chink; (*v*) leak out, dribble, reveal, disclose, trickle; (*n, v*) release.
ANTONYM: (*v*) flood.
mythology: (*n*) legend, tradition, religion, folklore, cultural anthropology, collection, classical

mythology, assemblage, aggregation, accumulation, lore.
oakum: (*n*) tape, twist, whipcord, wire, yarn, cord, thread, cotton, string, sewing silk, packthread.
racked: (*adj*) assured, confident, miserable.
revising: (*n*) rescript, editing, recasting, redaction, revision, rewriting, correction, rephrasing; (*adj*) revisory.

WINTER ANIMALS

When the ponds were firmly frozen, they afforded not only new and **shorter** routes to many points, but new views from their surfaces of the familiar landscape around them. When I crossed Flint's Pond, after it was covered with snow, though I had often paddled about and skated over it, it was so unexpectedly wide and so strange that I could think of nothing but Baffin's Bay. The Lincoln hills rose up around me at the extremity of a **snowy** plain, in which I did not remember to have stood before; and the fishermen, at an **indeterminable** distance over the ice, moving slowly about with their **wolfish** dogs, passed for sealers, or Esquimaux, or in **misty** weather loomed like fabulous creatures, and I did not know whether they were giants or pygmies. I took this course when I went to lecture in Lincoln in the evening, travelling in no road and passing no house between my own hut and the lecture room. In Goose Pond, which lay in my way, a **colony** of muskrats dwelt, and raised their cabins high above the ice, though none could be seen abroad when I crossed it. Walden, being like the rest usually bare of snow, or with only shallow and interrupted drifts on it, was my yard where I could walk freely when the snow was nearly two feet deep on a level elsewhere and the villagers were confined to their streets. There, far from the village street, and except at very long intervals, from the **jingle** of sleigh-bells, I slid and skated, as in a vast moose-yard well trodden, overhung by oak woods and **solemn** pines bent down with snow or **bristling** with icicles.

Thesaurus

bristling: (*n*) brisling; (*adj*) thorny, muricated, pectinated, studded, thistly, bristled, bushy, teeming, horrid, horrent.

colony: (*n*) settlement, plantation, community, village, dependency, colonies, possession, mandate, protectorate, cluster, group.

indeterminable: (*adj*) insolvable, irresolvable, indefinite, indeterminate, unascertainable, incalculable. ANTONYM: (*adj*)

determinable.

jingle: (*n, v*) ring, chime, ding, clank; (*v*) clang, clink, tinkle, rattle, sound, peal; (*n*) chink. ANTONYM: (*n*) silence.

misty: (*adj*) hazy, foggy, cloudy, brumous, dim, indistinct, nebulous, fuzzy, dark, dull, blurred. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clear, distinct.

shorter: (*adj*) smaller, inferior.

snowy: (*adj*) white, pure, clean, blank, hoary, achromatic, snow-white,

unblemished, wintry, wet, favorite.

solemn: (*adj, n, v*) serious; (*adj, v*) sober, important, sedate, devout, formal, demure; (*adj*) heavy, dignified, sacred; (*adj, n*) earnest.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) frivolous, cheerful, unceremonious, funny, playful, flippant, relaxed.

wolfish: (*adj*) edacious, esurient, voracious, ravening, rapacious, predatory, ferocious, savage, wolflike, greedy; (*n*) lupine.

For sounds in winter nights, and often in winter days, I heard the forlorn but melodious note of a hooting owl indefinitely far; such a sound as the frozen earth would yield if struck with a suitable **plectrum**, the very **lingua** vernacula of Walden Wood, and quite familiar to me at last, though I never saw the bird while it was making it. I seldom opened my door in a winter evening without hearing it; Hoo hoo hoo, hooter, hoo, sounded **sonorously**, and the first three syllables **accented** somewhat like how der do; or sometimes hoo, hoo only. One night in the beginning of winter, before the pond froze over, about nine o'clock, I was startled by the loud honking of a goose, and, stepping to the door, heard the sound of their wings like a tempest in the woods as they flew low over my house. They passed over the pond toward Fair Haven, seemingly deterred from settling by my light, their commodore honking all the while with a regular beat. Suddenly an unmistakable cat-owl from very near me, with the most harsh and tremendous voice I ever heard from any inhabitant of the woods, responded at regular intervals to the goose, as if determined to expose and disgrace this intruder from Hudson's Bay by **exhibiting** a greater compass and volume of voice in a native, and boo-hoo him out of Concord horizon. What do you mean by alarming the citadel at this time of night consecrated to me? Do you think I am ever caught **napping** at such an hour, and that I have not got lungs and a **larynx** as well as yourself? Boo-hoo, boo-hoo, boo-hoo! It was one of the most thrilling discords I ever heard. And yet, if you had a discriminating ear, there were in it the elements of a **concord** such as these plains never saw nor heard.

I also heard the whooping of the ice in the pond, my great bed-fellow in that part of Concord, as if it were restless in its bed and would fain turn over, were troubled with **flatulency** and had dreams; or I was waked by the cracking of the ground by the frost, as if some one had driven a team against my door, and in the morning would find a crack in the earth a quarter of a mile long and a third of an inch wide.

Sometimes I heard the foxes as they ranged over the snow-crust, in moonlight nights, in search of a partridge or other game, barking **raggedly** and **demoniacally** like forest dogs, as if laboring with some anxiety, or seeking

Thesaurus

accented: (*adj*) strong, emphatic, heavy.

concord: (*n*) agreement, accordance, unity, harmony, union, unison, alliance, tune; (*n, v*) concert, peace; (*v*) agree. ANTONYMS: (*n*) discord, conflict, war, disunity, disarray; (*v*) disagree.

demoniacally: (*adv*) demonically, possessedly, brutally, frenetically.

exhibiting: (*n*) advertising; (*adj*) exhibitory, ostensive.

flatulency: (*n*) accelerator, accelerator pedal, gas.

larynx: (*n*) voice box, tonsils, windpipe, spiracle, gullet, gorge, vocal cords, cartilaginous structure.

lingua: (*n*) clapper, glossa, taste bud, natural language, applauder, knife.

napping: (*adj*) asleep, unthinking, unready, snoozing, slumbering, sleeping, off guard, off your guard, off his guard, off her guard, careless. ANTONYM: (*adj*) awake.

plectrum: (*n*) plectron, fescue, picking, choice, cream, malleus, device, filling, option, pickax, pickaxe.

raggedly: (*adv*) shabbily, shaggily, ruggedly, unevenly, roughly, tatteredly, hoarsely, frayedly, dilapidatedly, unemptly, threadbarely.

sonorously: (*adv*) richly, rotundly, loudly, vibrantly, roundly, harmoniously, soundingly, vocally, fully, clearly.

expression, struggling for light and to be dogs outright and run freely in the streets; for if we take the ages into our account, may there not be a civilization going on among brutes as well as men? They seemed to me to be **rudimental**, burrowing men, still standing on their defence, awaiting their transformation. Sometimes one came near to my window, attracted by my light, barked a **vulpine** curse at me, and then retreated.

Usually the red squirrel (*Sciurus Hudsonius*) waked me in the dawn, coursing over the roof and up and down the sides of the house, as if sent out of the woods for this purpose. In the course of the winter I threw out half a bushel of ears of sweet corn, which had not got ripe, on to the snow-crust by my door, and was amused by watching the motions of the various animals which were baited by it. In the twilight and the night the rabbits came regularly and made a hearty meal. All day long the red squirrels came and went, and afforded me much entertainment by their manoeuvres. One would approach at first warily through the shrub oaks, running over the snow-crust by fits and starts like a leaf blown by the wind, now a few paces this way, with wonderful speed and waste of energy, making **inconceivable** haste with his "trotters," as if it were for a **wager**, and now as many paces that way, but never getting on more than half a rod at a time; and then suddenly pausing with a ludicrous expression and a **gratuitous** somerset, as if all the eyes in the universe were eyed on him -- for all the motions of a squirrel, even in the most solitary recesses of the forest, imply spectators as much as those of a dancing girl -- wasting more time in delay and circumspection than would have sufficed to walk the whole distance -- I never saw one walk -- and then suddenly, before you could say Jack Robinson, he would be in the top of a young pitch pine, winding up his clock and **chiding** all imaginary spectators, soliloquizing and talking to all the universe at the same time -- for no reason that I could ever detect, or he himself was aware of, I suspect. At length he would reach the corn, and selecting a suitable ear, **frisk** about in the same uncertain trigonometrical way to the topmost stick of my wood-pile, before my window, where he looked me in the face, and there sit for hours, supplying himself with a new ear from time to time, nibbling at first **voraciously** and throwing the half-naked cobs about; till at length he grew more

Thesaurus

chiding: (*n*) scolding, rebuke, blame, reprehension, rap, censure, upbraiding, wiggling, brawl, admonition; (*adv*) scoldingly.
frisk: (*v*) caper, cavort, frolic, skip, bound, search; (*n, v*) play, romp, leap, Fisk; (*n*) prance.
gratuitous: (*adj*) complimentary, unnecessary, needless, superfluous, for nothing, gratis, unwarranted, costless, free of charge, unfounded; (*adj, v*) voluntary. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

necessary, paid, provoked, justified.
inconceivable: (*adj, v*) unbelievable, hard to believe; (*adj*) impossible, implausible, incomprehensible, unimaginable, unthinkable, improbable, unintelligible, inscrutable, fabulous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) conceivable, believable, likely, understandable, credible.
rudimental: (*adj*) abortive, rudimentary, basal, elementary, neglected, rude, original, obsolete,

obscure, imperfectly developed, institutional.
voraciously: (*adv*) greedily, gluttonously, rapaciously, hungrily, avidly, raveningly, edaciously, graspingly, famishedly, covetously, wolfishly.
vulpine: (*adj*) crafty, vulpecular, subtle, feline, cunning, artful.
wager: (*n, v*) stake, hazard, risk, venture, gamble, chance; (*v*) lay, pledge, pawn, play; (*n*) stakes.

dainty still and played with his food, tasting only the inside of the kernel, and the ear, which was held balanced over the stick by one paw, slipped from his careless grasp and fell to the ground, when he would look over at it with a ludicrous expression of uncertainty, as if suspecting that it had life, with a mind not made up whether to get it again, or a new one, or be off; now thinking of corn, then listening to hear what was in the wind. So the little **impudent** fellow would waste many an ear in a forenoon; till at last, **seizing** some longer and **plumper** one, considerably bigger than himself, and skilfully balancing it, he would set out with it to the woods, like a tiger with a buffalo, by the same zig-zag course and frequent pauses, scratching along with it as if it were too heavy for him and falling all the while, making its fall a diagonal between a perpendicular and horizontal, being determined to put it through at any rate; -- a singularly frivolous and whimsical fellow; -- and so he would get off with it to where he lived, perhaps carry it to the top of a pine tree forty or fifty rods distant, and I would afterwards find the cobs strewn about the woods in various directions.

At length the jays arrive, whose **discordant** screams were heard long before, as they were warily making their approach an eighth of a mile off, and in a stealthy and **sneaking** manner they flit from tree to tree, nearer and nearer, and pick up the kernels which the squirrels have dropped. Then, sitting on a pitch pine bough, they attempt to swallow in their haste a kernel which is too big for their throats and chokes them; and after great labor they **disgorge** it, and spend an hour in the endeavor to crack it by repeated blows with their bills. They were manifestly thieves, and I had not much respect for them; but the squirrels, though at first shy, went to work as if they were taking what was their own.

Meanwhile also came the chickadees in flocks, which, picking up the crumbs the squirrels had dropped, flew to the nearest twig and, placing them under their claws, hammered away at them with their little bills, as if it were an insect in the bark, till they were sufficiently reduced for their slender throats. A little flock of these titmice came daily to pick a dinner out of my woodpile, or the crumbs at my door, with faint flitting lisping notes, like the tinkling of icicles in the grass,

Thesaurus

dainty: (*adj, v*) nice; (*adj, n, v*) delicacy; (*adj*) fastidious, savory, tasteful, squeamish, particular, mincing, refined; (*adj, n*) tidbit; (*n*) luxury.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) coarse, vulgar, rough, inelegant, harsh, gross, awkward, accepting, heavy, careless, thick.

discordant: (*adj*) conflicting, dissonant, jarring, raucous, incompatible, discrepant, inconsistent, disharmonious, harsh, hoarse,

incongruous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) musical, melodic, compatible, pleasant, cooperating, accordant, agreeable, agreeing, soft.

disgorge: (*v*) vomit, throw up, be sick, spill, spew, pour, eject, empty, cast, evacuate, puke. ANTONYM: (*v*) retain.

impudent: (*adj, n*) bold, daring; (*adj*) disrespectful, audacious, impertinent, brassy, barefaced, brazen, insolent, brash, cheeky. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

polite, cowardly.

plumper: (*n*) election, referendum, initiative, vote, suffrage, voice, recall, poll.

seizing: (*v*) seize; (*n*) seizure, clutches, prehension, taking, apprehension, capture, infection; (*adj*) catching, galling, controlling.

sneaking: (*adj*) hangdog, furtive, contemptible, abject, clandestine, confidential, dirty, shabby; (*n*) creeping, crawling; (*adj, n*) sneaky.

or else with **sprightly** day day day, or more rarely, in spring-like days, a wiry **summery** phe-be from the woodside. They were so familiar that at length one alighted on an **armful** of wood which I was carrying in, and pecked at the sticks without fear. I once had a sparrow alight upon my shoulder for a moment while I was hoeing in a village garden, and I felt that I was more distinguished by that circumstance than I should have been by any **epaulet** I could have worn. The squirrels also grew at last to be quite familiar, and occasionally stepped upon my shoe, when that was the nearest way.

When the ground was not yet quite covered, and again near the end of winter, when the snow was melted on my south hillside and about my wood-pile, the partridges came out of the woods morning and evening to feed there. Whichever side you walk in the woods the partridge bursts away on **whirring wings**, **jarring** the snow from the dry leaves and twigs on high, which comes **sifting** down in the **sunbeams** like golden dust, for this brave bird is not to be scared by winter. It is frequently covered up by drifts, and, it is said, "sometimes plunges from on wing into the soft snow, where it remains concealed for a day or two." I used to start them in the open land also, where they had come out of the woods at sunset to "bud" the wild apple trees. They will come regularly every evening to particular trees, where the cunning sportsman lies in wait for them, and the distant orchards next the woods suffer thus not a little. I am glad that the partridge gets fed, at any rate. It is Nature's own bird which lives on buds and diet drink.

In dark winter mornings, or in short winter afternoons, I sometimes heard a pack of hounds threading all the woods with **hounding** cry and **yelp**, unable to resist the instinct of the chase, and the note of the hunting-horn at intervals, proving that man was in the rear. The woods ring again, and yet no fox bursts forth on to the open level of the pond, nor following pack pursuing their Actaeon. And perhaps at evening I see the hunters returning with a single brush trailing from their **sleigh** for a trophy, seeking their inn. They tell me that if the fox would remain in the bosom of the frozen earth he would be safe, or if he would run in a straight line away no foxhound could overtake him; but, having

Thesaurus

armful: (*n*) mouthful, containerful, capful, spoonful.

epaulet: (*n*) cockade, frog, chevron, swab, adornment, shoulder knot, colors, aigulet, service stripe.

hounding: (*n*) maltreatment, hunt, harassment, bullying.

jarring: (*adj, n*) harsh, dissonant, inconsistent; (*adj*) rough, inharmonious, strident, grating, jolting, raucous, cacophonous, bumpy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) soft,

usual.

sifting: (*n*) winnowing, scrutiny, hunt, judgment, winnow, separation; (*v*) sift; (*adj*) inquisitive.

sleigh: (*n, v*) sled; (*n*) sledge, toboggan, bobsleigh, pung, dog sleigh, dogsled, sledgehammer, maul, jumper.

sprightly: (*adj*) spirited, cheerful, alive, blithe, agile, airy, keen; (*adj, v*) nimble, active; (*adj, n*) brisk; (*adj, adv*) jolly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inactive,

slow, clumsy, sluggish.

summery: (*adj*) summer, balmy, estival, aestival, hot, sunny, warm, leafy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) vernal, autumnal.

sunbeams: (*n*) sunshine, light, daylight, rays.

whirring: (*n*) whirr, birr; (*adj*) noisy.

wings: (*n*) insignia, agency.

yelp: (*n, v*) bark, cry, yell, scream, whine, squeal, screech, shriek; (*v*) howl, yip, bellow.

left his pursuers far behind, he **stops** to rest and listen till they come up, and when he runs he circles round to his old haunts, where the **hunters await** him. Sometimes, however, he will run upon a wall many rods, and then leap off far to one side, and he appears to know that water will not retain his scent. A hunter told me that he once saw a fox pursued by hounds burst out on to Walden when the ice was covered with shallow puddles, run part way across, and then return to the same shore. Ere long the hounds arrived, but here they lost the scent. Sometimes a pack hunting by themselves would pass my door, and circle round my house, and yelp and hound without regarding me, as if **afflicted** by a species of **madness**, so that nothing could **divert** them from the pursuit. Thus they circle until they fall upon the recent trail of a fox, for a wise hound will forsake everything else for this. One day a man came to my hut from Lexington to inquire after his hound that made a large track, and had been hunting for a week by himself. But I fear that he was not the wiser for all I told him, for every time I attempted to answer his questions he interrupted me by asking, "What do you do here?" He had lost a dog, but found a man.

One old hunter who has a dry tongue, who used to come to bathe in Walden once every year when the water was warmest, and at such times looked in upon me, told me that many years ago he took his gun one afternoon and went out for a **cruise** in Walden Wood; and as he walked the Wayland road he heard the cry of hounds approaching, and ere long a fox leaped the wall into the road, and as quick as thought leaped the other wall out of the road, and his swift **bullet** had not touched him. Some way behind came an old hound and her three pups in full pursuit, hunting on their own account, and disappeared again in the woods. Late in the afternoon, as he was resting in the thick woods south of Walden, he heard the voice of the hounds far over toward Fair Haven still pursuing the fox; and on they came, their hounding cry which made all the woods ring **sounding** nearer and nearer, now from Well Meadow, now from the Baker Farm. For a long time he stood still and listened to their music, so sweet to a hunter's ear, when suddenly the fox appeared, threading the solemn aisles with an easy coursing pace, whose sound was concealed by a sympathetic rustle of the leaves, swift and still, keeping the round, leaving his pursuers far behind; and, leaping

Thesaurus

afflicted: (*adj*) miserable, distressed, stricken, pitiful, sorrowful, ill, woeful, dejected, sorry; (*v*) afflict, displeased.

await: (*v*) anticipate, abide, bide, tarry, wait, attend, look, hope, approach, loom, come on. ANTONYM: (*v*) doubt.

bullet: (*n*) shot, round, pellet, slug, projectile, missile, stone, carcass, delivery, grenade, sphere.

cruise: (*n, v*) journey; (*n*) voyage, trip,

expedition, jaunt, tour; (*v*) travel, navigate, coast, cross, course.

divert: (*adj, v*) distract; (*v*) entertain, avert, delight, deflect, deviate, beguile, depart, disport, digress, sidetrack. ANTONYMS: (*v*) bore, irritate, maintain, set, upset, stay, displease, sadden.

hunter: (*n*) fowler, huntsman, trapper, Nimrod, seeker, tracker, falconer, hawker, courser, watch, ticker.

madness: (*n*) frenzy, insanity, lunacy,

idiocy, folly, delirium, insaneness; (*adj, n*) furor, rage, desperation, furore. ANTONYMS: (*n*) sense, calmness, order.

sounding: (*n*) investigation, depth, exploration, test; (*adj*) resounding, resonant, looking, audible, sonant, voiceful, hollow.

stops: (*n*) Chicago, Michigan, Newmarket, boodle, halts, stop, stoppages, stopped, stopping, card game, moolah.

upon a rock amid the woods, he sat erect and listening, with his back to the hunter. For a moment compassion **restrained** the latter's arm; but that was a short-lived mood, and as quick as thought can follow thought his piece was levelled, and **whang!** -- the fox, rolling over the rock, lay dead on the ground. The hunter still kept his place and listened to the hounds. Still on they came, and now the near woods resounded through all their aisles with their demoniac cry. At length the old hound burst into view with **muzzle** to the ground, and **snapping** the air as if possessed, and ran directly to the rock; but, **spying** the dead fox, she suddenly ceased her hounding as if struck dumb with amazement, and walked round and round him in silence; and one by one her pups arrived, and, like their mother, were sobered into silence by the mystery. Then the hunter came forward and stood in their midst, and the mystery was solved. They waited in silence while he **skinned** the fox, then followed the brush a while, and at length turned off into the woods again. That evening a Weston **squire** came to the Concord hunter's cottage to inquire for his hounds, and told how for a week they had been hunting on their own account from Weston woods. The Concord hunter told him what he knew and offered him the skin; but the other declined it and departed. He did not find his hounds that night, but the next day learned that they had crossed the river and put up at a farmhouse for the night, whence, having been well fed, they took their departure early in the morning.

The hunter who told me this could remember one Sam Nutting, who used to hunt bears on Fair Haven Ledges, and exchange their skins for rum in Concord village; who told him, even, that he had seen a moose there. Nutting had a famous foxhound named Burgoyne -- he pronounced it Bugine -- which my **informant** used to borrow. In the "Wast Book" of an old trader of this town, who was also a captain, town-clerk, and representative, I find the following entry. Jan. 18th, 1742-3, "John Melven Cr. by 1 Grey Fox 0--2--3"; they are not now found here; and in his **ledger**, Feb, 7th, 1743, Hezekiah Stratton has credit "by 1/2 a Catt skin 0--1--4+"; of course, a wild-cat, for Stratton was a sergeant in the old French war, and would not have got credit for hunting less noble game. Credit is given for **deerskins** also, and they were daily sold. One man still preserves the horns of the last deer that was killed in this vicinity, and another has told me the

Thesaurus

deer: (*n*) caribou, buck, fawn, stag, reynard, brocket, cervid, ruminant, roe, roebuck, hart.
informant: (*n*) betrayer, sneak, informer, squealer, deponent, author, attestant, communicator, fink; (*v*) mouthpiece, teller.
ledger: (*n*) book, account book, daybook, account, book of account, leger, books, calendar, diary, ephemeris, crossbar.
muzzle: (*n*) mouth, gunpoint, nose,

lip, gullet, nozzle, bit; (*v*) muffle, silence, hush, curb.
restrained: (*adj*) reserved, quiet, modest, temperate, discreet, limited, reasonable, subdued, unemotional, reticent, guarded. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unrestrained, open, flashy, immoral, ostentatious, wild, loud, theatrical, outgoing, extravagant, emotional.
skinned: (*adj*) scraped, dertos, frustrated, raw, scratched, sensitive, sore, tender, painful.

snapping: (*adj*) noisy.
spying: (*n*) detection, spotting, espial, catching, discovery, maculation, intelligence activity, signal detection, sensing, contracting, intelligence.
squire: (*n, v*) escort; (*n*) landlord, gallant, attendant, beau, gentleman, esquire, landowner, landholder, armiger; (*v*) attend.
whang: (*n*) blow, knock, rap, belt, bang, smash, bash, negative criticism; (*v*) hit, assail, lash out.

particulars of the hunt in which his uncle was engaged. The hunters were formerly a numerous and merry crew here. I remember well one gaunt Nimrod who would catch up a leaf by the roadside and play a strain on it **wilder** and more melodious, if my memory serves me, than any hunting-horn.

At **midnight**, when there was a moon, I sometimes met with hounds in my path prowling about the woods, which would skulk out of my way, as if afraid, and stand silent amid the bushes till I had passed.

Squirrels and wild mice disputed for my store of nuts. There were scores of pitch pines around my house, from one to four inches in diameter, which had been **gnawed** by mice the previous winter -- a Norwegian winter for them, for the snow lay long and deep, and they were obliged to mix a large proportion of pine bark with their other diet. These trees were alive and apparently flourishing at midsummer, and many of them had grown a foot, though completely girdled; but after another winter such were without exception dead. It is remarkable that a single mouse should thus be allowed a whole pine tree for its dinner, gnawing round instead of up and down it; but perhaps it is necessary in order to thin these trees, which are wont to grow up **densely**.

The **hares** (*Lepus Americanus*) were very familiar. One had her form under my house all winter, separated from me only by the **flooring**, and she startled me each morning by her hasty departure when I began to stir -- **thump**, thump, thump, striking her head against the floor timbers in her hurry. They used to come round my door at dusk to nibble the potato **parings** which I had thrown out, and were so nearly the color of the ground that they could hardly be distinguished when still. Sometimes in the twilight I **alternately** lost and recovered sight of one sitting motionless under my window. When I opened my door in the evening, off they would go with a **squeak** and a bounce. Near at hand they only excited my pity. One evening one sat by my door two paces from me, at first trembling with fear, yet unwilling to move; a poor wee thing, lean and bony, with ragged ears and sharp nose, **scant** tail and slender paws. It looked as if Nature no longer contained the breed of nobler bloods, but stood on her last toes. Its large eyes appeared young and unhealthy, almost **dropsical**. I

Thesaurus

alternately: (*adv*) alternatively, by turns, in turn, secondarily, reciprocally, mutually, off-and-on, rather, anthemwise, secondly; (*adj*, *adv*) on and off.

densely: (*adv*) solidly, heavily, slowly, obtusely, compactly, firmly, dully, dumbly, closely, tightly, stupidly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) loosely, sparsely, brightly.

dropsical: (*adj*) edematous, anasarca, ascitic, inflated; (*v*)

turgid, tumid, plethoric, exaggerated, fat, hypertrophied, overgrown.

flooring: (*n*) floorboard, floors, base, ground, bottom, floored, level, story, carpeting, bell deck, bridge decking.

gnawed: (*v*) gnaw, eroded.

hares: (*n*) Lagomorpha.

midnight: (*n*) dark, noon, hour.

parings: (*n*) residue.

scant: (*adj*) insufficient, scanty, skimpy, poor, few, inadequate, narrow, little; (*adj*, *v*) meager, bare;

(*v*) skimp. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) plentiful, extensive.

squeak: (*n*, *v*) screech, shriek, scream, peep, yell, howl, chirp, cheep; (*v*) creak, squeak, scrape.

thump: (*n*, *v*) thud, bang, bump, knock, hit, strike, cuff, punch, crash, crack; (*v*) pound. ANTONYM: (*v*) tiptoe.

wilder: (*n*) Samuel Wilder, Thornton Niven Wilder, Thornton Wilder, Billy Wilder.

took a step, and lo, away it **scud** with an elastic spring over the snow-crust, **straightening** its body and its limbs into graceful length, and soon put the forest between me and itself -- the wild free venison, **asserting** its vigor and the dignity of Nature. Not without reason was its **slenderness**. Such then was its nature. (Lepus, levipes, light-foot, some think.)

What is a country without rabbits and partridges? They are among the most simple and indigenous animal products; ancient and **venerable** families known to antiquity as to modern times; of the very hue and substance of Nature, nearest allied to leaves and to the ground -- and to one another; it is either winged or it is legged. It is hardly as if you had seen a wild creature when a rabbit or a partridge bursts away, only a natural one, as much to be expected as rustling leaves. The partridge and the rabbit are still sure to thrive, like true natives of the soil, whatever revolutions occur. If the forest is cut off, the **sprouts** and bushes which spring up afford them **concealment**, and they become more numerous than ever. That must be a poor country indeed that does not support a hare. Our woods **teem** with them both, and around every swamp may be seen the partridge or rabbit walk, beset with **twiggy** fences and horse-hair snares, which some cow-boy tends.

Thesaurus

asserting: (*v*) affirm; (*adj*) declaratory, declarative, evidentiary; (*n*) assertion.

concealment: (*n*) suppression, confidentiality, concealing, secrecy, screen, disguise, hiding, privacy, camouflage, blind, covering.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) discovery, disclosure, exposure, expression, openness, uncovering, revelation.

scud: (*v*) race, scoot, rush, rack, dash, run, navigate, flash, flit; (*n*) scudding, shower.

slenderness: (*n*) fineness, thinness, slimness, delicacy, slightness, feebleness, tenuity, smallness, weakness, frailty; (*adj*) exility.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) thickness, obesity, stoutness, roundness, sturdiness, width, coarseness.

sprouts: (*n*) sprouting, Combes.

straightening: (*n*) tapping, straightening of a water course.

teem: (*n, v*) abound; (*v*) flow, pour, pullulate, crowd, fructify, rain cats

and dogs, rain heavily, stream, flower; (*n*) exuberate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) want, need, drizzle, disperse.

twiggy: (*adj*) thin, skinny, tenuous, slender, twigsome, twiglike, thinner, slight, reedy, meager, lanky.

venerable: (*adj*) ancient, reverend, estimable, August, respectable, aged, distinguished, sacred, worthy, of long standing, revered. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unworthy, unimpressive, undignified, disreputable.

THE POND IN WINTER

After a still winter night I **awoke** with the impression that some question had been put to me, which I had been endeavoring in **vain** to answer in my sleep, as what -- how -- when -- where? But there was dawning Nature, in whom all creatures live, looking in at my broad windows with **serene** and satisfied face, and no question on her lips. I awoke to an answered question, to Nature and daylight. The snow lying deep on the earth dotted with young pines, and the very slope of the hill on which my house is placed, seemed to say, Forward! Nature puts no question and answers none which we **mortals** ask. She has long ago taken her resolution. "O Prince, our eyes **contemplate** with admiration and **transmit** to the soul the wonderful and varied spectacle of this universe. The night veils without doubt a part of this glorious creation; but day comes to reveal to us this great work, which extends from earth even into the plains of the ether."

Then to my morning work. First I take an axe and pail and go in search of water, if that be not a dream. After a cold and snowy night it needed a divining-rod to find it. Every winter the liquid and trembling surface of the **pond**, which was so sensitive to every breath, and reflected every light and shadow, becomes solid to the depth of a foot or a foot and a half, so that it will support the heaviest teams, and perchance the snow covers it to an equal depth, and it is not to be distinguished from any level field. Like the **marmots** in the surrounding hills, it

Thesaurus

awoke: (*adj*) awakened.

contemplate: (*v*) meditate, speculate, muse, cogitate, ponder, look, deliberate, reflect, gaze, behold, entertain. ANTONYMS: (*v*) neglect, forget, disregard, ignore, wander, decide.

marmots: (*n*) hamsters, family Sciuridae, etc, agoutis, beavers, chipmunks, suborder Sciuromorpha, Sciuromorpha, Sciuridae, flying squirrels, ground squirrels.

mortals: (*n*) people.

pond: (*n*) lake, mere, pool, plash, loch, fishpond, sea, tank, reservoir, millpond, broad.

serene: (*adj*) peaceful, calm, quiet, placid, composed, impassive, clear, pacific, gentle, cool; (*adj, v*) tranquil. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) agitated, anxious, noisy, nervous, impatient, excitable, scatterbrained, harsh, boisterous, excited, disturbed.

transmit: (*v*) pass, communicate,

convey, send, transfer, carry, broadcast, forward, propagate, pass on, give. ANTONYMS: (*v*) receive, take, get, withhold, keep.

vain: (*adj*) proud, arrogant, conceited, fruitless, idle, empty, abortive, ineffectual, unproductive, narcissistic; (*adj, v*) useless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) shy, successful, possible, persuasive, selfless, fruitful, humble, useful, responsible, worthwhile, effective.

closes its eyelids and becomes **dormant** for three months or more. Standing on the snow-covered plain, as if in a **pasture** amid the hills, I cut my way first through a foot of snow, and then a foot of ice, and open a window under my feet, where, **kneeling** to drink, I look down into the quiet parlor of the fishes, pervaded by a **softened** light as through a window of ground glass, with its bright sanded floor the same as in summer; there a **perennial** waveless serenity reigns as in the **amber twilight** sky, corresponding to the cool and even temperament of the inhabitants. Heaven is under our feet is well as over our heads.

Early in the morning, while all things are crisp with frost, men come with fishing-reels and slender lunch, and let down their fine lines through the snowy field to take pickerel and perch; wild men, who instinctively follow other fashions and trust other authorities than their townsmen, and by their goings and comings stitch towns together in parts where else they would be ripped. They sit and eat their **luncheon** in stout fear-naughts on the dry oak leaves on the shore, as wise in natural **lore** as the citizen is in artificial. They never consulted with books, and know and can tell much less than they have done. The things which they practice are said not yet to be known. Here is one fishing for pickerel with grown perch for bait. You look into his pail with wonder as into a summer pond, as if he kept summer locked up at home, or knew where she had retreated. How, pray, did he get these in midwinter? Oh, he got worms out of rotten logs since the ground froze, and so he caught them. His life itself passes deeper in nature than the studies of the naturalist penetrate; himself a subject for the naturalist. The latter raises the moss and bark gently with his knife in search of insects; the former lays open logs to their core with his axe, and moss and bark fly far and wide. He gets his living by barking trees. Such a man has some right to fish, and I love to see nature carried out in him. The perch swallows the grub-worm, the pickerel swallows the perch, and the fisher-man swallows the pickerel; and so all the chinks in the scale of being are filled.

When I strolled around the pond in misty weather I was sometimes amused by the primitive mode which some ruder fisherman had adopted. He would

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amber: (*n*) yellow, yellowness, electrum, ambergris, gold, brown, electron, gum; (*adj*) chromatic.

dormant: (*adj*) inactive, torpid, inert, smoldering, suspended, inoperative, potential, sluggish, quiescent, latent, quiet. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) overt, extinct, dynamic, alive, awake.

kneeling: (*n*) homage, kowtow, kneelingly, prostration, genuflexion, genuflection, curtsy, courtesy, obeisance.

lore: (*n*) erudition, folklore, letters, literature, tradition, science, acquired knowledge, knowledge, wide information, lesson, legend.

luncheon: (*n*) meal, tiffin, dejeuner, dinner, repast, party; (*v*) nunchion.

pasture: (*v*) graze, browse, crop; (*n*) grass, grazing land, pasturage, field, ley, lea; (*n, v*) feed, forage.

perennial: (*adj*) lasting, eternal, continual, constant, abiding, durable, perpetual, permanent, enduring,

ceaseless; (*adj, v*) evergreen.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) biennial, occasional.

softened: (*adj*) diffused, muffled, muted, quiet, slow, touched, sluggish, soften, pultaceous, subdued, low-key.

twilight: (*n*) nightfall, night, sunset, gloaming, evening, sundown, eventide, fall, decline, evenfall; (*adj*) aurora. ANTONYMS: (*n*) daybreak, sunrise.

perhaps have placed alder branches over the narrow holes in the ice, which were four or five rods apart and an equal distance from the shore, and having fastened the end of the line to a stick to prevent its being pulled through, have passed the slack line over a twig of the alder, a foot or more above the ice, and tied a dry oak leaf to it, which, being pulled down, would show when he had a bite. These alders loomed through the mist at regular intervals as you walked half way round the pond.

Ah, the pickerel of Walden! when I see them lying on the ice, or in the well which the fisherman cuts in the ice, making a little hole to admit the water, I am always surprised by their rare beauty, as if they were fabulous fishes, they are so foreign to the streets, even to the woods, foreign as Arabia to our Concord life. They possess a quite dazzling and **transcendent** beauty which **separates** them by a wide interval from the **cadaverous** cod and **haddock** whose fame is trumpeted in our streets. They are not green like the pines, nor gray like the stones, nor blue like the sky; but they have, to my eyes, if possible, yet rarer colors, like flowers and precious stones, as if they were the pearls, the animalized nuclei or crystals of the Walden water. They, of course, are Walden all over and all through; are themselves small Waldens in the animal kingdom, Waldenses. It is surprising that they are caught here -- that in this deep and **capacious** spring, far beneath the **rattling** teams and chaises and tinkling sleighs that travel the Walden road, this great gold and **emerald** fish swims. I never chanced to see its kind in any market; it would be the cynosure of all eyes there. Easily, with a few **convulsive** quirks, they give up their watery ghosts, like a mortal translated before his time to the thin air of heaven.

As I was **desirous** to recover the long lost bottom of Walden Pond, I surveyed it carefully, before the ice broke up, early in '46, with compass and chain and sounding line. There have been many stories told about the bottom, or rather no bottom, of this pond, which certainly had no foundation for themselves. It is remarkable how long men will believe in the bottomlessness of a pond without taking the trouble to sound it. I have visited two such Bottomless Ponds in one

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cadaverous: (*adj*) gaunt, wan, ghastly, thin, haggard, deathly, pale, ashen, dead, skeletal, bony. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rosy, ruddy, flushed, glowing, lifelike, lively, plump.
capacious: (*adj*) large, big, ample, roomy, broad, extensive, vast, commodious, voluminous, wide, expansive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) small, confined, squeezed, tiny.
convulsive: (*adj*) spastic, galvanic, fitful, paroxysmal, violent, choreic,

unsteady, hysterical; (*v*) unquiet, restless, saltatory.
desirous: (*adj*) wistful, avid, ambitious, greedy, longing, eager, hungry, covetous, envious, agog; (*adj, v*) willing. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) undesirous, reluctant, undesiring, unconcerned.
emerald: (*adj*) green, verdigris, verd antique, malachite, verdant, brilliant; (*n*) beryl, gem, viridity, greenness, chalcedony.

haddock: (*n*) gadoid fish, gadoid, finnan haddock, finnan haddie.
rattling: (*adj*) lively, brisk, racy, marvelous, fantastic, zippy, snappy, spanking, merry; (*adv*) very, real.
separates: (*n*) coordinates.
transcendent: (*adj*) incomparable, ideal, excellent, divine, supreme, sublime, distinguished, eminent, preeminent; (*v*) imposing, solemn. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ordinary, ridiculous, simple.

walk in this neighborhood. Many have believed that Walden reached quite through to the other side of the globe. Some who have **lain** flat on the ice for a long time, looking down through the **illusive** medium, perchance with **watery** eyes into the bargain, and driven to hasty conclusions by the fear of catching cold in their breasts, have seen vast holes "into which a load of hay might be driven," if there were anybody to drive it, the **undoubted** source of the Styx and entrance to the Infernal Regions from these parts. Others have gone down from the village with a "fifty-six" and a wagon load of inch rope, but yet have failed to find any bottom; for while the "fifty-six" was resting by the way, they were paying out the rope in the vain attempt to **fathom** their truly immeasurable capacity for marvellousness. But I can assure my readers that Walden has a reasonably tight bottom at a not unreasonable, though at an unusual, depth. I fathomed it easily with a cod-line and a stone weighing about a pound and a half, and could tell accurately when the stone left the bottom, by having to pull so much harder before the water got underneath to help me. The greatest depth was exactly one hundred and two feet; to which may be added the five feet which it has risen since, making one hundred and seven. This is a remarkable depth for so small an area; yet not an inch of it can be spared by the imagination. What if all ponds were shallow? Would it not react on the minds of men? I am **thankful** that this pond was made deep and pure for a symbol. While men believe in the infinite some ponds will be thought to be bottomless.

A factory-owner, hearing what depth I had found, thought that it could not be true, for, judging from his acquaintance with dams, sand would not lie at so steep an angle. But the **deepest** ponds are not so deep in proportion to their area as most suppose, and, if drained, would not leave very remarkable valleys. They are not like cups between the hills; for this one, which is so unusually deep for its area, appears in a vertical section through its centre not deeper than a shallow plate. Most ponds, **emptied**, would leave a meadow no more hollow than we frequently see. William Gilpin, who is so admirable in all that relates to landscapes, and usually so correct, standing at the head of Loch Fyne, in Scotland, which he describes as "a bay of salt water, sixty or seventy fathoms deep, four miles in breadth," and about fifty miles long, surrounded by

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deepest: (*adj*) inmost, center, cordial, earnest, genuine, hearty, warm, sincere, innermost. ANTONYM: (*adj*) outermost.

emptied: (*adj*) empty, void, depleted, emptier, annulled, open, vacuous.

fathom: (*n, v*) plumb; (*v*) penetrate, discern, bottom, understand, comprehend, know, make out, measure; (*n*) probe, gauge. ANTONYMS: (*v*) confuse, misunderstand, Miss.

illusive: (*adj*) deceptive, false, delusive, imaginary, fallacious, unreal, seeming, ostensible, apparent, fanciful, fantastic.

lain: (*adj*) artless, unsophisticated, unaffected, naive, untutored, simple, pure, natural, native, inartificial.

thankful: (*adj*) appreciative, indebted, beholden, obliged, contented, pleased, gratified, relieved, under obligation, appreciatory, welcome. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) worried,

unappreciative, unthankful, sorry.

undoubted: (*adj*) unquestionable, undisputed, indisputable, undeniable, sure, positive, true, unquestioned, indubitable, definite, unchallenged.

watery: (*adj*) moist, diluted, wet, dilute, washy, thin, damp, fluid, aqueous, weak, insipid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) strong, solid, dry, soft, dehydrated, lively, dark, clear, thick, hard.

mountains, observes, "If we could have seen it immediately after the **diluvian** crash, or whatever **convulsion** of nature occasioned it, before the waters gushed in, what a horrid **chasm** must it have appeared!

"So high as heaved the **tumid** hills, so low
Down sunk a hollow bottom broad and deep,
Capacious bed of waters —."

But if, using the shortest diameter of Loch Fyne, we apply these proportions to Walden, which, as we have seen, appears already in a vertical section only like a shallow plate, it will appear four times as shallow. So much for the increased horrors of the chasm of Loch Fyne when emptied. No doubt many a smiling valley with its stretching cornfields occupies exactly such a "horrid chasm," from which the waters have receded, though it requires the insight and the far sight of the **geologist** to convince the **unsuspecting** inhabitants of this fact. Often an **inquisitive** eye may detect the shores of a primitive lake in the low horizon hills, and no subsequent elevation of the plain have been necessary to conceal their history. But it is easiest, as they who work on the highways know, to find the hollows by the puddles after a shower. The amount of it is, the imagination give it the least license, **dives** deeper and soars higher than Nature goes. So, probably, the depth of the ocean will be found to be very inconsiderable compared with its breadth.

As I **sounded** through the ice I could determine the shape of the bottom with greater accuracy than is possible in surveying harbors which do not freeze over, and I was surprised at its general regularity. In the deepest part there are several acres more level than almost any field which is exposed to the sun, wind, and plow. In one instance, on a line arbitrarily chosen, the depth did not vary more than one foot in thirty rods; and generally, near the middle, I could calculate the variation for each one hundred feet in any direction beforehand within three or four inches. Some are accustomed to speak of deep and dangerous **holes** even in quiet sandy ponds like this, but the effect of water under these circumstances is

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chasm: (*n*) breach, gap, hiatus, gulf, ravine, hole, abyss, vacancy, canyon, aperture, emptiness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) junction, closure.

convulsion: (*adj, n, v*) spasm; (*n*) fit, paroxysm, commotion, attack, clonus, shake, seizure, upheaval, cramp; (*adj, n*) disturbance. ANTONYM: (*n*) peace.

diluvian: (*adj*) diluvial, antediluvian.

dives: (*n*) Lazarus, Croesus, dive, Timon of Athens, diving, dived,

capitalist, Idas, millionaire, nabob, Plutus.

geologist: (*n*) geophysicist, geological scientist, rock hound, geologist, geognost, holmes.

holes: (*n*) cavity, holes tow.

inquisitive: (*adj*) inquiring, speculative, nosy, prying, questioning, nosy, meddling, investigative, meddling, quizzical, overcurious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) apathetic, uninterested.

sounded: (*adj*) measured, oral.

tumid: (*adj, v*) inflated, turgid, swelling; (*adj*) swollen, bombastic, orotund, large, puffy, tumescent, declamatory, rhetorical.

unsuspecting: (*adj*) gullible, naive, innocent, unsuspecting, credulous, unaware, trustful, unconscious, unwary, not suspicious, unwitting. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) suspicious, shrewd, prepared, expecting, conscious, realizing.

to level all inequalities. The regularity of the bottom and its conformity to the shores and the range of the neighboring hills were so perfect that a distant promontory betrayed itself in the **soundings** quite across the pond, and its direction could be determined by observing the opposite shore. Cape becomes bar, and plain **shoal**, and valley and **gorge** deep water and channel.

When I had mapped the pond by the scale of ten rods to an inch, and put down the soundings, more than a hundred in all, I observed this remarkable coincidence. Having noticed that the number indicating the greatest depth was apparently in the centre of the map, I laid a rule on the map **lengthwise**, and then **breadthwise**, and found, to my surprise, that the line of greatest length **intersected** the line of greatest breadth exactly at the point of greatest depth, notwithstanding that the middle is so nearly level, the outline of the pond far from regular, and the extreme length and breadth were got by measuring into the coves; and I said to myself, Who knows but this hint would conduct to the deepest part of the ocean as well as of a pond or **puddle**? Is not this the rule also for the height of mountains, regarded as the opposite of valleys? We know that a hill is not highest at its **narrowest** part.

Of five coves, three, or all which had been sounded, were observed to have a bar quite across their mouths and deeper water within, so that the bay tended to be an expansion of water within the land not only **horizontally** but **vertically**, and to form a basin or independent pond, the direction of the two capes showing the course of the bar. Every harbor on the sea-coast, also, has its bar at its entrance. In proportion as the mouth of the cove was wider compared with its length, the water over the bar was deeper compared with that in the basin. Given, then, the length and breadth of the cove, and the character of the surrounding shore, and you have almost elements enough to make out a formula for all cases.

In order to see how nearly I could guess, with this experience, at the deepest point in a pond, by observing the **outlines** of a surface and the character of its shores alone, I made a plan of White Pond, which contains about forty-one acres, and, like this, has no island in it, nor any visible inlet or **outlet**; and as the line of

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breadthwise: (*adv*) broadwise.

gorge: (*v*) glut, devour, cram, fill, gobble, satiate, stuff; (*n*) abyss, cleft, esophagus, chasm. ANTONYMS: (*v*) nibble, fast; (*n*) hill.

horizontally: (*adv*) evenly, flatly, planely, straightly, frigidly, dully, barwise, smoothly, recumbently, prostrately; (*adj*) crosswise.

intersected: (*adj*) decussated.

lengthwise: (*adv*) along, longwise, endlong, longways, longitudinally,

endways, endwise, in company, across time; (*adj*) linear, longitudinal. ANTONYM: (*adj*) crosswise.

narrowest: (*n*) minimum.

outlet: (*n*) market, egress, store, exit, opening, drain, emporium, way out, hole, issue, outfall. ANTONYM: (*n*) entrance.

outlines: (*n*) elements, conspectus, prospectus, syllabus, alphabet, grammar, contents, rudiments, synopsis, textbook, ABC.

puddle: (*n, v*) splash; (*n*) pond, lake, slop, lough, mere, loch, lin; (*v*) muddle, make, addle.

shoal: (*n*) school, shelf, swarm, multitude, sandbar, bar, horde, drove, covey, sandbank; (*adj*) superficial.

soundings: (*adj*) submersion, water.

vertically: (*adv*) uprightly, erectly, straightly, upright, standingly, normally, sheerly, steeply; (*adj*) crosswise.

greatest breadth fell very near the line of least breadth, where two opposite capes approached each other and two opposite bays receded, I ventured to mark a point a short distance from the latter line, but still on the line of greatest length, as the deepest. The deepest part was found to be within one hundred feet of this, still farther in the direction to which I had inclined, and was only one foot deeper, namely, sixty feet. Of course, a stream running through, or an island in the pond, would make the problem much more complicated.

If we knew all the **laws** of Nature, we should need only one fact, or the description of one actual phenomenon, to infer all the particular results at that point. Now we know only a few laws, and our result is **vitiating**, not, of course, by any confusion or **irregularity** in Nature, but by our ignorance of essential elements in the calculation. Our notions of law and harmony are commonly confined to those instances which we detect; but the harmony which results from a far greater number of seemingly conflicting, but really **concurring**, laws, which we have not detected, is still more wonderful. The particular laws are as our points of view, as, to the traveller, a mountain outline varies with every step, and it has an infinite number of profiles, though absolutely but one form. Even when **cleft** or bored through it is not **comprehended** in its **entireness**.

What I have observed of the pond is no less true in ethics. It is the law of average. Such a rule of the two diameters not only guides us toward the sun in the system and the heart in man, but draws lines through the length and breadth of the aggregate of a man's particular daily behaviors and waves of life into his coves and inlets, and where they **intersect** will be the height or depth of his character. Perhaps we need only to know how his shores trend and his adjacent country or circumstances, to infer his depth and concealed bottom. If he is surrounded by mountainous circumstances, an Achillean shore, whose peaks **overshadow** and are reflected in his bosom, they suggest a corresponding depth in him. But a low and smooth shore proves him shallow on that side. In our bodies, a bold projecting brow falls off to and indicates a corresponding depth of thought. Also there is a bar across the entrance of our every cove, or particular inclination; each is our harbor for a season, in which we are detained and

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cleft: (*adj, n*) split; (*n*) fissure, cleavage, crevice, rift, fracture, aperture, breach, chap, chink, crack.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) united.

comprehended: (*adj*) understood, apprehended.

concurring: (*v*) concur; (*adj*) congruent, simultaneous, in agreement, cooperative, concordant, agreeable; (*n*) agreement.

entireness: (*n*) entirety, integrity, wholeness, totality, whole,

perfection, entire, ensemble, integrality, oneness, total.

intersect: (*v*) cut, divide, meet, bisect, intersection, traverse, interlace, intertwist, intertwine, interweave, see.

irregularity: (*n*) abnormality, anomaly, eccentricity, inequality, deviation, aberration, constipation, exception, unevenness, variation; (*adj, n*) deformity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) symmetry, normality, regularity,

dependability, equality, frequency, evenness, consistency, predictability, smoothness.

laws: (*n*) Pentateuch, Torah.

overshadow: (*v*) dwarf, obscure, outweigh, loom, cloud, shadow, occult, outshine, becloud, shade; (*adj*) overcast.

vitiating: (*adj, v*) tainted; (*adj*) corrupt, diminished, depraved, perverted, corrupted, lessened, profligate, adulterate, faded; (*v*) morbid.

partially land-locked. These inclinations are not whimsical usually, but their form, size, and direction are determined by the promontories of the shore, the ancient axes of elevation. When this bar is gradually increased by storms, tides, or currents, or there is a subsidence of the waters, so that it reaches to the surface, that which was at first but an inclination in the shore in which a thought was harbored becomes an individual lake, cut off from the ocean, wherein the thought secures its own conditions -- changes, perhaps, from salt to fresh, becomes a sweet sea, dead sea, or a marsh. At the advent of each individual into this life, may we not suppose that such a bar has risen to the surface somewhere? It is true, we are such poor navigators that our thoughts, for the most part, stand off and on upon a **harborless** coast, are **conversant** only with the bights of the **bays** of **poesy**, or steer for the public ports of entry, and go into the dry docks of science, where they merely **refit** for this world, and no natural currents **concur** to **individualize** them.

As for the inlet or outlet of Walden, I have not discovered any but rain and snow and evaporation, though perhaps, with a thermometer and a line, such places may be found, for where the water flows into the pond it will probably be coldest in summer and warmest in winter. When the ice-men were at work here in '46-7, the cakes sent to the shore were one day rejected by those who were **stacking** them up there, not being thick enough to lie side by side with the rest; and the **cutters** thus discovered that the ice over a small space was two or three inches thinner than elsewhere, which made them think that there was an inlet there. They also showed me in another place what they thought was a "leach-hole," through which the pond leaked out under a hill into a neighboring meadow, pushing me out on a cake of ice to see it. It was a small cavity under ten feet of water; but I think that I can warrant the pond not to need **soldering** till they find a worse leak than that. One has suggested, that if such a "leach-hole" should be found, its connection with the meadow, if any existed, might be proved by conveying some, colored powder or sawdust to the mouth of the hole, and then putting a **strainer** over the spring in the meadow, which would catch some of the particles carried through by the current.

Thesaurus

bays: (*n*) decoration, chaplet, civic crown, crown, laurels, Bayes, bay, honor, garland, palm, trophy.

concur: (*v*) accede, accord, assent, acquiesce, consent, accept, yield, concede, comply, admit; (*n, v*) coincide. ANTONYMS: (*v*) disagree, altercate, dispute, argue, resist, object, oppose, diverge, conflict.

conversant: (*adj*) proficient, knowing, informed, familiar, versed, learned, cognizant, conscious, erudite,

experienced, skilled. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unfamiliar, oblivious, inexperienced.

cutters: (*adj, n*) shears; (*n*) clippers; (*adj*) pruning shears.

harborless: (*v*) guardless, fenceless.

individualize: (*v*) individualise, individuate, distinguish, designate, specify, discern, secernate, separate, tell, severalize, realize.

poesy: (*n*) poetry, verse, poem, rhyme, epos, song, tuneful Nine, strain, lay,

Parnassus, poetics.

refit: (*v*) mend, renovate, fit out, equip, fix, remodel, supply, amend, revamp; (*n, v*) repair; (*n*) renovation.

soldering: (*n*) bonding, welding, brazing, attachment, soft soldering, fastening; (*v*) sticking.

stacking: (*n*) multiple command.

strainer: (*n*) colander, sieve, screen, cullender, stretcher, riddle, trapping sieve, leach, percolator, sifter, screw cleaning machine.

While I was surveying, the ice, which was sixteen inches thick, **undulated** under a slight wind like water. It is well known that a level cannot be used on ice. At one rod from the shore its greatest fluctuation, when observed by means of a level on land directed toward a **graduated** staff on the ice, was three quarters of an inch, though the ice appeared firmly attached to the shore. It was probably greater in the middle. Who knows but if our instruments were delicate enough we might detect an undulation in the **crust** of the earth? When two legs of my level were on the shore and the third on the ice, and the sights were directed over the latter, a rise or fall of the ice of an almost **infinitesimal** amount made a difference of several feet on a tree across the pond. When I began to cut holes for sounding there were three or four inches of water on the ice under a deep snow which had sunk it thus far; but the water began immediately to run into these holes, and continued to run for two days in deep streams, which wore away the ice on every side, and contributed essentially, if not mainly, to dry the surface of the pond; for, as the water ran in, it raised and floated the ice. This was somewhat like cutting a hole in the bottom of a ship to let the water out. When such holes freeze, and a rain succeeds, and finally a new freezing forms a fresh smooth ice over all, it is beautifully **mottled** internally by dark figures, shaped somewhat like a spider's web, what you may call ice rosettes, produced by the channels worn by the water flowing from all sides to a centre. Sometimes, also, when the ice was covered with shallow puddles, I saw a double shadow of myself, one standing on the head of the other, one on the ice, the other on the trees or hillside.

While yet it is cold January, and snow and ice are thick and solid, the prudent landlord comes from the village to get ice to cool his summer drink; **impressively**, even **pathetically**, wise, to foresee the heat and **thirst** of July now in January -- wearing a thick coat and mittens! when so many things are not provided for. It may be that he lays up no treasures in this world which will cool his summer drink in the next. He cuts and saws the solid pond, unroofs the house of fishes, and carts off their very element and air, held fast by chains and

Thesaurus

crust: (*n*) skin, peel, bark, cheekiness, gall, impertinence, covering, shell, cortex, coating, encrustation.

graduated: (*adj*) gradational, gradatory, equal, measured, proportional, regressive, calibrated; (*n*) graduate.

impressively: (*adv*) strikingly, splendidly, grandly, magnificently, majestically, movingly, massively, heroically, commandingly, remarkably, arresting.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) weakly, execrably, slightly, simply.

infinitesimal: (*adj*) microscopic, tiny, insignificant, little, evanescent, atomic, minuscule, inappreciable, negligible, fractional, imperceptible.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) gigantic, enormous, huge, immeasurable.

mottled: (*adj*) motley, speckled, multicolored, spotted, variegated, piebald, marbled, mixed, pinto, blotchy, flecked. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

monochrome, unblemished, limited.

pathetically: (*adv*) pitifully, piteously, sorrowfully, wretchedly, pitifully, touchingly, sadly, poorly, miserably, plaintively, distressingly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) intelligently, convincingly.

thirst: (*n, v*) hunger, lust, wish; (*n*) longing, yen, craving, hankering, dryness, appetite; (*v*) starve, crave. ANTONYM: (*n*) dislike.

undulated: (*adj*) undulatory.

stakes like corded wood, through the **favoring** winter air, to **wintry cellars**, to underlie the summer there. It looks like **solidified** azure, as, far off, it is drawn through the streets. These ice-cutters are a merry race, full of jest and sport, and when I went among them they were wont to invite me to saw pit-fashion with them, I standing underneath.

In the winter of '46-7 there came a hundred men of Hyperborean extraction **swoop** down on to our pond one morning, with many carloads of ungainly-looking farming tools -- sleds, plows, drill-barrows, turf-knives, spades, saws, rakes, and each man was armed with a double-pointed pike-staff, such as is not described in the New-England Farmer or the Cultivator. I did not know whether they had come to sow a crop of winter rye, or some other kind of grain recently introduced from Iceland. As I saw no manure, I judged that they meant to skim the land, as I had done, thinking the soil was deep and had lain fallow long enough. They said that a gentleman farmer, who was behind the scenes, wanted to double his money, which, as I understood, amounted to half a million already; but in order to cover each one of his dollars with another, he took off the only coat, ay, the skin itself, of Walden Pond in the midst of a hard winter. They went to work at once, plowing, barrowing, rolling, furrowing, in admirable order, as if they were bent on making this a model farm; but when I was looking sharp to see what kind of seed they dropped into the furrow, a gang of fellows by my side suddenly began to hook up the virgin mould itself, with a peculiar **jerk**, clean down to the sand, or rather the water -- for it was a very **springy** soil -- indeed all the **terra firma** there was -- and haul it away on sleds, and then I guessed that they must be cutting peat in a bog. So they came and went every day, with a peculiar **shriek** from the locomotive, from and to some point of the polar regions, as it seemed to me, like a flock of arctic snow-birds. But sometimes Squaw Walden had her revenge, and a hired man, walking behind his team, slipped through a crack in the ground down toward Tartarus, and he who was so brave before suddenly became but the **ninth** part of a man, almost gave up his animal heat, and was glad to take refuge in my house, and acknowledged that there was some virtue in a stove; or sometimes the frozen soil took a piece of steel out of a **plowshare**, or a plow got set in the furrow and had to be cut out.

Thesaurus

cellars: (*n*) cellar.

favoring: (*adj*) affirmative, encouraging, auspicious, being prospered, beneficial, affirmatory; (*n*) convenient, contributing, beautiful, conducive, promotion.

jerk: (*n, v*) jump, yank, shake, twitch, jar, tug, bump, heave, pull; (*v*) fling, flip. ANTONYM: (*v*) ease.

ninth: (*adv*) ninthly; (*n*) common fraction.

plowshare: (*n*) colter, share, part,

parcel, contribution, sock, percentage.

shriek: (*n, v*) screech, cry, shout, call, howl, yell, yowl, scream; (*v*) bellow, caterwaul, shrill. ANTONYM: (*v*) sigh.

solidified: (*adj*) fixed, firm, stiff, concrete, curdled, thick, coagulate, grumous, grumose; (*v*) consolidated, joined.

springy: (*adj*) flexible, elastic, resilient, bouncy, yielding, whippy, pliable,

spongy, lively, live, supple.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) unyielding.

swoop: (*v*) pounce, raid, descend, clutch, wrench; (*n*) descent, slide, dive; (*n, v*) sweep, stoop, plunge.

terra: (*n*) mother Earth, terra firma.

wintry: (*adj, v*) frosty, glacial, freezing, icy; (*adj*) arctic, frigid, wintery, frozen, chilly, chill, hibernal. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) mild, summery, hot, vernal, autumnal, balmy, tropical, warm.

To speak literally, a hundred Irishmen, with Yankee overseers, came from Cambridge every day to get out the ice. They divided it into cakes by methods too well known to require description, and these, being sledged to the shore, were rapidly hauled off on to an ice platform, and raised by **grappling irons** and block and tackle, worked by horses, on to a stack, as surely as so many barrels of flour, and there placed evenly side by side, and row upon row, as if they formed the solid base of an **obelisk** designed to **pierce** the clouds. They told me that in a good day they could get out a thousand tons, which was the yield of about one acre. Deep ruts and "cradle-holes" were worn in the ice, as on terra firma, by the passage of the sleds over the same track, and the horses invariably ate their **oats** out of cakes of ice **hollowed** out like buckets. They **stacked up** the cakes thus in the open air in a pile thirty-five feet high on one side and six or seven rods square, putting hay between the outside layers to exclude the air; for when the wind, though never so cold, finds a passage through, it will wear large cavities, leaving slight supports or studs only here and there, and finally **topple** it down. At first it looked like a vast blue fort or Valhalla; but when they began to **tuck** the coarse **meadow** hay into the crevices, and this became covered with rime and icicles, it looked like a venerable moss-grown and hoary ruin, built of azure-tinted marble, the abode of Winter, that old man we see in the almanac -- his shanty, as if he had a design to **estivate** with us. They calculated that not twenty-five per cent of this would reach its destination, and that two or three per cent would be wasted in the cars. However, a still greater part of this heap had a different destiny from what was intended; for, either because the ice was found not to keep so well as was expected, containing more air than usual, or for some other reason, it never got to market. This heap, made in the winter of '46-7 and estimated to contain ten thousand tons, was finally covered with hay and boards; and though it was unroofed the following July, and a part of it carried off, the rest remaining exposed to the sun, it stood over that summer and the next winter, and was not quite melted till September, 1848. Thus the pond recovered the greater part.

Like the water, the Walden ice, seen near at hand, has a green tint, but at a distance is beautifully blue, and you can easily tell it from the white ice of the

Thesaurus

estivate: (*v*) kip, sleep, slumber, estivation.

grappling: (*n*) wrestling, braving, coping with, facing, face, confronting, grappler, try, grapplingment, struggle, attempt.

hollowed: (*adj*) concave.

irons: (*n*) fetters, iron, chain, shackles, fetter, manacles, gyve, bond, bonds, pinion, handcuffs.

meadow: (*n*) hayfield, lea, mead, grassland, plain, lawn, sward,

grazing land, greensward, pasturage, paddock.

oats: (*n*) Avena, grain, millet, cereal, cereal grass, common oats, genus Avena, Haver, holder, maize, buckwheat.

obelisk: (*n*) dagger, monument, monolith, pinnacle, minaret, graphic symbol; (*adj, n*) column, pillar; (*adj*) spire, steeple, turret.

pierce: (*n, v*) cut, prick, stick; (*v*) perforate, bore, enter, thrust,

puncture, penetrate; (*adj, v*) stab, wound. ANTONYM: (*v*) seal.

stacked: (*adj*) buxom, curvaceous, prepared, shapely, voluptuous.

topple: (*v*) collapse, tumble, fall, stumble, overthrow, upset, overturn, pitch, capsize, tumble down, oust. ANTONYMS: (*v*) place, put, straighten, install, right.

tuck: (*n, v*) crease, pleat; (*v*) insert, pucker, enclose, gather, inclose, ruck, enter; (*n*) wrinkle, rapier.

river, or the merely greenish ice of some ponds, a quarter of a mile off. Sometimes one of those great cakes **slips** from the ice-man's sled into the village street, and lies there for a week like a great emerald, an object of interest to all passers. I have noticed that a portion of Walden which in the state of water was green will often, when frozen, appear from the same point of view blue. So the hollows about this pond will, sometimes, in the winter, be filled with a greenish water somewhat like its own, but the next day will have frozen blue. Perhaps the blue color of water and ice is due to the light and air they contain, and the most transparent is the bluest. Ice is an interesting subject for **contemplation**. They told me that they had some in the ice-houses at Fresh Pond five years old which was as good as ever. Why is it that a bucket of water soon becomes **putrid**, but frozen remains sweet forever? It is commonly said that this is the difference between the affections and the intellect.

Thus for **sixteen** days I saw from my window a hundred men at work like busy husbandmen, with teams and horses and apparently all the implements of farming, such a picture as we see on the first page of the almanac; and as often as I looked out I was reminded of the fable of the **lark** and the reapers, or the parable of the **sower**, and the like; and now they are all gone, and in thirty days more, probably, I shall look from the same window on the pure sea-green Walden water there, reflecting the clouds and the trees, and sending up its evaporations in solitude, and no traces will appear that a man has ever stood there. Perhaps I shall hear a solitary loon laugh as he dives and plumes himself, or shall see a lonely fisher in his boat, like a floating leaf, beholding his form reflected in the waves, where lately a hundred men securely labored.

Thus it appears that the **sweltering** inhabitants of Charleston and New Orleans, of Madras and Bombay and Calcutta, drink at my well. In the morning I bathe my intellect in the **stupendous** and cosmogonical philosophy of the Bhagvat-Geeta, since whose composition years of the gods have elapsed, and in comparison with which our modern world and its literature seem **puny** and trivial; and I doubt if that philosophy is not to be referred to a previous state of existence, so remote is its **sublimity** from our conceptions. I lay down the book

Thesaurus

contemplation: (*n*) consideration, reflection, thought, attention, cogitation, musing, introspection, speculation, animus, deliberation; (*n, v*) study.
lark: (*n*) joke, fun, trick, prank, antic, caper, game; (*n, v*) romp, frolic, gambol; (*v*) rollick.
puny: (*adj*) weak, petty, feeble, frail, tiny, small, minute, measly, runty, paltry, trivial. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) muscular, brawny, strong,

significant, fit, huge, enormous, robust, considerable.
putrid: (*adj*) fetid, rotten, malodorous, corrupt, decayed, smelly, noisome, putrefied, bad, foetid, stinking. ANTONYM: (*adj*) fragrant.
sixteen: (*n*) large integer.
slips: (*n*) pad.
sower: (*n*) seeder, farmer, sodbuster, husbandman, granger, seed drill.
stupendous: (*adj, v*) prodigious; (*adj*) huge, terrific, marvellous, immense,

tremendous, fantastic, mighty, mammoth, miraculous, enormous. ANTONYM: (*adj*) abysmal.
sublimity: (*adj, n*) nobility, elevation, majesty, loftiness, splendor; (*n*) magnificence, dignity, greatness, sublimeness; (*adj*) solemnity, heroism.
sweltering: (*adj*) hot, close, sticky, stifling, muggy, sultry, scorching, humid, broiling, baking, oppressive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fresh, cool, cold.

and go to my well for water, and lo! there I meet the **servant** of the Bramin, priest of Brahma and Vishnu and Indra, who still sits in his **temple** on the Ganges reading the Vedas, or dwells at the root of a tree with his crust and water jug. I meet his servant come to draw water for his master, and our buckets as it were **grate** together in the same well. The pure Walden water is mingled with the **sacred** water of the Ganges. With favoring winds it is wafted past the site of the **fabulous** islands of Atlantis and the Hesperides, makes the **periplus** of Hanno, and, **floating** by Ternate and Tidore and the mouth of the Persian Gulf, melts in the **tropic** gales of the Indian seas, and is **landed** in ports of which Alexander only heard the names.

Thesaurus

fabulous: (*adj*) mythical, legendary, fabled, mythological, wonderful, marvelous, spectacular, fab, terrific, amazing, imaginary. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) normal, prosaic, routine, ordinary, factual, common, humdrum, dire, unimpressive, abysmal.
floating: (*adv*) afloat; (*adj, v*) buoyant; (*adj, adv*) aimless; (*adj*) current, loose, moving, fluid, in circulation, going about, flying, light.

grate: (*v*) grind, creak, scrape, abrade, gall, gnash, fret, rub, aggravate, provoke; (*n*) lattice.
landed: (*adj*) land, territorial, allodial, predial.
periplus: (*n*) cruise, circumnavigation, sail, voyage.
sacred: (*adj*) holy, hallowed, dedicated, consecrated, divine, religious, pious, spiritual, inviolable, blessed; (*adj, v*) solemn. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) profane, unconsecrated, cursed, breakable.

servant: (*n*) manservant, domestic, lackey, maid, employee, flunkey, retainer, boy, footman, flunky, menial. ANTONYMS: (*n*) master, mistress.
temple: (*n*) church, place of worship, shrine, Fane, house of worship, pantheon, pagoda, synagogue, brow, sanctuary, mosque.
tropic: (*adj*) hot, torrid, equatorial; (*n*) parallel of latitude, line of latitude, latitude.

SPRING

The opening of large tracts by the ice-cutters commonly causes a pond to break up earlier; for the water, **agitated** by the wind, even in cold weather, wears away the surrounding ice. But such was not the effect on Walden that year, for she had soon got a thick new **garment** to take the place of the old. This pond never breaks up so soon as the others in this neighborhood, on account both of its greater depth and its having no stream passing through it to **melt** or wear away the ice. I never knew it to open in the course of a winter, not excepting that of '52-3, which gave the ponds so severe a trial. It commonly opens about the first of April, a week or ten days later than Flint's Pond and Fair Haven, beginning to melt on the north side and in the shallower parts where it began to **freeze**. It indicates better than any water hereabouts the absolute progress of the season, being least affected by **transient** changes of temperature. A severe cold of a few days duration in March may very much **retard** the opening of the former ponds, while the temperature of Walden increases almost **uninterruptedly**. A thermometer thrust into the middle of Walden on the 6th of March, 1847, stood at 32x, or freezing point; near the shore at 33x; in the middle of Flint's Pond, the same day, at 32+x; at a dozen rods from the shore, in shallow water, under ice a foot thick, at 36x. This difference of three and a half degrees between the temperature of the deep water and the shallow in the latter pond, and the fact that a great proportion of it is comparatively shallow, show why it should break

Thesaurus

agitated: (*adj*) upset, excited, nervous, restive, tumultuous, distressed, tense, jumpy, overwrought, anxious, alarmed. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) calm, lethargic, tranquil, relaxed, assured, cool, still.

freeze: (*v*) chill, cool, solidify, block, harden, set; (*n*) frost, congelation; (*n, v*) arrest, stop; (*adj*) frozen. ANTONYMS: (*v*) thaw, boil, unblock, warm, dissolve, begin, soften.

garment: (*n, v*) garb, apparel; (*n*)

habiliment, habit, gown, vest, things, guise; (*v*) clothe, tog, raiment.

melt: (*v*) dissolve, deliquesce, vanish, coalesce, relent, meld, fade, defrost; (*adj, v*) run, liquefy; (*n, v*) thaw. ANTONYMS: (*v*) freeze, solidify, cool, set.

retard: (*adj, v*) hinder, check, obstruct, deaden; (*v*) slow, detain, impede, arrest, decelerate; (*n, v*) lag, defer. ANTONYMS: (*v*) expedite, hasten, prompt.

transient: (*adj*) fleeting, temporary, passing, transitory, fugacious, ephemeral, momentary, temporal, provisional; (*adj, n*) fugitive, vagabond. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) enduring, lasting, immanent, long; (*n*) resident.

uninterruptedly: (*adv*) constantly, ceaselessly, continually, endlessly, unremittingly, unceasingly, successively, consecutively, continuedly, sustainedly, straightly.

up so much sooner than Walden. The ice in the shallowest part was at this time several inches **thinner** than in the middle. In midwinter the middle had been the warmest and the ice thinnest there. So, also, every one who has waded about the shores of the pond in summer must have perceived how much **warmer** the water is close to the shore, where only three or four inches deep, than a little distance out, and on the surface where it is deep, than near the bottom. In spring the sun not only exerts an influence through the increased temperature of the air and earth, but its heat passes through ice a foot or more thick, and is reflected from the bottom in shallow water, and so also warms the water and melts the under side of the ice, at the same time that it is **melting** it more directly above, making it uneven, and causing the air bubbles which it contains to extend themselves upward and downward until it is completely **honeycombed**, and at last disappears suddenly in a single spring rain. Ice has its grain as well as wood, and when a cake begins to rot or "comb," that is, assume the appearance of honeycomb, whatever may be its position, the air cells are at right angles with what was the water surface. Where there is a rock or a log rising near to the surface the ice over it is much thinner, and is frequently quite dissolved by this reflected heat; and I have been told that in the experiment at Cambridge to freeze water in a shallow wooden pond, though the cold air circulated underneath, and so had access to both sides, the reflection of the sun from the bottom more than counterbalanced this advantage. When a warm rain in the middle of the winter melts off the snow-ice from Walden, and leaves a hard dark or transparent ice on the middle, there will be a strip of rotten though thicker white ice, a rod or more wide, about the shores, created by this reflected heat. Also, as I have said, the bubbles themselves within the ice operate as burning-glasses to melt the ice beneath.

The phenomena of the year take place every day in a pond on a small scale. Every morning, generally speaking, the shallow water is being warmed more rapidly than the deep, though it may not be made so warm after all, and every evening it is being cooled more rapidly until the morning. The day is an **epitome** of the year. The night is the winter, the morning and evening are the spring and fall, and the noon is the summer. The **cracking** and **booming** of the ice indicate a

Thesaurus

booming: (*adj*) thriving, roaring, flourishing, successful, loud, blooming, prospering, palmy, resonant, wealthy, deep.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) failing, quiet, poor, weak, shrill, thin.
cracking: (*n*) crack, break, fracture; (*adj*) splitting, swell, smashing, corking, bully, great, keen, neat.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) smooth, slow.
epitome: (*n*) abstract, type, resume, compendium, model, digest, ideal,

conspectus, synopsis, recapitulation; (*adj, n*) brief.
honeycomb: (*n*) beehive, honeycomb cracking, chaser, Combe, currycomb; (*v*) perforate, penetrate, vary, riddle; (*adj*) honeycombed, alveolate.
honeycombed: (*adj*) pitted, cavities, faveolate, alveolate, cellular, cavernous; (*v*) follicular, cribriform, infundibular, riddled.
melting: (*n*) thawing, fusion, melt, dissolution, warming, thaw,

liquefaction, fusion range; (*adj*) liquescent, pathetic; (*adj, n*) dissolving.
thinner: (*n*) dilutant, solvent, reducer, rarefied, phenylic acid, phenol, propanone, perchloromethane, resolvent, oxybenzene, methylbenzene.
warmer: (*n*) stove, oilstove, deicer, defroster, brasier, radiator, brazier, warming, warmed, demister, gas heater.

change of temperature. One pleasant morning after a cold night, February 24th, 1850, having gone to Flint's Pond to spend the day, I **noticed** with surprise, that when I struck the ice with the head of my axe, it resounded like a **gong** for many rods around, or as if I had struck on a tight drum-head. The pond began to boom about an hour after sunrise, when it felt the influence of the sun's rays slanted upon it from over the hills; it stretched itself and yawned like a waking man with a gradually increasing **tumult**, which was kept up three or four hours. It took a short **siesta** at noon, and boomed once more toward night, as the sun was withdrawing his influence. In the right stage of the weather a pond fires its evening gun with great regularity. But in the middle of the day, being full of cracks, and the air also being less elastic, it had completely lost its **resonance**, and probably fishes and muskrats could not then have been stunned by a blow on it. The fishermen say that the "thundering of the pond" scares the fishes and prevents their biting. The pond does not thunder every evening, and I cannot tell surely when to expect its thundering; but though I may perceive no difference in the weather, it does. Who would have suspected so large and cold and **thick-skinned** a thing to be so sensitive? Yet it has its law to which it thunders obedience when it should as surely as the buds expand in the spring. The earth is all alive and covered with papillae. The largest pond is as sensitive to atmospheric changes as the **globule** of mercury in its tube.

One attraction in coming to the woods to live was that I should have leisure and opportunity to see the Spring come in. The ice in the pond at length begins to be honeycombed, and I can set my heel in it as I walk. Fogs and rains and warmer suns are gradually melting the snow; the days have grown sensibly longer; and I see how I shall get through the winter without adding to my woodpile, for large fires are no longer necessary. I am on the alert for the first signs of spring, to hear the chance note of some arriving bird, or the **striped** squirrel's **chirp**, for his stores must be now nearly exhausted, or see the woodchuck venture out of his winter quarters. On the 13th of March, after I had heard the **bluebird**, song **sparrow**, and red-wing, the ice was still nearly a foot thick. As the

Thesaurus

bluebird: (*n*) thrush, fairy bluebird.

chirp: (*n, v*) chirrup, peep; (*v*) sing, trill, chitter, warble, carol, emit, whistle, utter; (*adj*) take heart.

globule: (*n*) bead, drip, droplet, blob, glob, orb, pellet; (*v*) ball; (*adj*) spherule, grain; (*adj, n*) dash.

gong: (*n*) bell, carillon, chime, cymbal, medal, Alexander Melville Bell, handbell, English painter, doorbell, bell shape, Alexander Graham Bell.

noticed: (*adj*) noted.

resonance: (*n*) ringing, sonority, vibration, reverberation, echo, plangency, timbre, timber, noise, ring, accord. ANTONYM: (*n*) weakness.

siesta: (*n, v*) snooze, doze; (*n*) sleep, rest, forty winks, slumber, catnap; (*v*) coma, dream, ecstasis, hibernation.

sparrow: (*n*) hedge sparrow, sparrows, passerine, house sparrow, accentor, true sparrow, spur, snag, passeriform bird, incitement.

striped: (*adj*) stripy, brindled, variegated, lined, banded, virgated, zoned, paled, with stripes.

thick-skinned: (*adj*) unfeeling, aloof, unemotional, unaffected, obdurate, uninterested, heartless, hard, emotionless, imperturbable, callous.

tumult: (*adj, n, v*) hubbub, disturbance; (*n*) stir, commotion, bustle, din, fuss, excitement; (*n, v*) clamor, disorder, brawl. ANTONYMS: (*n*) peace, push, serenity, order, calm.

weather grew warmer it was not **sensibly** worn away by the water, nor broken up and floated off as in rivers, but, though it was completely melted for half a rod in width about the shore, the middle was merely honeycombed and saturated with water, so that you could put your foot through it when six inches thick; but by the next day evening, perhaps, after a warm rain followed by fog, it would have wholly disappeared, all gone off with the fog, **spirited** away. One year I went across the middle only five days before it disappeared entirely. In 1845 Walden was first completely open on the 1st of April; in '46, the 25th of March; in '47, the 8th of April; in '51, the 28th of March; in '52, the 18th of April; in '53, the 23d of March; in '54, about the 7th of April.

Every incident connected with the breaking up of the rivers and ponds and the settling of the weather is particularly interesting to us who live in a climate of so great extremes. When the warmer days come, they who dwell near the river hear the ice crack at night with a **startling whoop** as loud as artillery, as if its icy **fettors** were rent from end to end, and within a few days see it rapidly going out. So the **alligator** comes out of the mud with quakings of the earth. One old man, who has been a close observer of Nature, and seems as thoroughly wise in regard to all her operations as if she had been put upon the stocks when he was a boy, and he had helped to lay her **keel** -- who has come to his growth, and can hardly acquire more of natural lore if he should live to the age of Methuselah -- told me -- and I was surprised to hear him express wonder at any of Nature's operations, for I thought that there were no **secrets** between them -- that one spring day he took his gun and boat, and thought that he would have a little sport with the ducks. There was ice still on the meadows, but it was all gone out of the river, and he dropped down without obstruction from Sudbury, where he lived, to Fair Haven Pond, which he found, unexpectedly, covered for the most part with a firm field of ice. It was a warm day, and he was surprised to see so great a body of ice remaining. Not seeing any ducks, he hid his boat on the north or back side of an island in the pond, and then concealed himself in the bushes on the south side, to await them. The ice was melted for three or four rods from the shore, and there was a smooth and warm sheet of water, with a muddy bottom, such as the ducks love, within, and he thought it likely that some would be along pretty

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alligator: (*n*) lagarto, mosquito, leather, octopus, muggor, gator, crocodile, crocodilian.

fettors: (*n*) chains, captivity, bond, restraint, irons, handcuffs, iron, enduring; (*v*) confine, fee, embellish. ANTONYM: (*n*) liberation.

keel: (*n*) foot, hoof, carina, root, fin keel; (*v*) careen, cool, pitch, tumble, droop, flag.

secrets: (*n*) secrecy.

sensibly: (*adv*) sanely, intelligently,

rationally, pragmatically, realistically, cleverly, politically, perceptibly, soundly, noticeably, wisely. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) foolishly, ludicrously, ridiculously, unreasonably, illogically, madly, irrationally, hastily, stupidly, irresponsibly, immaturely. **spirited:** (*adj*) animated, frisky, energetic, racy, bold, gritty, quick, enthusiastic, dashing, peppy, brave. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) spiritless, lifeless,

feeble, cowardly, apathetic, lethargic, spineless, dull, solemn, sluggish, lackluster.

startling: (*adj*) wonderful, shocking, surprising, striking, alarming, appalling, marvellous, dramatic, frightful, sensational, lurid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unremarkable, soothing, comforting.

whoop: (*n, v*) shout, call; (*v*) howl, yell, shriek, roar, bellow, halloo, cough, hack; (*n*) vociferation.

soon. After he had lain still there about an hour he heard a low and seemingly very distant sound, but singularly grand and impressive, unlike anything he had ever heard, gradually swelling and increasing as if it would have a universal and memorable ending, a sullen rush and roar, which seemed to him all at once like the sound of a vast body of fowl coming in to settle there, and, seizing his gun, he started up in haste and excited; but he found, to his surprise, that the whole body of the ice had started while he lay there, and drifted in to the shore, and the sound he had heard was made by its edge **grating** on the shore -- at first gently nibbled and **crumbled** off, but at length heaving up and scattering its wrecks along the island to a considerable height before it came to a standstill.

At length the sun's rays have attained the right angle, and warm winds blow up mist and rain and melt the snowbanks, and the sun, dispersing the mist, smiles on a **checkered** landscape of russet and white smoking with incense, through which the traveller picks his way from **islet** to islet, cheered by the music of a thousand tinkling rills and rivulets whose veins are filled with the blood of winter which they are bearing off.

Few phenomena gave me more delight than to observe the forms which thawing sand and clay assume in flowing down the sides of a deep cut on the railroad through which I passed on my way to the village, a phenomenon not very common on so large a scale, though the number of freshly exposed banks of the right material must have been greatly multiplied since railroads were invented. The material was sand of every degree of **fineness** and of various rich colors, commonly mixed with a little clay. When the frost comes out in the spring, and even in a thawing day in the winter, the sand begins to flow down the slopes like **lava**, sometimes bursting out through the snow and overflowing it where no sand was to be seen before. Innumerable little streams overlap and **interlace** one with another, exhibiting a sort of hybrid product, which obeys half way the law of currents, and half way that of vegetation. As it flows it takes the forms of sappy leaves or vines, making heaps of **pulpy** sprays a foot or more in depth, and resembling, as you look down on them, the lacinated, **lobed**, and **imbricated** thalluses of some **lichens**; or you are reminded of coral, of leopard's

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checkered: (*adj*) check, chequered, varied, ever changing, motley, plaid, dappled, variable, mutable, multicolored, mottled.

crumbled: (*adj*) rotten, fragmented.

fineness: (*n*) refinement, elegance, daintiness, thinness, choiceness, beauty, superiority, subtlety, slimness, slenderness, narrowness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) stoutness, thickness, vulgarity, inaccuracy, coarseness, width.

grating: (*adj*) hoarse, strident, harsh, discordant, gravelly, raspy, gruff, raucous; (*n, v*) lattice; (*n*) grate, grid.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pleasing, soothing, smooth, harmonious.

imbricated: (*v*) ironclad, loricated; (*adj*) unsmooth.

interlace: (*v*) entwine, tangle, braid, enlace, lace, twine, entangle, plait, interlock, intersect, interweave.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) unpick, untwine, undo.

islet: (*n*) island, ait, reef, holm, atoll, eyot, breaker, coral reef, coral Island, wight.

lava: (*adj*) pituite.

lichens: (*n*) fungi, Thallophyta.

lobed: (*adj*) lobated, compounder, compound, having lobes.

pulpy: (*adj*) soft, yielding, fleshy, succulent, spongy, silken, mild, pulpous, downy, squashy, containing pulp.

paws or birds' feet, of brains or lungs or bowels, and **excrements** of all kinds. It is a truly grotesque vegetation, whose forms and color we see imitated in bronze, a sort of architectural foliage more ancient and typical than **acanthus**, chicory, ivy, vine, or any vegetable leaves; destined perhaps, under some circumstances, to become a puzzle to future geologists. The whole cut impressed me as if it were a cave with its stalactites laid open to the light. The various shades of the sand are **singularly** rich and agreeable, embracing the different iron colors, brown, gray, yellowish, and **reddish**. When the flowing mass reaches the drain at the foot of the bank it spreads out flatter into strands, the separate streams losing their semi-cylindrical form and gradually becoming more flat and broad, running together as they are more moist, till they form an almost flat sand, still variously and beautifully shaded, but in which you can trace the original forms of vegetation; till at length, in the water itself, they are converted into banks, like those formed off the mouths of rivers, and the forms of vegetation are lost in the ripple marks on the bottom.

The whole bank, which is from twenty to forty feet high, is sometimes overlaid with a mass of this kind of foliage, or sandy **rupture**, for a quarter of a mile on one or both sides, the produce of one spring day. What makes this sand foliage remarkable is its springing into existence thus suddenly. When I see on the one side the inert bank -- for the sun acts on one side first -- and on the other this luxuriant foliage, the creation of an hour, I am affected as if in a peculiar sense I stood in the laboratory of the Artist who made the world and me -- had come to where he was still at work, sporting on this bank, and with excess of energy **strewing** his fresh designs about. I feel as if I were nearer to the vitals of the **globe**, for this sandy overflow is something such a **foliaceous** mass as the vitals of the animal body. You find thus in the very sands an anticipation of the vegetable leaf. No wonder that the earth expresses itself **outwardly** in leaves, it so labors with the idea inwardly. The **atoms** have already learned this law, and are pregnant by it. The overhanging leaf sees here its prototype. Internally, whether in the globe or animal body, it is a moist thick lobe, a word especially applicable to the liver and lungs and the leaves of fat (j nai, labor, lapsus, to flow or slip downward, a **lapsing**; jiais, globus, lobe, globe; also lap, flap, and many

Thesaurus

acanthus: (*n*) cartouche, zigzag, astragal.

atoms: (*n*) smithereens, Smither.

excrements: (*n*) dejection, egesta, excreta.

foliaceous: (*adj*) foliated, leafy, foliar, foliose, foliaged.

lapsing: (*n*) backsliding, lapse, atavism, relapse, relapsing, reversion, reverting, recidivism, failure.

lobe: (*n*) lobule, Ventral lobe, Olfactory lobe, mesolobe, division,

flap, projection, branch, wing, lobular, loma.

outwardly: (*adv*) exteriorly, superficially, apparently, outside, seemingly, without, ostensibly, evidently, extrinsically, outerly, outsidely. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) internally, underneath.

reddish: (*adj*) ruddy, rosy, crimson, cherry, rufescent, rufous, rubicund, scarlet, rubedinous, ruby, colorful.

rupture: (*n, v*) fracture, crack, tear,

split, burst; (*n*) rift, rent, hernia, interruption, breach, breakage.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) repair, unity; (*n, v*) mend.

singularly: (*adv*) peculiarly, uniquely, unusually, curiously, rarely, uncommonly, oddly, solely, exceptionally, individually; (*adj, adv*) remarkably.

strewing: (*n*) scatter, spreading, spread, sprinkling, sprinkle, dispersion.

other words); externally a dry thin leaf, even as the f and v are a pressed and dried b. The radicals of lobe are lb, the soft mass of the b (single lobed, or B, double lobed), with the liquid l behind it pressing it forward. In globe, glb, the **guttural** g adds to the meaning the capacity of the throat. The feathers and wings of birds are still **drier** and thinner leaves. Thus, also, you pass from the **lumpish grub** in the earth to the airy and **fluttering** butterfly. The very globe continually transcends and translates itself, and becomes winged in its orbit. Even ice begins with delicate crystal leaves, as if it had flowed into moulds which the fronds of waterplants have impressed on the watery mirror. The whole tree itself is but one leaf, and rivers are still vaster leaves whose **pulp** is intervening earth, and towns and cities are the ova of insects in their axils.

When the sun withdraws the sand ceases to flow, but in the morning the streams will start once more and branch and branch again into a myriad of others. You here see perchance how blood-vessels are formed. If you look closely you observe that first there pushes forward from the thawing mass a stream of softened sand with a drop-like point, like the ball of the finger, feeling its way slowly and blindly downward, until at last with more heat and moisture, as the sun gets higher, the most fluid portion, in its effort to obey the law to which the most inert also yields, separates from the latter and forms for itself a meandering channel or artery within that, in which is seen a little silvery stream **glancing** like lightning from one stage of pulpy leaves or branches to another, and ever and anon swallowed up in the sand. It is wonderful how rapidly yet perfectly the sand organizes itself as it flows, using the best material its mass affords to form the sharp edges of its channel. Such are the sources of rivers. In the silicious matter which the water deposits is perhaps the bony system, and in the still finer soil and organic matter the **fleshy** fibre or cellular tissue. What is man but a mass of thawing clay? The ball of the human finger is but a drop congealed. The fingers and toes flow to their extent from the thawing mass of the body. Who knows what the human body would expand and flow out to under a more genial heaven? Is not the hand a spreading palm leaf with its lobes and veins? The ear may be regarded, **fancifully**, as a lichen, umbilicaria, on the side of the head, with its lobe or drop. The lip -- **labium**, from labor (?) -- laps or

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drier: (*n*) dryer, drying agent, kiln, clothes dryer, desiccant, core carrier, appliance, exsiccator; (*adj*) dried.

fancifully: (*adv*) fantastically, fantastically, chimerically, unreally, imaginarily, freakishly, bizarrely, visionarily, ideally, notionally, fancily.

fleshy: (*adj*) corpulent, brawny, chubby, overweight, obese, heavy, stout, round, succulent; (*adj, adv*) plump; (*adv*) portly. ANTONYMS:

(*adj*) slim, slender.

fluttering: (*adj*) flying, palpitating, flittering, flaring, aflare, waving; (*n*) flutter, flapping, flicker, flitting; (*adv*) flutteringly.

glancing: (*adj*) passing.

grub: (*n, v*) drudge; (*v*) dig, feed, delve, eat, scour; (*n*) food, eats, chuck, maggot, chow. ANTONYM: (*v*) plant.

guttural: (*adj*) hoarse, throaty, gruff, croaking, husky, harsh, velar,

raucous, grum; (*n*) dental; (*v*) nasal. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) soft, smooth, high.

labium: (*n*) lip, labia, labia majora, labia minora.

lumpish: (*adj*) gawky, crass, lubberly, sluggish, inert, hulking, heavy, cumbersome, clumsy, dull; (*v*) massive.

pulp: (*n*) flesh, pith, puree, cellulose, pap, magazine, bagasse, marrow; (*v*) grind, squash; (*adj*) taste.

lapses from the sides of the cavernous mouth. The nose is a manifest congealed drop or **stalactite**. The chin is a still larger drop, the **confluent** dripping of the face. The cheeks are a slide from the brows into the valley of the face, opposed and **diffused** by the cheek bones. Each rounded lobe of the vegetable leaf, too, is a thick and now **loitering** drop, larger or smaller; the lobes are the fingers of the leaf; and as many lobes as it has, in so many directions it tends to flow, and more heat or other genial influences would have caused it to flow yet farther.

Thus it seemed that this one hillside illustrated the principle of all the operations of Nature. The Maker of this earth but patented a leaf. What Champollion will **decipher** this **hieroglyphic** for us, that we may turn over a new leaf at last? This phenomenon is more **exhilarating** to me than the luxuriance and fertility of vineyards. True, it is somewhat **excrementitious** in its character, and there is no end to the heaps of liver, lights, and bowels, as if the globe were turned wrong side outward; but this suggests at least that Nature has some bowels, and there again is mother of humanity. This is the frost coming out of the ground; this is Spring. It precedes the green and **flowery** spring, as mythology precedes regular poetry. I know of nothing more **purgative** of winter fumes and indigestions. It convinces me that Earth is still in her swaddling-clothes, and stretches forth baby fingers on every side. Fresh curls spring from the baldest brow. There is nothing inorganic. These foliaceous heaps lie along the bank like the slag of a furnace, showing that Nature is "in full blast" within. The earth is not a mere fragment of dead history, stratum upon stratum like the leaves of a book, to be studied by geologists and antiquaries chiefly, but living poetry like the leaves of a tree, which precede flowers and fruit -- not a fossil earth, but a living earth; compared with whose great central life all animal and vegetable life is merely parasitic. Its **throes** will heave our exuviae from their graves. You may melt your metals and cast them into the most beautiful moulds you can; they will never excite me like the forms which this molten earth flows out into. And not only it, but the institutions upon it are plastic like clay in the hands of the potter.

Thesaurus

confluent: (*v*) convergent; (*adj*) flowing together, blending, merging.
decipher: (*v*) interpret, explain, solve, decode, translate, disentangle, resolve, construe, read, decrypt, discover. ANTONYMS: (*v*) encode, code, encipher, scramble, confuse.
diffused: (*adj*) spread, dispersed, dim, distributed, softened.
excrementitious: (*adj*) excrementitial.
exhilarating: (*adj*) exciting, stimulating, invigorating, thrilling,

elating, moving, exhilarative, gladdening, brisk, glad, delighted. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) boring, dull, depressing, discouraging, dispiriting.
flowery: (*adj, v*) florid; (*adj*) bloomy, floral, blossomy, figurative, fancy, verbose, rhetorical, elaborate, ornamented; (*v*) gay. ANTONYM: (*adj*) concise.
hieroglyphic: (*adj*) hieroglyphical, illegible; (*v*) arrowhead, ogham, runes, cuneiform character, uncial

writing; (*n*) writing, orthography, ideograph, hieratic script.
loitering: (*n*) delay, dalliance; (*adj*) slow, dilatory, delaying, inactive, truant, trifling, tardy; (*v*) loiter; (*adv*) loiteringly.
purgative: (*adj*) evacuant, medicinal, emptying, psychotherapeutic; (*n*) aperient, physic, aloes, purgament; (*v*) detergent, lotion, wash.
stalactite: (*n*) drip stone, cylinder.
throes: (*n*) hurt, labor, suffering.

Ere long, not only on these banks, but on every hill and plain and in every hollow, the frost comes out of the ground like a dormant **quadruped** from its burrow, and seeks the sea with music, or migrates to other climes in clouds. Thaw with his gentle persuasion is more powerful than Thor with his hammer. The one melts, the other but breaks in pieces.

When the ground was partially bare of snow, and a few warm days had dried its surface somewhat, it was pleasant to compare the first tender signs of the infant year just peeping forth with the stately beauty of the withered vegetation which had **withstood** the winter -- life-everlasting, goldenrods, pinweeds, and graceful wild grasses, more obvious and interesting frequently than in summer even, as if their beauty was not ripe till then; even cotton-grass, cat-tails, mulleins, johnswort, hard-hack, meadow-sweet, and other strong-stemmed plants, those **unexhausted** granaries which entertain the earliest birds -- decent weeds, at least, which **widowed** Nature wears. I am particularly attracted by the **arching** and sheaf-like top of the wool-grass; it brings back the summer to our winter memories, and is among the forms which art loves to copy, and which, in the vegetable kingdom, have the same relation to types already in the mind of man that astronomy has. It is an antique style, older than Greek or Egyptian. Many of the phenomena of Winter are **suggestive** of an inexpressible tenderness and fragile delicacy. We are accustomed to hear this king described as a rude and boisterous tyrant; but with the **gentleness** of a lover he adorns the **tresses** of Summer.

At the approach of spring the red squirrels got under my house, two at a time, directly under my feet as I sat reading or writing, and kept up the queerest **chuckling** and chirruping and vocal pirouetting and gurgling sounds that ever were heard; and when I stamped they only chirruped the louder, as if past all fear and respect in their mad pranks, defying humanity to stop them. No, you don't -- **chickaree** -- chickaree. They were wholly deaf to my arguments, or failed to perceive their force, and fell into a strain of **invective** that was irresistible.

Thesaurus

arching: (*adj*) arced, curved, bowed, arciform, arcuate; (*n*) hogging, curvature, upthrust.

chickaree: (*adj*) courser, race horse, greyhound, eagle, antelope, doe, camel bird, gazelle, squirrel, hare.

chuckling: (*n*) laughter.

gentleness: (*adj, n*) kindness, courtesy, benignity, compassion; (*n*) kindliness, lenity, mildness, sweetness, softness, benevolence, mercy. ANTONYMS: (*n*) severity, harshness, fierceness,

cruelty, ferocity, brusqueness, abruptness, rage, callousness, sharpness, roughness.

invective: (*n, v*) abuse, insult, contumely, vituperation; (*n*) diatribe, denunciation, tirade, curse, reproach, ignominy; (*adj*) abusive.

quadruped: (*n*) beast, tetrapod, mollusk, insect, mammal, creature, biped; (*adj*) quadrupedal.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) bipedal.

suggestive: (*adj, v*) expressive; (*adj*)

obscene, spicy, allusive, graphic, smutty, significative, narrative, meaningful, epic, implicative.

tresses: (*n*) locks, mop, head of hair.

unexhausted: (*v*) unwasted; (*adj*) unweakened, unwithered, unshaken, not spent, not exhausted, not emptied, inexhausted, unworn.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) exhausted.

widowed: (*adj*) widow, alone, vidual.

withstood: (*v*) resist.

The first sparrow of spring! The year beginning with younger hope than ever! The faint silvery warblings heard over the partially bare and moist fields from the bluebird, the song sparrow, and the red-wing, as if the last flakes of winter tinkled as they fell! What at such a time are histories, chronologies, traditions, and all written revelations? The brooks sing carols and **glees** to the spring. The marsh hawk, sailing low over the meadow, is already seeking the first slimy life that awakes. The sinking sound of melting snow is heard in all dells, and the ice dissolves apace in the ponds. The grass flames up on the hillsides like a spring fire -- "et primitus oritur herba imbribus primoribus evocata" -- as if the earth sent forth an inward heat to greet the returning sun; not yellow but green is the color of its flame; -- the symbol of perpetual youth, the grass-blade, like a long green ribbon, streams from the sod into the summer, checked indeed by the frost, but anon pushing on again, lifting its **spear** of last year's hay with the fresh life below. It grows as steadily as the **rill** oozes out of the ground. It is almost identical with that, for in the growing days of June, when the rills are dry, the grass-blades are their channels, and from year to year the herds drink at this perennial green stream, and the **mower** draws from it **betimes** their winter supply. So our human life but dies down to its root, and still puts forth its green blade to eternity.

Walden is melting apace. There is a canal two rods wide along the **northerly** and **westerly** sides, and wider still at the east end. A great field of ice has cracked off from the main body. I hear a song sparrow singing from the bushes on the shore -- olit, olit, olit -- chip, chip, chip, che **char** -- che wiss, wiss, wiss. He too is helping to crack it. How handsome the great sweeping curves in the edge of the ice, answering somewhat to those of the shore, but more regular! It is unusually hard, owing to the recent severe but transient cold, and all watered or waved like a palace floor. But the wind slides eastward over its opaque surface in vain, till it reaches the living surface beyond. It is glorious to behold this ribbon of water sparkling in the sun, the bare face of the pond full of glee and youth, as if it spoke the joy of the fishes within it, and of the sands on its shore -- a silvery **sheen** as from the scales of a leuciscus, as it were all one active fish. Such is the

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betimes: (*adv*) early, soon, anon, rath, betime, ahead of time, rathe.

char: (*v*) scorch, coal, bake, carbonize, sear, singe; (*n*) charr, charcoal, cleaning woman, chore, charwoman.

glee: (*n*) delight, cheerfulness, mirth, fun, gaiety, hilarity, joy, rejoicing, frolic, jubilation, happiness.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) sadness, gloom, sorrow, despondency, displeasure, misery, boredom.

mower: (*n*) lawn mower, band mower,

garden tool, hand mower, knife mower, motor mower, scytheman, lawn tool.

northerly: (*adj, adv, n*) north; (*adj, n*) northern; (*adv*) northwards, northward, in the north, septentrionally, to the north, northerly; (*adj*) boreal.

rill: (*n*) channel, streamlet, creek, rivulet, run, runnel, stream, bourn, beck, arroyo, watercourse.

sheen: (*n, v*) shine, gleam; (*n*) polish,

gloss, light, glow, lustre, glitter, brightness, brilliance; (*v*) burnish. ANTONYM: (*n*) dullness.

spear: (*n*) harpoon, lance, pike, fizegig, prick, gig, javelin, shaft, halberd; (*v*) stab, spike.

westerly: (*adj*) western, westbound, hillbilly; (*n*) west wind, prevailing westerly, wester; (*adv*) westwards; (*v*) to the west. ANTONYM: (*adv*) easterly.

contrast between winter and spring. Walden was dead and is alive again. But this spring it broke up more steadily, as I have said.

The change from storm and winter to serene and mild weather, from dark and sluggish hours to bright and elastic ones, is a memorable crisis which all things **proclaim**. It is seemingly **instantaneous** at last. Suddenly an influx of light filled my house, though the evening was at hand, and the clouds of winter still overhung it, and the **eaves** were dripping with **sleety** rain. I looked out the window, and lo! where yesterday was cold gray ice there lay the transparent pond already calm and full of hope as in a summer evening, reflecting a summer evening sky in its bosom, though none was visible overhead, as if it had intelligence with some remote horizon. I heard a robin in the distance, the first I had heard for many a thousand years, methought, whose note I shall not forget for many a thousand more -- the same sweet and powerful song as of yore. O the evening robin, at the end of a New England summer day! If I could ever find the twig he sits upon! I mean he; I mean the twig. This at least is not the *Turdus migratorius*. The pitch pines and shrub oaks about my house, which had so long drooped, suddenly resumed their several characters, looked brighter, greener, and more erect and alive, as if effectually cleansed and restored by the rain. I knew that it would not rain any more. You may tell by looking at any twig of the forest, ay, at your very wood-pile, whether its winter is past or not. As it grew darker, I was startled by the honking of geese flying low over the woods, like weary travellers getting in late from Southern lakes, and indulging at last in **unrestrained** complaint and mutual consolation. Standing at my door, I could bear the rush of their wings; when, driving toward my house, they suddenly spied my light, and with hushed **clamor** wheeled and settled in the pond. So I came in, and shut the door, and passed my first spring night in the woods.

In the morning I watched the geese from the door through the mist, sailing in the middle of the pond, fifty rods off, so large and **tumultuous** that Walden appeared like an artificial pond for their amusement. But when I stood on the shore they at once rose up with a great flapping of wings at the signal of their commander, and when they had got into rank circled about over my head,

Thesaurus

clamor: (*n, v*) outcry, cry, clamour, hullabaloo, roar, shout; (*n*) noise, racket, uproar, exclamation, hubbub. ANTONYMS: (*n*) silence, serenity, tranquility; (*v*) whisper, mutter.

eaves: (*n*) arch, balcony, cupola, dome, penthouse, eave, overhang, attic, loft, projection, roof space.

instantaneous: (*adj*) immediate, prompt, sudden, precipitate, momentary, abrupt, precipitous, precipitant, swift, momentaneous,

quick. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) gradual, delayed, considered.

proclaim: (*v*) declare, assert, advertise, broadcast, promulgate, enunciate, herald, decree, divulge, notify, annunciate.

sleety: (*adj*) clouded, cold, dirty, dirty water, filthy, foul, frozen, groveling, gusty, nasty, base.

tumultuous: (*adj, n*) boisterous, tempestuous; (*adj*) disorderly, riotous, turbulent, noisy, furious,

loud, troubled, disturbed; (*adj, v*) tumultuary. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) peaceful, calm.

unrestrained: (*adj, n, v*) loose; (*adj*) unconstrained, wild, uncontrolled, immoderate, extravagant, unconfined, mad, uninhibited; (*adj, v*) dissolute, wanton. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) restrained, restricted, contained, limited, partial, biddable, frugal, hidden, inhibited, manageable, reserved.

twenty-nine of them, and then **steered** straight to Canada, with a regular honk from the leader at intervals, trusting to break their fast in muddier pools. A "plump" of ducks rose at the same time and **took** the route to the north in the wake of their noisier cousins.

For a week I heard the **circling**, groping clangor of some solitary **goose** in the **foggy** mornings, seeking its companion, and still peopling the woods with the sound of a larger life than they could sustain. In April the pigeons were seen again flying express in small flocks, and in due time I heard the martins **twittering** over my clearing, though it had not seemed that the township contained so many that it could afford me any, and I fancied that they were **peculiarly** of the ancient race that dwelt in hollow trees ere white men came. In almost all climes the tortoise and the frog are among the precursors and heralds of this season, and birds fly with song and glancing plumage, and plants spring and bloom, and winds blow, to correct this slight **oscillation** of the poles and preserve the equilibrium of nature.

As every season seems best to us in its turn, so the coming in of spring is like the creation of Cosmos out of Chaos and the realization of the Golden Age.--

"Eurus ad Auroram Nabathaeaque regna recessit,
Persidaque, et radiis juga subdita matutinis."

"The East-Wind withdrew to Aurora and the Nabathean kingdom,
And the Persian, and the ridges placed under the morning rays.

.....

Man was born. Whether that Artificer of things,
The origin of a better world, made him from the divine seed;
Or the earth, being recent and lately **sundered** from the high
Ether, retained some seeds of **cognate** heaven."

Thesaurus

circling: (*v*) snaky, serpentine; (*adj*) rotating, spinning, circular, spiral, moving; (*n*) circulation, circuit, cycling; (*adv*) around.

cognate: (*adj*) alike, allied, related, like, connate, kindred, kin, consanguineous; (*n*) relative, cognate word, sib. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dissimilar, unrelated, unlike, unlike, disassociated, unconnected.

foggy: (*adj*) hazy, misty, brumous, murky, blurred, bleary, fuzzy,

opaque, thick, indefinite, nebulous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) precise, sunny.

goose: (*n*) goof, fathead, cuckoo, barnacle, fool, jackass, Brent, brant, goosecap; (*n, v*) spur; (*v*) serpent.

oscillation: (*n*) beat, tremor, vibration, sway, swing, pulse, libration, variation, vacillation, fluctuation, quiver.

peculiarly: (*adj, adv*) particularly, curiously, unusually, uncommonly, singularly; (*adv*) especially, oddly,

strangely, specifically, weirdly, specially. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) typically, ordinarily, slightly.

steered: (*adj*) directed.

sundered: (*v*) subjugated, ruined financially, rough, subdued, humbled, cracked, not continuous, strained, disunited, disconnected, contrite.

took: (*adj*) taken; (*v*) receive.

twittering: (*n*) chirping, peeping, tweeting.

A single gentle rain makes the grass many shades greener. So our prospects **brighten** on the influx of better thoughts. We should be blessed if we lived in the present always, and took advantage of every accident that befell us, like the grass which confesses the influence of the slightest dew that falls on it; and did not spend our time in **atoning** for the neglect of past opportunities, which we call doing our duty. We **loiter** in winter while it is already spring. In a pleasant spring morning all men's sins are forgiven. Such a day is a truce to vice. While such a sun holds out to burn, the vilest **sinner** may return. Through our own recovered innocence we discern the innocence of our neighbors. You may have known your neighbor yesterday for a thief, a **drunkard**, or a sensualist, and merely pitied or despised him, and despaired of the world; but the sun shines bright and warm this first spring morning, **recreating** the world, and you meet him at some serene work, and see how it is exhausted and **debauched** veins expand with still joy and bless the new day, feel the spring influence with the innocence of infancy, and all his faults are forgotten. There is not only an atmosphere of good will about him, but even a savor of holiness groping for expression, blindly and ineffectually perhaps, like a new-born instinct, and for a short hour the south hill-side echoes to no vulgar jest. You see some innocent fair shoots preparing to burst from his gnarled **rind** and try another year's life, tender and fresh as the youngest plant. Even he has entered into the joy of his Lord. Why the **jailer** does not leave open his prison doors -- why the judge does not dismiss his case -- why the preacher does not dismiss his congregation! It is because they do not obey the hint which God gives them, nor accept the pardon which he freely offers to all.

"A return to goodness produced each day in the tranquil and beneficent breath of the morning, causes that in respect to the love of virtue and the hatred of vice, one approaches a little the primitive nature of man, as the sprouts of the forest which has been felled. In like manner the evil which one does in the interval of a day prevents the **germs** of virtues which began to spring up again from developing themselves and destroys them.

Thesaurus

atoning: (*v*) atone; (*adj*) apologetic, expiatory, penitent, piacular, satisfactory.

brighten: (*adj, v*) clear up; (*v*) light, illuminate, burnish, clear, gild, glow, perk up, cheer, irradiate, enliven. ANTONYMS: (*v*) upset, sadden, overcast, fade, dim, depress, blacken, spoil.

debauched: (*adj*) corrupt, fast, rakish, dissipated, depraved, licentious, profligate, immoral, degenerate,

libertine, lewd. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) upright, redeemed, purified, pure, cleansed, chaste, clean, innocent.

drunkard: (*n*) alcoholic, drinker, boozier, dipsomaniac, rummy, inebriate, toper, sot, bibber, lush, imbiber.

germs: (*n*) bacteria, germ, infection, microbes, microorganisms.

jailer: (*n*) prison guard, guard, keeper, screw, turnkey, warder, jailor, custos, custodian, goaler, lawman.

loiter: (*v*) dawdle, dally, tarry, hang around, prowl; (*adj, v*) loaf, delay, lounge, hesitate; (*adv, v*) lag; (*n, v*) saunter. ANTONYMS: (*v*) leave, lead.

recreating: (*adj*) recreative, amusing. **rind:** (*n*) bark, crust, cortex, husk, coat, hull, paring, fur, hide, surface; (*n, v*) skin.

sinner: (*n*) criminal, miscreant, culprit, sinful, trespasser, transgressor, evildoer, magdalen, rascal, villain, sinners.

"After the germs of virtue have thus been prevented many times from developing themselves, then the beneficent breath of evening does not suffice to preserve them. As soon as the breath of evening does not suffice longer to preserve them, then the nature of man does not differ much from that of the brute. Men seeing the nature of this man like that of the brute, think that he has never possessed the innate faculty of reason. Are those the true and natural sentiments of man?"

"The Golden Age was first created, which without any **avenger**
Spontaneously without law **cherished** fidelity and rectitude.
Punishment and fear were not; nor were threatening words read
On suspended brass; nor did the **suppliant** crowd fear
The words of their judge; but were safe without an avenger.
Not yet the pine felled on its mountains had descended
To the liquid waves that it might see a foreign world,
And mortals knew no shores but their own.

.....

There was eternal spring, and **placid** zephyrs with warm
Blasts soothed the flowers born without seed."

On the 29th of April, as I was fishing from the bank of the river near the Nine-Acre-Corner bridge, standing on the **quaking** grass and **willow** roots, where the muskrats **lurk**, I heard a singular rattling sound, somewhat like that of the sticks which boys play with their fingers, when, looking up, I observed a very slight and graceful hawk, like a nighthawk, alternately soaring like a ripple and tumbling a rod or two over and over, showing the under side of its wings, which gleamed like a **sat**in ribbon in the sun, or like the pearly inside of a shell. This sight reminded me of **falconry** and what nobleness and poetry are associated with that sport. The Merlin it seemed to me it might be called: but I care not for

Thesaurus

avenger: (*n*) vindicator, revenger, wreaker, venger, Eumenides, aggressor, assailant, attacker, retaliator.

cherished: (*adj*) dear, precious, loved, treasured, prized, intimate, wanted, valued, pet, valuable, close.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unremarkable, hated, distant.

falconry: (*n*) hawking, art, artistry.

lurk: (*v*) ambushade, skulk, prowl, waylay, lie in wait, conceal, lurch,

loiter, creep, wait, sneak.

placid: (*adj*) calm, composed, easygoing, equable, gentle, quiet, pacific, tranquil, cool, peaceable; (*adj, v*) peaceful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rough, energetic, stormy, frenetic, excitable, agitated, unstable, bothered, harsh, boisterous.

quaking: (*adj*) shaky, quivering, trembling, shaking, wobbly, unsteady, jarring, vibrant, uncertain, insecure; (*n*) fright.

satin: (*adj*) glossy, sleek, velvet, down, silky, silklike, silken, satiny, velure; (*n*) cloth, fabric.

suppliant: (*n*) petitioner, applicant, besieger, postulant, prayer, lover, suer; (*adj*) beseeching, supplicatory, imploring, humbly entreating.

willow: (*n*) willow tree, black willow, arctic willow, arroyo willow, balsam willow, bay willow, bearberry willow, white willow, silver willow; (*adj*) mourning, weeds.

its name. It was the most **ethereal** flight I had ever witnessed. It did not simply flutter like a butterfly, nor soar like the larger hawks, but it sported with proud reliance in the fields of air; mounting again and again with its strange chuckle, it repeated its free and beautiful fall, turning over and over like a kite, and then recovering from its lofty tumbling, as if it had never set its foot on terra firma. It **appeared** to have no companion in the universe -- sporting there alone -- and to need none but the morning and the ether with which it played. It was not lonely, but made all the earth lonely beneath it. Where was the parent which hatched it, its kindred, and its father in the heavens? The tenant of the air, it seemed related to the earth but by an egg hatched some time in the crevice of a crag; -- or was its native nest made in the angle of a cloud, woven of the rainbow's trimmings and the sunset sky, and lined with some soft midsummer haze caught up from earth? Its **eyry** now some **cliffy** cloud.

Beside this I got a rare mess of golden and silver and bright **cupreous** fishes, which looked like a string of jewels. Ah! I have penetrated to those meadows on the morning of many a first spring day, jumping from **hummock** to hummock, from willow root to willow root, when the wild river valley and the woods were bathed in so pure and bright a light as would have waked the dead, if they had been slumbering in their graves, as some suppose. There needs no stronger proof of immortality. All things must live in such a light. O Death, where was thy sting? O Grave, where was thy victory, then?

Our village life would **stagnate** if it were not for the unexplored forests and meadows which surround it. We need the tonic of wildness -- to wade sometimes in marshes where the **bittern** and the meadow-hen lurk, and hear the booming of the **snipe**; to smell the whispering sedge where only some wilder and more solitary fowl builds her nest, and the mink crawls with its belly close to the ground. At the same time that we are earnest to explore and learn all things, we require that all things be mysterious and unexplorable, that land and sea be infinitely wild, unsurveyed and unfathomed by us because **unfathomable**. We can never have enough of nature. We must be refreshed by the sight of inexhaustible vigor, vast and **titanic** features, the sea-coast with its wrecks, the

Thesaurus

appeared: (*n*) appearing.

bittern: (*n*) heron, salt liquor.

cliffy: (*adj*) rugged, precipitous, craggy.

cupreous: (*adj*) containing copper.

ether: (*adj*) air, elastic fluid, anaesthetic agent, steam, flatus, fume, reek, vapor; (*n*) divinyl ether, firmament, vinyl ether.

eyry: (*n*) eyrie, aerie, aery, den, cell, cave, habitation, hive, rookery, hiding place, sanctum sanctorum.

hummock: (*adj, n*) knoll; (*n*) hillock, mound, barrow, kopje, hammock, ledge, spur, hump, heap, cumulus.

snipe: (*v*) attack, lash out, round, sharpshoot, clapperclaw; (*n*) grouse, plover, dowitcher, rail, blackcock, jacksnipe.

stagnate: (*v*) laze, loll, idle, stand still, drag, lie around; (*n*) halt, abide, stand, pause; (*adj*) stagnant.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) rise, boom, change.

titanic: (*adj*) enormous, giant, colossal,

massive, mammoth, huge, vast, stupendous, immense, titanical, titanic. ANTONYM: (*adj*) tiny.

unfathomable: (*adj*) incomprehensible, inexplicable, inscrutable, unintelligible, impenetrable, abysmal, deep, immeasurable, unaccountable, obscure, enigmatic. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fathomable, shallow, explicable, explainable, comprehensible, believable, straightforward, understandable, legible, clear.

wilderness with its living and its **decaying** trees, the thunder-cloud, and the rain which lasts three weeks and produces freshets. We need to witness our own limits transgressed, and some life **pasturing** freely where we never wander. We are cheered when we observe the **vulture** feeding on the carrion which disgusts and disheartens us, and deriving health and strength from the **repast**. There was a dead horse in the hollow by the path to my house, which compelled me sometimes to go out of my way, especially in the night when the air was heavy, but the assurance it gave me of the strong appetite and **inviolable** health of Nature was my compensation for this. I love to see that Nature is so rife with life that myriads can be afforded to be sacrificed and suffered to prey on one another; that tender organizations can be so serenely squashed out of existence like pulp -- tadpoles which **herons gobble** up, and tortoises and **toads** run over in the road; and that sometimes it has rained flesh and blood! With the liability to accident, we must see how little account is to be made of it. The impression made on a wise man is that of universal innocence. Poison is not poisonous after all, nor are any wounds fatal. Compassion is a very untenable ground. It must be **expeditious**. Its pleadings will not bear to be stereotyped.

Early in May, the oaks, hickories, maples, and other trees, just putting out amidst the pine woods around the pond, imparted a brightness like sunshine to the landscape, especially in cloudy days, as if the sun were breaking through mists and shining faintly on the hillsides here and there. On the third or fourth of May I saw a loon in the pond, and during the first week of the month I heard the whip-poor-will, the brown thrasher, the veery, the wood pewee, the chewink, and other birds. I had heard the wood thrush long before. The phoebe had already come once more and looked in at my door and window, to see if my house was cavern-like enough for her, sustaining herself on humming wings with **clined** talons, as if she held by the air, while she surveyed the premises. The sulphur-like **pollen** of the pitch pine soon covered the pond and the stones and rotten wood along the shore, so that you could have collected a **barrelful**. This is the "sulphur showers" we bear of. Even in Calidas' drama of Sacontala, we read of "rills dyed yellow with the golden dust of the lotus." And so the seasons went rolling on into summer, as one rambles into higher and higher grass.

Thesaurus

barrelful: (*n*) containerful, cask.

clined: (*adj*) assured, decided, tight, tighter.

decaying: (*adj*) rotten, decayed, rotting, stale, decadent, stinking, decomposed, smelly, shabby, seedy; (*n*) fading. ANTONYM: (*adj*) pristine.

expeditious: (*adj*) agile, brisk, swift, prompt, quick, hasty, fast, rapid, speedy, efficient, ready.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ineffectual, sluggish, slothful, inefficient,

leisurely.

gobble: (*v*) devour, gulp, consume, engorge, stuff, guzzle, gorge, swallow, eat, cram; (*n*) cry.

herons: (*n*) Ardeidae, bitterns, egrets, family Ardeidae.

inviolable: (*adj*) sacrosanct, infrangible, hallowed, invulnerable, inviolate, inalienable, impenetrable, absolute, impregnable; (*v*) imprescriptible, unimpeachable.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) acceptable,

breakable.

pasturing: (*n*) grazing.

pollen: (*n*) powder.

repast: (*n*) feast, food, banquet, dinner, lunch, refection, collation, luncheon, spread, potluck, eating.

toads: (*n*) caecilians, class Amphibia, frogs, newts, salamanders.

vulture: (*n*) predator, marauder, ghoul; (*adj*) tyrant, despot, harpy, inquisitor, precisian, oppressor, martinet, extortioner.

Thus was my first year's life in the **woods completed**; and the **second** year was **similar** to it. I **finally left** Walden September 6th, 1847.

Thesaurus

completed: (*adj, adv, v*) done; (*adj*) accomplished, perfect, ready, whole, through, terminated, fulfilled; (*adj, adv*) finished, over, ended.

finally: (*adv*) lastly, ultimately, at last, at long last, definitely, terminally, decisively, latestly, at length; (*adv, v*) definitively; (*adj*) final. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) initially, partially, soon, unconvincingly.

left: (*adj*) gone, absent, port, odd,

remaining, larboard, gauche, sinister; (*n*) left hand, left wing, mitt.

ANTONYMS: (*adj, adv, n*) right; (*adj*) remaining, center, starboard, present.

second: (*n*) instant, jiffy, flash, minute, sec; (*v*) back, endorse, help; (*n, v*) support; (*adj*) latter, further.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) top, former; (*n*) age.

similar: (*adj*) alike, related, comparable, equivalent, analogous,

equal, akin, correspondent; (*adj, v*) like, same, identical. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unlike, different, incompatible, opposing, opposite, loose, unlike, complementary, unrelated.

woods: (*n*) forest, woodland, grove, timber, jungle, sir Henry wood, vegetation, timberland, Natalie wood, virgin forest; (*adj*) wooden.

CONCLUSION

To the sick the doctors wisely recommend a change of air and scenery. Thank Heaven, here is not all the world. The **buckeye** does not grow in New England, and the **mockingbird** is rarely heard here. The wild goose is more of a **cosmopolite** than we; he **breaks** his fast in Canada, takes a luncheon in the Ohio, and plumes himself for the night in a southern **bayou**. Even the bison, to some extent, keeps pace with the seasons **cropping** the pastures of the Colorado only till a greener and sweeter grass awaits him by the Yellowstone. Yet we think that if rail fences are pulled down, and stone walls **piled** up on our farms, bounds are **henceforth** set to our lives and our fates decided. If you are chosen town clerk, forsooth, you cannot go to Tierra del Fuego this summer: but you may go to the land of infernal fire nevertheless. The universe is wider than our views of it.

Yet we should oftener look over the **taffarel** of our craft, like curious passengers, and not make the voyage like stupid sailors picking oakum. The other side of the globe is but the home of our correspondent. Our **voyaging** is only great-circle sailing, and the doctors **prescribe** for diseases of the skin merely. One hastens to southern Africa to chase the **giraffe**; but surely that is not the game he would be after. How long, pray, would a man hunt **giraffes** if he could? Snipes and **woodcocks** also may afford rare sport; but I trust it would be nobler game to shoot one's self.--

Thesaurus

bayou: (*n*) inlet, estuary, fiord, lake, swamp, cove, fen, marsh; (*v*) creek, river, stream.

breaks: (*n*) lot, destiny, opportunity, chance.

buckeye: (*n*) seed, Aesculus hippocastanum, conker, horse chestnut, Ohioan.

cosmopolite: (*n*) Benthamite, communist, citizen, philanthropist, utilitarian, socialist.

cropping: (*n*) harvest, napping,

masking.

giraffe: (*n*) Giraffa Camelopardalis, okapi; (*adj*) giant, grenadier.

giraffes: (*n*) antelopes, bison, camels, cattle, chevrotains, family Giraffidae, Ruminantia, suborder Ruminantia, Giraffidae.

henceforth: (*adv*) hence, in future, after this; (*adj*) following.

mockingbird: (*n*) oscine, flouter, jeerer.

piled: (*adj*) heaped, dense, aggregate,

collective, concentrated, cumulous.

prescribe: (*n, v*) ordain; (*v*) enjoin, decree, dictate, fix, command, assign, determine, set, stipulate, designate.

taffarel: (*n*) taffrail.

voyaging: (*n*) traveling around, movement, travel, journey, exploration, adventure, discovery, journeying; (*adj*) wayfaring.

woodcocks: (*n*) snipes, Scolopacidae, tattlers, dowitchers, curlews, godwits.

"Direct your eye right **inward**, and you'll find
A thousand regions in your mind
Yet **undiscovered**. Travel them, and be
Expert in home-cosmography."

What does Africa -- what does the West stand for? Is not our own interior white on the chart? black though it may prove, like the coast, when discovered. Is it the source of the Nile, or the Niger, or the Mississippi, or a Northwest Passage around this continent, that we would find? Are these the problems which most concern mankind? Is Franklin the only man who is lost, that his wife should be so earnest to find him? Does Mr. Grinnell know where he himself is? Be rather the Mungo Park, the Lewis and Clark and Frobisher, of your own streams and **oceans**; explore your own higher latitudes -- with shiploads of preserved meats to support you, if they be necessary; and pile the empty cans **sky-high** for a sign. Were preserved meats invented to preserve meat merely? Nay, be a Columbus to whole new continents and worlds within you, opening new channels, not of trade, but of thought. Every man is the lord of a realm beside which the **earthly** empire of the Czar is but a petty state, a hummock left by the ice. Yet some can be **patriotic** who have no self-respect, and sacrifice the greater to the less. They love the soil which makes their graves, but have no sympathy with the spirit which may still **animate** their clay. Patriotism is a maggot in their heads. What was the meaning of that South-Sea Exploring Expedition, with all its parade and expense, but an indirect recognition of the fact that there are continents and seas in the moral world to which every man is an **isthmus** or an inlet, yet unexplored by him, but that it is easier to sail many thousand miles through cold and storm and cannibals, in a government ship, with five hundred men and boys to assist one, than it is to explore the private sea, the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean of one's being alone.

"Erret, et extremos alter scrutetur Iberos.
Plus habet hic vitae, plus habet ille viae."

Thesaurus

animate: (*v*) inspire, encourage, quicken, invigorate, stimulate, revive, hearten; (*adj*, *v*) cheer, inspire, exhilarate; (*adj*) live. ANTONYMS: (*v*) deaden, inhibit, kill, discourage; (*adj*) inanimate, dead, dull, dispirited, insentient, sluggish, spiritless.
earthly: (*adj*, *n*) terrestrial; (*adj*) carnal, worldly, conceivable, human, geotic, secular, terrene, temporal, telluric, sublunary. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) spiritual, divine, ethereal, immortal,

impossible, improbable, inconceivable, celestial.
inward: (*adj*) inner, intrinsic, internal, interior, intestine, inherent, domestic; (*adv*) inwardly, inwards, in; (*n*) innards. ANTONYMS: (*adj*, *adv*) outward; (*adj*) outgoing, external.
isthmus: (*adj*) strait, neck, wasp, waist, middle constriction, stricture; (*n*) bridge, oasis, strip of land, neck of land, kissing point.
oceans: (*n*) ocean, load, lot, bushel,

mass, stack, mountain, heap.
patriotic: (*adj*) nationalistic, faithful, patriot, patriotic, philanthropic, xenophobic, chauvinistic, firm, jingoistic. ANTONYM: (*adj*) disloyal.
sky-high: (*adj*) expensive, lofty, prohibitive, excessive, tall.
undiscovered: (*v*) solved, undeveloped, unexplained, untraced; (*adj*) unnoticed, remote, unexplored, unheard-of, silly, unacquainted with, foolish.

Let them wander and **scrutinize** the outlandish Australians.
I have more of God, they more of the road.

It is not worth the while to go round the world to count the cats in Zanzibar. Yet do this even till you can do better, and you may perhaps find some "Symmes' Hole" by which to get at the inside at last. England and France, Spain and Portugal, Gold Coast and Slave Coast, all front on this private sea; but no bark from them has ventured out of sight of land, though it is without doubt the direct way to India. If you would learn to speak all tongues and conform to the customs of all nations, if you would travel **farther** than all travellers, be naturalized in all climes, and cause the Sphinx to dash her head against a stone, even obey the precept of the old philosopher, and Explore thyself. Herein are demanded the eye and the nerve. Only the defeated and deserters go to the wars, cowards that run away and **enlist**. Start now on that farthest western way, which does not pause at the Mississippi or the Pacific, nor conduct toward a wornout China or Japan, but leads on direct, a **tangent** to this sphere, summer and winter, day and night, sun down, moon down, and at last earth down too.

It is said that Mirabeau took to highway **robbery** "to **ascertain** what degree of resolution was necessary in order to place one's self in formal opposition to the most sacred laws of society." He declared that "a soldier who fights in the ranks does not require half so much courage as a **footpad**" -- "that honor and religion have never stood in the way of a **well-considered** and a firm resolve." This was **manly**, as the world goes; and yet it was idle, if not desperate. A saner man would have found himself often enough "in formal opposition" to what are deemed "the most sacred laws of society," through obedience to yet more sacred laws, and so have tested his resolution without going out of his way. It is not for a man to put himself in such an attitude to society, but to maintain himself in whatever attitude he find himself through obedience to the laws of his being, which will never be one of opposition to a just government, if he should chance to meet with such.

Thesaurus

ascertain: (*v*) determine, find out, learn, discover, check, tell, control, find, ensure, detect; (*adj, v*) establish. ANTONYM: (*v*) disprove.
enlist: (*v*) engage, recruit, employ, enroll, gain, get, join up, hire, acquire, join, enter. ANTONYMS: (*v*) discharge, resign, quit, dodge, avoid, leave, fire.
farther: (*adj, adv, prep*) beyond; (*adj*) additional, more, distant; (*adv*) furthermore, besides, abroad, in

addition, too; (*adj, prep*) outside; (*pron*) another. ANTONYMS: (*prep*) within; (*adv*) nearer, closer.
footpad: (*n*) Dick Turpin, padder, Macheath, bandit, sturdy beggar, pad, road agent, Claude Duval.
manly: (*adj*) manlike, masculine, manful, virile, brave, gallant; (*adv*) manfully, boldly, hardily, virilely; (*adj, adv*) stately. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) weak, unmanly, cowardly; (*adv*) unmanfully.

robbery: (*n*) depredation, pillage, piracy, plunder, looting, burglary, theft, holdup, thieving, freebooting; (*v*) rob.
scrutinize: (*v*) inspect, examine, review, consider, audit, investigate, explore, search, analyze, check; (*adj, v*) scan. ANTONYM: (*v*) ignore.
tangent: (*n*) digression, aside, tan, grade, departure, burn, tack, suntan, sunburn, straight line.
well-considered: (*adj*) studied.

I left the woods for as good a reason as I went there. Perhaps it seemed to me that I had several more lives to live, and could not spare any more time for that one. It is remarkable how easily and **insensibly** we fall into a particular route, and make a beaten track for ourselves. I had not lived there a week before my feet wore a path from my door to the pond-side; and though it is five or six years since I trod it, it is still quite distinct. It is true, I fear, that others may have fallen into it, and so helped to keep it open. The surface of the earth is soft and **impressible** by the feet of men; and so with the paths which the mind travels. How worn and dusty, then, must be the highways of the world, how deep the ruts of tradition and conformity! I did not wish to take a cabin passage, but rather to go before the **mast** and on the deck of the world, for there I could best see the moonlight amid the mountains. I do not wish to go below now.

I learned this, at least, by my experiment: that if one **advances** confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours. He will put some things behind, will pass an invisible boundary; new, universal, and more liberal laws will begin to establish themselves around and within him; or the old laws be expanded, and interpreted in his favor in a more liberal sense, and he will live with the **license** of a higher order of beings. In proportion as he simplifies his life, the laws of the universe will appear less complex, and solitude will not be solitude, nor poverty poverty, nor weakness weakness. If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.

It is a ridiculous demand which England and America make, that you shall speak so that they can understand you. Neither men nor toadstools grow so. As if that were important, and there were not enough to understand you without them. As if Nature could support but one order of understandings, could not sustain birds as well as quadrupeds, flying as well as creeping things, and **hush** and whoa, which Bright can understand, were the best English. As if there were safety in **stupidity** alone. I fear chiefly lest my expression may not be **extravagant** enough, may not wander far enough beyond the narrow limits of

Thesaurus

advances: (*v*) access, approach.

extravagant: (*adj*) wasteful, luxurious, prodigal, exaggerated, profligate, costly, expensive, lavish, immoderate, profuse, undue.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) restrained, frugal, parsimonious, plain, stingy, understated, thrifty, reasonable, moderate, cautious, tasteful.

hush: (*adj, n, v*) calm, silence, quiet, still, lull; (*n*) peace; (*v*) shut up, gag, quieten, muffle; (*adj, v*) soothe.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) noise, turmoil; (*v*) Louden.

impressible: (*adj*) impressionable, sensitive, soft, delicate, sensible, adhesive, easily affected, fine, gentle, courteous, easy.

insensibly: (*adv*) imperceptibly, apathetically, numbly, motionlessly, inertly.

license: (*n, v*) permit, allow, licence; (*n*) allowance, freedom, permission, liberty, authority, authorization,

certificate; (*v*) certify. ANTONYMS: (*v*) decertify; (*n*) restriction.

mast: (*n*) post, foremast, column, spar, spanker-mast, mainmast, jigger, tower, aerial, ship mast, nut.

stupidity: (*n*) foolishness, nonsense, obtuseness, dullness, fatuity, absurdity, stolidity, slowness, denseness, idiocy, imbecility.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) sense, logic, cleverness, shrewdness, wisdom, ability.

my daily experience, so as to be adequate to the truth of which I have been convinced. Extra vagance! it depends on how you are yarded. The migrating buffalo, which seeks new pastures in another **latitude**, is not extravagant like the cow which **kicks** over the pail, leaps the **cowyard** fence, and runs after her calf, in milking time. I desire to speak somewhere without bounds; like a man in a waking moment, to men in their waking moments; for I am convinced that I cannot exaggerate enough even to lay the foundation of a true expression. Who that has heard a strain of music feared then lest he should speak extravagantly any more forever? In view of the future or possible, we should live quite **laxly** and **undefined** in front, our outlines dim and misty on that side; as our shadows reveal an **insensible** perspiration toward the sun. The volatile truth of our words should continually betray the inadequacy of the residual statement. Their truth is instantly translated; its literal monument alone remains. The words which express our faith and **piety** are not definite; yet they are significant and fragrant like **frankincense** to superior natures.

Why level downward to our dullest perception always, and praise that as common sense? The commonest sense is the sense of men asleep, which they express by **snoring**. Sometimes we are inclined to class those who are once-and-a-half-witted with the half-witted, because we appreciate only a third part of their wit. Some would find fault with the morning red, if they ever got up early enough. "They pretend," as I hear, "that the verses of Kabir have four different senses; illusion, spirit, intellect, and the **exoteric** doctrine of the Vedas"; but in this part of the world it is considered a ground for complaint if a man's writings admit of more than one interpretation. While England endeavors to cure the potato-rot, will not any endeavor to cure the brain-rot, which prevails so much more widely and fatally?

I do not suppose that I have attained to obscurity, but I should be proud if no more fatal fault were found with my pages on this score than was found with the Walden ice. Southern customers objected to its blue color, which is the evidence of its purity, as if it were muddy, and preferred the Cambridge ice, which is

Thesaurus

cowyard: (*n*) barnyard.

exoteric: (*adj*) external, bare, downright, exterior, extrinsic, undisguised, literal, naked.

frankincense: (*n*) incense, mastic, gum, gum olibanum, thus, musk.

insensible: (*adj*) imperceptible, numb, unconscious, callous, dull, unaware, apathetic, impassive, indiscernible, comatose, impassible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sensible, conscious, sensitive, awake, alive, compassionate,

concerned, aware.

kicks: (*n*) elation, thrill, excitement, fulfillment, gratification, pleasure.

latitude: (*n*) freedom, scope, breadth, room, expanse, range, compass, climate, clime, space, reach.

ANTONYM: (*n*) constraint.

laxly: (*adv*) loosely, relaxedly, leniently, weakly, remissly, permissively, softly, vaguely, baggily, sloppily, neglectfully.

piety: (*n*) godliness, devoutness, faith,

righteousness, holiness, reverence, religion, religiousness, pioussness, sanctity, goodness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) sin, profanity, wickedness.

snoring: (*n*) stertor, respiration; (*adj*) stertorous, asleep.

undefined: (*adj*) indeterminate, indistinct, obscure, shadowy, uncertain, vague, unspecified, ambiguous, unlimited, inexact, neutral. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) defined, exact, constrained.

white, but tastes of weeds. The purity men love is like the mists which **envelop** the earth, and not like the azure ether beyond.

Some are dinning in our ears that we Americans, and moderns generally, are intellectual dwarfs compared with the ancients, or even the Elizabethan men. But what is that to the purpose? A living dog is better than a dead lion. Shall a man go and hang himself because he belongs to the race of pygmies, and not be the biggest **pygmy** that he can? Let every one mind his own business, and endeavor to be what he was made.

Why should we be in such desperate haste to succeed and in such desperate enterprises? If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he **hears** a different **drummer**. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away. It is not important that he should mature as soon as an apple tree or an oak. Shall he turn his spring into summer? If the condition of things which we were made for is not yet, what were any reality which we can substitute? We will not be shipwrecked on a vain reality. Shall we with pains erect a heaven of blue glass over ourselves, though when it is done we shall be sure to gaze still at the true ethereal heaven far above, as if the former were not?

There was an artist in the city of Kouroo who was disposed to **strive** after perfection. One day it came into his mind to make a staff. Having considered that in an **imperfect** work time is an ingredient, but into a perfect work time does not enter, he said to himself, It shall be perfect in all respects, though I should do nothing else in my life. He proceeded instantly to the forest for wood, being resolved that it should not be made of unsuitable material; and as he searched for and rejected stick after stick, his friends gradually deserted him, for they grew old in their works and died, but he grew not older by a moment. His **singleness** of purpose and resolution, and his elevated piety, **endowed** him, without his knowledge, with perennial youth. As he made no compromise with Time, Time kept out of his way, and only sighed at a distance because he could not overcome him. Before he had found a stock in all respects suitable the city of Kouroo was a hoary ruin, and he sat on one of its mounds to peel the stick. Before he had given it the proper shape the **dynasty** of the Candahars was at an end, and with the

Thesaurus

drummer: (*n*) bagman, traveling man, percussionist, trumpeter, tympanist, vendor, traveler, fiddler, harper, fifer, piper.

dynasty: (*n*) family, regime, house, dominion, folk, government, kinfolk, kinsfolk, phratry, Sept, sovereignty.

endowed: (*adj*) gifted, clever, cute, felicitous, competent, blessed, artistic, brilliant, ingenious, talented, qualified.

envelop: (*v*) fold, enfold, encase,

enclose, wrap, encircle, conceal, embrace, beset, hide; (*n*) envelope. ANTONYMS: (*v*) reveal, release, open, unwrap, expose.

hears: (*v*) hear.

imperfect: (*adj*) faulty, deficient, defective, unfinished, incomplete, poor, flawed, partial, inadequate, broken, fallible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) perfect, whole, unblemished, adequate, complete, sound, boundless, capable, flawless.

pygmy: (*n*) manikin, pigmy, homunculus, pygmies; (*adj, n*) miniature; (*adj*) midget, tiny, little, puny, minikin, small.

singleness: (*n*) sincerity, bachelorhood, bachelorship, unmarried, single, loyalty, oneness, spinsterhood, concentration, unity, straightforwardness.

strive: (*v*) endeavor, contend, contest, struggle, fight, attempt, combat, strain, work, aspire, aim.

point of the stick he wrote the name of the last of that race in the sand, and then resumed his work. By the time he had smoothed and polished the staff Kalpa was no longer the pole-star; and ere he had put on the **ferule** and the head adorned with precious stones, Brahma had awoke and slumbered many times. But why do I stay to mention these things? When the finishing stroke was put to his work, it suddenly expanded before the eyes of the astonished artist into the fairest of all the creations of Brahma. He had made a new system in making a staff, a world with full and fair proportions; in which, though the old cities and dynasties had passed away, fairer and more glorious ones had taken their **places**. And now he saw by the heap of shavings still fresh at his feet, that, for him and his work, the former lapse of time had been an illusion, and that no more time had elapsed than is required for a single **scintillation** from the brain of Brahma to fall on and **inflamm** the **tinder** of a mortal brain. The material was pure, and his art was pure; how could the result be other than wonderful?

No face which we can give to a matter will stead us so well at last as the truth. This alone wears well. For the most part, we are not where we are, but in a false position. Through an infinity of our natures, we suppose a case, and put ourselves into it, and hence are in two cases at the same time, and it is doubly difficult to get out. In sane moments we regard only the facts, the case that is. Say what you have to say, not what you ought. Any truth is better than make-believe. Tom Hyde, the **tinker**, standing on the **gallows**, was asked if he had anything to say. "Tell the tailors," said he, "to remember to make a knot in their thread before they take the first stitch." His companion's prayer is forgotten.

However mean your life is, meet it and live it; do not **shun** it and call it hard names. It is not so bad as you are. It looks poorest when you are richest. The fault-finder will find faults even in paradise. Love your life, poor as it is. You may perhaps have some pleasant, thrilling, glorious hours, even in a **poorhouse**. The setting sun is reflected from the windows of the almshouse as brightly as from the rich man's abode; the snow melts before its door as early in the spring. I do not see but a quiet mind may live as **contentedly** there, and have as cheering thoughts, as in a palace. The town's poor seem to me often to live the most

Thesaurus

contentedly: (*adv*) gladly, satisfiedly, contently, gratifiedly, pleasedly, cheerfully, joyfully, smugly, easily, complacently, placidly.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) crossly, awkwardly, unhappily, discontentedly, sadly.
ferule: (*n*) switch, ferula, cudgel, truncheon, ferrule, ferular; (*v*) whip, flog, chastise.
gallows: (*n*) gibbet, gallous, gallows-bits, hanging, noose, scaffold, halter,

tree, rope, gallowstree, bough.
inflamm: (*v*) burn, fire, enkindle, incite, kindle, ignite, incense, arouse, heat, agitate; (*adj*, *v*) irritate. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) dampen, blanch, inhibit, improve.
places: (*n*) chairs, seating, spaces.
poorhouse: (*n*) workhouse, townhouse, establishment.
scintillation: (*n*) glitter, flash, glisten, fire, coruscation, glister, shimmer, glimmer, spark, twinkling; (*n*, *v*) emication.

shun: (*v*) evade, escape, elude, dodge, flee, refuse, shirk, ostracize, banish, parry; (*adj*, *v*) eschew. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) befriend, invite, seek, welcome, woo, court, participate, include.
tinder: (*n*) spunk, punk, touchwood, ingle, nerve, ignitor, ignition, igniter, hoodlum, hood, goon.
tinker: (*v*) monkey, fiddle, putter, mess around, toy, tamper, vamp; (*n*) cobbler, mender, Scomber japonicus, chub mackerel.

independent lives of any. Maybe they are simply great enough to receive without misgiving. Most think that they are above being supported by the town; but it oftener happens that they are not above supporting themselves by dishonest means, which should be more **disreputable**. **Cultivate** poverty like a garden herb, like **sage**. Do not trouble yourself much to get new things, whether clothes or friends. Turn the old; return to them. Things do not change; we change. Sell your clothes and keep your thoughts. God will see that you do not want society. If I were confined to a corner of a garret all my days, like a spider, the world would be just as large to me while I had my thoughts about me. The philosopher said: "From an army of three divisions one can take away its general, and put it in disorder; from the man the most abject and vulgar one cannot take away his thought." Do not seek so anxiously to be developed, to subject yourself to many influences to be played on; it is all dissipation. Humility like darkness reveals the heavenly lights. The shadows of poverty and meanness gather around us, "and lo! creation widens to our view." We are often reminded that if there were bestowed on us the wealth of Croesus, our aims must still be the same, and our means essentially the same. Moreover, if you are restricted in your range by poverty, if you cannot buy books and newspapers, for instance, you are but confined to the most significant and vital experiences; you are compelled to deal with the material which yields the most sugar and the most **starch**. It is life near the bone where it is sweetest. You are defended from being a **trifler**. No man loses ever on a lower level by magnanimity on a higher. Superfluous wealth can buy superfluities only. Money is not required to buy one necessary of the soul.

I live in the angle of a **leaden** wall, into whose composition was poured a little **alloy** of bell-metal. Often, in the repose of my mid-day, there reaches my ears a confused tintinnabulum from without. It is the noise of my contemporaries. My neighbors tell me of their adventures with famous gentlemen and ladies, what **notabilities** they met at the dinner-table; but I am no more interested in such things than in the contents of the Daily Times. The interest and the conversation are about costume and manners chiefly; but a goose is a goose still, dress it as you will. They tell me of California and Texas, of

Thesaurus

alloy: (*n*) amalgam, admixture, blend, mixture, fusion, compound; (*adj, v*) sophisticate; (*v*) devalue, mix, debase, deteriorate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) clean, clear, separate.
cultivate: (*v*) civilize, educate, train, produce, polish, farm, crop, develop, domesticate, raise; (*adj, v*) promote. ANTONYMS: (*v*) neglect, sterilize, brutalize, stunt, retard, pollute, ignore, harm, discourage.
disreputable: (*adj, n, v*) discreditable;

(*adj*) base, dishonorable, doubtful, sordid, infamous, shameful, dishonourable, dishonest, despicable, notorious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) honorable, respected, ethical, noble, decent, respectable, sporting, pleasant, admirable, famous, honest.
leaden: (*adj*) heavy, gray, sluggish, grey, inert, torpid, grave, languid, drab, burdensome, livid. ANTONYM: (*adj*) bright.
notabilities: (*n*) notables.

sage: (*adj*) sagacious, discerning, intelligent, prudent, judicious, learned, profound, knowing; (*adj, v*) grave; (*n*) philosopher, scholar.
starch: (*v*) stiffen; (*adj*) stiff, glair; (*n*) cornstarch, arrowroot, arum, cornflour, sago, manioc, cassava, vitality.
trifler: (*n*) dilettante, fribble, fribbler, gamester, gambler, wanton, doodle, dangler, toyer, dallier; (*v*) waiter on Providence.

England and the Indies, of the Hon. Mr. --- of Georgia or of Massachusetts, all transient and fleeting phenomena, till I am ready to leap from their court-yard like the Mameluke bey. I delight to come to my **bearings** -- not walk in procession with **pomp** and parade, in a conspicuous place, but to walk even with the Builder of the universe, if I may -- not to live in this restless, nervous, **bustling**, trivial Nineteenth Century, but stand or sit thoughtfully while it goes by. What are men celebrating? They are all on a committee of arrangements, and hourly expect a speech from somebody. God is only the president of the day, and Webster is his orator. I love to weigh, to settle, to **gravitate** toward that which most strongly and rightfully attracts me -- not hang by the beam of the scale and try to weigh less -- not suppose a case, but take the case that is; to travel the only path I can, and that on which no power can resist me. It affords me no satisfaction to commerce to spring an arch before I have got a solid foundation. Let us not play at kittly-benders. There is a solid bottom everywhere. We read that the traveller asked the boy if the swamp before him had a hard bottom. The boy replied that it had. But presently the traveller's horse sank in up to the girths, and he observed to the boy, "I thought you said that this bog had a hard bottom." "So it has," answered the latter, "but you have not got half way to it yet." So it is with the bogs and quicksands of society; but he is an old boy that knows it. Only what is thought, said, or done at a certain rare coincidence is good. I would not be one of those who will foolishly drive a nail into mere **lath** and plastering; such a deed would keep me awake nights. Give me a hammer, and let me feel for the **furring**. Do not depend on the **putty**. Drive a nail home and clinch it so faithfully that you can wake up in the night and think of your work with satisfaction -- a work at which you would not be ashamed to invoke the Muse. So will help you God, and so only. Every nail driven should be as another **rivet** in the machine of the universe, you carrying on the work.

Rather than love, than money, than fame, give me truth. I sat at a table where were rich food and wine in abundance, and **obsequious** attendance, but sincerity and truth were not; and I went away hungry from the **inhospitable** board. The hospitality was as cold as the ices. I thought that there was no need of ice to freeze them. They talked to me of the age of the wine and the fame of the

Thesaurus

bearings: (*n*) bearing, direction, crest, position.

bustling: (*adj*) lively, busy, boisterous, buzzing, brisk, alive, vibrant, noisy, tumultuous; (*v*) stirring, full of incident. ANTONYM: (*adj*) inactive.

furring: (*n*) scaling, doubling, strip, symptom, fur, furring.

gravitate: (*v*) tend, slip, slide, descend, cumber, drift; (*adj*) load, press, weigh. ANTONYM: (*v*) rise.

inhospitable: (*adj*) unsociable, cold,

hostile, unfriendly, cool, harsh, barren, austere, frosty, stark, bleak. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) hospitable, welcoming, sheltered, lush, mild.

lath: (*n*) fillet, spline, batten, plank, list, ribbon, strip, rod, flat timber, spill; (*v*) frame.

obsequious: (*adj*) servile, flattering, submissive, cringing, sycophantic, ingratiating, humble, toadying, supple, subservient; (*adj, v*) deferential. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

domineering, assertive, disrespectful. **pomp:** (*n*) grandeur, parade, ostentation, show, ceremony, glory, luxury, pageantry, magnificence, state, splendor. ANTONYMS: (*n*) understatement, modesty.

putty: (*n*) cement, paste, glue, lute, mastic, filler, solder, gum, stucco, tin oxide; (*v*) apply.

rivet: (*v*) focus, concentrate, clinch, fascinate, center, absorb, engross, enthral; (*adj*) nail, pin, clamp.

vintage; but I thought of an older, a newer, and purer wine, of a more glorious vintage, which they had not got, and could not buy. The style, the house and grounds and "entertainment" pass for nothing with me. I called on the king, but he made me wait in his hall, and **conducted** like a man incapacitated for hospitality. There was a man in my neighborhood who lived in a hollow tree. His manners were truly regal. I should have done better had I called on him.

How long shall we sit in our porticoes **practising** idle and musty virtues, which any work would make impertinent? As if one were to begin the day with **long-suffering**, and hire a man to hoe his potatoes; and in the afternoon go forth to practise Christian **meekness** and charity with goodness aforethought! Consider the China pride and stagnant self-complacency of mankind. This generation inclines a little to congratulate itself on being the last of an **illustrious** line; and in Boston and London and Paris and Rome, thinking of its long descent, it speaks of its progress in art and science and literature with satisfaction. There are the Records of the Philosophical Societies, and the public Eulogies of Great Men! It is the good Adam contemplating his own virtue. "Yes, we have done great deeds, and sung divine songs, which shall never die" -- that is, as long as we can remember them. The learned societies and great men of Assyria -- where are they? What youthful philosophers and experimentalists we are! There is not one of my readers who has yet lived a whole human life. These may be but the spring months in the life of the race. If we have had the seven-years' **itch**, we have not seen the seventeen-year locust yet in Concord. We are acquainted with a mere **pellicle** of the globe on which we live. Most have not delved six feet beneath the surface, nor leaped as many above it. We know not where we are. Beside, we are sound asleep nearly half our time. Yet we esteem ourselves wise, and have an established order on the surface. Truly, we are deep thinkers, we are ambitious spirits! As I stand over the insect **crawling** amid the pine needles on the forest floor, and endeavoring to conceal itself from my sight, and ask myself why it will cherish those humble thoughts, and **bide** its head from me who might, perhaps, be its benefactor, and impart to its race some cheering information, I am reminded of the greater Benefactor and Intelligence that stands over me the human insect.

Thesaurus

bide: (*v*) abide, await, endure, bear, remain, last, dwell; (*adj, v*) tarry, wait; (*adj*) tolerate, stand. ANTONYMS: (*v*) go, move, hurry.

conducted: (*adj*) directed, guided.

crawling: (*adj, n*) creeping; (*n*) creep, itch; (*adj*) slow, teeming, thick, swarming, reptant, populous, packed, moving.

illustrious: (*adj, n*) glorious, celebrated, excellent, grand; (*adj*) famous, bright, eminent, famed,

distinguished, brilliant, well-known. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unknown, obscure, ordinary, undistinguished, lowly.

itch: (*n*) urge, desire, impulse, scabies; (*v*) irritate, prickle, tingle, scratch, chafe; (*adj*) itchy; (*n, v*) wish. ANTONYMS: (*n*) aversion, disinclination.

long-suffering: (*n*) long-sufferance, patience, endurance; (*adj*) forbearing, tolerant, enduring, persevering,

passive, meek, resigned, stoic.

meekness: (*n*) humbleness, modesty, submission, obedience, compliance, gentleness, tameness, submissiveness, docility, lowliness, tractability. ANTONYMS: (*n*) arrogance, ferocity, wildness.

pellicle: (*n*) coat, skin, shagreen, membrane, fleece, peel, leather, investment, fur, fell, hide.

practising: (*adj*) practicing, churchgoing.

There is an incessant influx of novelty into the world, and yet we tolerate incredible dulness. I need only suggest what kind of sermons are still listened to in the most enlightened countries. There are such words as joy and sorrow, but they are only the burden of a psalm, sung with a nasal **twang**, while we believe in the ordinary and mean. We think that we can change our clothes only. It is said that the British Empire is very large and respectable, and that the United States are a **first-rate** power. We do not believe that a tide rises and falls behind every man which can float the British Empire like a chip, if he should ever harbor it in his mind. Who knows what sort of seventeen-year locust will next come out of the ground? The government of the world I live in was not framed, like that of Britain, in after-dinner conversations over the wine.

The life in us is like the water in the river. It may rise this year higher than man has ever known it, and flood the **parched** uplands; even this may be the **eventful** year, which will drown out all our muskrats. It was not always dry land where we dwell. I see far inland the banks which the stream anciently washed, before science began to record its freshets. Every one has heard the story which has gone the rounds of New England, of a strong and beautiful bug which came out of the dry leaf of an old table of apple-tree wood, which had stood in a farmer's kitchen for sixty years, first in Connecticut, and afterward in Massachusetts -- from an egg deposited in the living tree many years earlier still, as appeared by counting the annual layers beyond it; which was heard gnawing out for several weeks, hatched perchance by the heat of an urn. Who does not feel his faith in a resurrection and **immortality** strengthened by hearing of this? Who knows what beautiful and winged life, whose egg has been buried for ages under many **concentric** layers of **woodenness** in the dead dry life of society, deposited at first in the **alburnum** of the green and living tree, which has been gradually converted into the **semblance** of its well-seasoned tomb -- heard perchance gnawing out now for years by the astonished family of man, as they sat round the festive board -- may unexpectedly come forth from amidst society's most trivial and handselled furniture, to enjoy its perfect summer life at last!

Thesaurus

alburnum: (*n*) sapwood, duramen, alburn.

concentric: (*adj*) homocentric, unrelieved, coaxial, axial, focal, azygous, umbilical.

eventful: (*adj*) fateful, weighty, lively, important, momentous, memorable, notable, hectic, significant; (*n*) stirring; (*v*) full of incident.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dull, insignificant, ordinary, slow, empty.

first-rate: (*adj*) excellent, stunning,

capital, posh, tiptop, dandy, ace, superior, classic, fine, clinking.

immortality: (*n*) sempiternity, perpetuity, athanasia, glory, aye, fame, everness, immortal, permanency, deathlessness, undying. ANTONYM: (*n*) mortality.

parched: (*adj, n*) thirsty; (*adj*) arid, adust, torrid, barren, desiccated, dehydrated, scorched, baked, withered, shriveled. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) quenched, humid.

semblance: (*adj, n*) color; (*n*) resemblance, appearance, look, aspect, air, image, similarity, pretense, guise, pretext. ANTONYM: (*n*) difference.

twang: (*n, v*) flavor; (*n*) accent, tang, strong taste; (*v*) jar, strum, play, smack, taste, smatch, savor.

woodenness: (*n*) standoffishness, pomposity, formality, stuffiness, stiltedness. ANTONYM: (*n*) informality.

I do not say that John or Jonathan will **realize** all this; but such is the character of that **morrow** which **mere lapse** of time can never make to **dawn**. The light which **puts** out our **eyes** is darkness to us. Only that day dawns to which we are **awake**. There is more day to dawn. The sun is but a morning star.

Thesaurus

awake: (*v*) wake, awaken, realize, waken; (*adj*) alive, alert, attentive, conscious, keen, intelligent; (*adj, v*) broad awake. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unconscious, sleeping, comatose, sleepy, relaxed; (*v*) deaden, lull, sleep.

dawn: (*adj, n*) break of day, daybreak; (*n*) beginning, commencement, cockcrow, onset, morning, prime, aurora; (*v*) break, begin. ANTONYMS: (*n*) twilight, sunset,

nightfall, close, departure, demise, conclusion, ending; (*n, v*) end, finish; (*v*) set.

eyes: (*n*) sight, eye, vision, view, baby blues, guard, propensity, eyen.

lapse: (*n, v*) decline, drop, mistake; (*adj, n, v*) fall; (*v*) expire, elapse, collapse, go by; (*n*) oversight, error, fault. ANTONYMS: (*v*) behave, start, rise, renew, improve.

mere: (*adj, n*) entire; (*adj*) bare, simple, pure; (*n*) loch, tarn, boundary,

absolute; (*n, v*) downright; (*adv*) merely; (*adj, v*) clear.

morrow: (*n*) morning, future, mean solar day, day.

puts: (*n*) stocks, securities, preferred stock, common stock, bonds.

realize: (*v*) achieve, perform, discover, attain, appreciate, make, execute, complete, accomplish, know, sense. ANTONYMS: (*v*) fail, neglect.

ON THE DUTY OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

I **heartily** accept the motto, -- "That government is best which governs least"; and I should like to see it acted up to more rapidly and systematically. Carried out, it finally amounts to this, which also I believe, -- "That government is best which governs not at all"; and when men are prepared for it, that will be the kind of government which they will have. Government is at best but an **expedient**; but most governments are usually, and all governments are sometimes, **inexpedient**. The objections which have been brought against a standing army, and they are many and **weighty**, and deserve to prevail, may also at last be brought against a standing government. The standing army is only an arm of the standing government. The government itself, which is only the mode which the people have chosen to execute their will, is equally liable to be abused and **perverted** before the people can act through it. Witness the present Mexican war, the work of comparatively a few individuals using the standing government as their tool; for, in the outset, the people would not have consented to this measure.

This American government -- what is it but a tradition, though a recent one, endeavoring to transmit itself **unimpaired** to posterity, but each instant losing some of its integrity? It has not the vitality and force of a single living man; for a

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expedient: (*adj*) fit, advisable, becoming, desirable, adequate, apt, convenient, suitable; (*n*) contrivance, resource, artifice. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inappropriate, inexpedient, impractical, futile, detrimental, inconvenient, foolish.

heartily: (*adv*) cordially, sincerely, enthusiastically, warmly, strongly, earnestly, vigorously, ardently, soundly, devoutly, eagerly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) feebly,

languorously.

inexpedient: (*adj*) inadvisable, inapt, disadvantageous, infelicitous, inconvenient, incongruous, unfitting, unfit, undesirable, improper, imprudent.

perverted: (*adj*) perverse, immoral, distorted, kinky, corrupt, twisted, abnormal, debauched, deviant, reprobate, unnatural. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) normal, moral, unchanged.

unimpaired: (*adj*) unbroken, intact,

clean, sound, healthy, entire, complete, undamaged, uninjured; (*v*) unmarred, unsinged. ANTONYM: (*adj*) impaired.

weighty: (*adj*) heavy, ponderous, grievous, powerful, profound; (*adj, v*) grave, serious, momentous, significant, solemn, influential. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) superficial, light, unimportant, trivial, weightless, unsubstantial, thin, solvable, small, facile, easy.

single man can bend it to his will. It is a sort of wooden gun to the people themselves. But it is not the less necessary for this; for the people must have some complicated machinery or other, and hear its din, to satisfy that idea of government which they have. Governments show thus how successfully men can be **imposed** on, even impose on themselves, for their own advantage. It is excellent, we must all allow. Yet this government never of itself furthered any enterprise, but by the **alacrity** with which it got out of its way. It does not keep the country free. It does not settle the West. It does not **educate**. The character inherent in the American people has done all that has been **accomplished**; and it would have done somewhat more, if the government had not sometimes got in its way. For government is an expedient by which men would fain succeed in letting one another alone; and, as has been said, when it is most expedient, the **governed** are most let alone by it. Trade and commerce, if they were not made of India **rubber**, would never manage to **bounce** over the obstacles which legislators are continually putting in their way; and, if one were to judge these men wholly by the effects of their actions, and not partly by their intentions, they would deserve to be classed and punished with those **mischievous** persons who put obstructions on the railroads.

But, to speak practically and as a citizen, unlike those who call themselves no-government men, I ask for, not at once no government, but at once a better government. Let every man make known what kind of government would command his respect, and that will be one step toward obtaining it.

After all, the practical reason why, when the power is once in the hands of the people, a majority are permitted, and for a long period continue, to rule, is not because they are most likely to be in the right, nor because this seems fairest to the minority, but because they are physically the strongest. But a government in which the majority rule in all cases cannot be based on justice, even as far as men understand it. Can there not be a government in which majorities do not virtually decide right and wrong, but conscience? -- in which majorities decide only those questions to which the rule of expediency is applicable? Must the citizen ever for a moment, or in the least degree, resign his conscience to the

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accomplished: (*adj*) proficient, able, skillful, gifted, finished, experienced, completed, adept, fine, versed, competent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unfinished, amateur, untrained, unskilled, unseasoned, unable, inexpert, green, clumsy, bad, mediocre.

alacrity: (*n*) rapidity, speed, promptness, activity, preparedness, velocity, haste, swiftness, quickness, expedition; (*adj*) life. ANTONYMS:

(*n*) aversion, reservation, reluctance, indifference, hesitance, dullness, disinclination, apathy, tardiness, delay.

bounce: (*n, v*) jump, spring, leap, bound, jolt, discharge; (*n*) impact; (*v*) recoil, glance, sack, beat. ANTONYMS: (*n*) tranquility, calmness; (*v*) stay, clear.

educate: (*v*) instruct, civilize, train, cultivate, coach, bring up, drill, discipline, breed, rear, nurture.

governed: (*adj*) subject; (*n*) citizenry; (*adv*) under.

imposed: (*adj*) compulsory, obligatory.

mischievous: (*adj*) bad, injurious, detrimental, naughty, deleterious, impish, harmful, playful, maleficent, arch; (*adj, v*) hurtful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) harmless, serious.

rubber: (*n*) overshoe, galosh, prophylactic, gum elastic, caoutchouc, eraser, condom, latex, ebonite, golph; (*v*) rubberize.

legislator? Why has every man a conscience, then? I think that we should be men first, and subjects afterward. It is not desirable to cultivate a respect for the law, so much as for the right. The only obligation which I have a right to assume is to do at any time what I think right. It is truly enough said that a corporation has no conscience; but a corporation of conscientious men is a corporation with a conscience. Law never made men a whit more just; and, by means of their respect for it, even the **well-disposed** are daily made the agents of injustice. A common and natural result of an undue respect for law is, that you may see a file of soldiers, **colonel**, captain, corporal, **privates**, powder-monkeys, and all, marching in admirable order over hill and dale to the wars, against their wills, ay, against their common sense and consciences, which makes it very steep marching indeed, and produces a **palpitation** of the heart. They have no doubt that it is a **damnable** business in which they are concerned; they are all **peaceably** inclined. Now, what are they? Men at all? or small movable forts and magazines, at the service of some unscrupulous man in power? Visit the Navy Yard, and behold a marine, such a man as an American government can make, or such as it can make a man with its black arts -- a mere shadow and reminiscence of humanity, a man laid out alive and standing, and already, as one may say, buried under arms with funeral **accompaniments**, though it may be

"Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note,
As his **corse** to the **rampart** we hurried;
Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot
O'er the grave where our hero we buried."

The mass of men serve the state thus, not as men mainly, but as machines, with their bodies. They are the standing army, and the militia, jailers, constables, posse comitatus, etc. In most cases there is no free exercise whatever of the judgment or of the moral sense; but they put themselves on a level with wood and earth and stones; and wooden men can perhaps be manufactured that will serve the purpose as well. Such command no more respect than men of straw or

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accompaniments: (*n*) equipment, trimmings, fixing.

colonel: (*n*) captain, coronel.

corse: (*n*) cadaver, dry bones, skeleton, Corsica, carcass, bones.

damnable: (*adj*) cursed, damned, abominable, hateful, accursed, devilish, infernal, disgusting, sinful, deplorable, offensive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) commendable, laudable, praiseworthy.

legislator: (*n*) lawgiver, representative,

congressman, deputy, filibuster, frontbencher, backbencher, crossbencher, statist, statemonger, parliamentarian.

palpitation: (*adj, n*) tremor, trembling, quivering, shaking, trepidation; (*n*) beat, pulse, quiver, shakiness; (*adj*) flutter; (*v*) pulsation.

peaceably: (*adv*) quietly, peacefully, patiently, noiselessly.

privates: (*n*) genitalia, genitals, genital organ, crotch, female genitalia, male

genitalia, family jewels, fork, pudendal.

rampart: (*n*) wall, fortification, earthwork, guard, embankment, barricade, defense, barrier; (*v*) battlement, circumvallation; (*n, v*) vallum.

well-disposed: (*adj*) propitious, friendly, favorable, good-natured, agreeable, neighborly, good, resigned, sympathetic, willing, receptive.

a lump of dirt. They have the same sort of worth only as horses and **dogs**. Yet such as these even are commonly esteemed good citizens. Others, as most legislators, politicians, lawyers, ministers, and office-holders, serve the state chiefly with their heads; and, as they rarely make any moral distinctions, they are as likely to serve the devil, without intending it, as God. A very few, as heroes, patriots, martyrs, reformers in the great sense, and men, serve the state with their consciences also, and so necessarily resist it for the most part; and they are commonly treated as enemies by it. A wise man will only be useful as a man, and will not submit to be "clay," and "stop a hole to keep the wind away," but leave that office to his dust at least:--

"I am too high-born to be **propertied**,
To be a secondary at control,
Or useful serving-man and instrument
To any sovereign state throughout the world."

He who gives himself entirely to his fellow-men appears to them useless and selfish; but he who gives himself partially to them is pronounced a benefactor and philanthropist.

How does it become a man to behave toward this American government to-day? I answer, that he cannot without disgrace be associated with it. I cannot for an instant recognize that political organization as my government which is the slave's government also.

All men recognize the right of revolution; that is, the right to refuse allegiance to, and to resist, the government, when its **tyranny** or its **inefficiency** are great and **unendurable**. But almost all say that such is not the case now. But such was the case, they think, in the Revolution of '75. If one were to tell me that this was a bad government because it **taxed** certain foreign commodities brought to its ports, it is most probable that I should not make an ado about it, for I can do without them. All machines have their **friction**; and possibly this does enough good to **counterbalance** the evil. At any rate, it is a great evil to make a stir about it. But when the friction comes to have its machine, and oppression and robbery

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counterbalance: (*v*) compensate, counteract, neutralize, countervail, cover, counterweigh; (*n, v*) counterpoise; (*n*) counterweight, equilibrium, poise, equilibration.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) unbalance, overbalance.
dogs: (*n*) foxes, Canidae, Carnivora, cats, family Canidae, forceps, order Carnivora, bears; (*adj*) dogging.
friction: (*n*) discord, attrition, rub, dispute, abrasion, disagreement,

conflict, dissension, rubbing, clash; (*n, v*) resistance. ANTONYMS: (*n*) smoothness, agreement, concord, ease.
inefficiency: (*n*) futility, inability, incompetence, inefficacy, uselessness, fruitlessness, penetration, disability, failure, ineptitude, impotence.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) efficiency, competence, effectiveness.
propertied: (*adj*) rich.
taxed: (*adj*) laden.

tyranny: (*adj, n*) dictatorship, autocracy; (*n*) absolutism, despotism, oppression, cruelty, monarchy, totalitarianism, authoritarianism, autarchy, Caesarism. ANTONYMS: (*n*) democracy, liberty.
unendurable: (*adj*) intolerable, insufferable, insupportable, excruciating, impossible, unsupportable, uneasy, teasing, passionate, not patient, intolerant.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) bearable.

are organized, I say, let us not have such a machine any longer. In other words, when a sixth of the population of a nation which has undertaken to be the refuge of liberty are **slaves**, and a whole country is **unjustly** overrun and conquered by a foreign army, and subjected to military law, I think that it is not too soon for honest men to rebel and **revolutionize**. What makes this duty the more urgent is the fact that the country so overrun is not our own, but ours is the **invading** army.

Paley, a common authority with many on moral questions, in his chapter on the "Duty of Submission to Civil Government," resolves all civil obligation into expediency; and he proceeds to say that "so long as the interest of the whole society requires it, that is, so long as the established government cannot be resisted or changed without public inconveniency, it is the will of God... that the established government be obeyed, and no longer.... This principle being admitted, the justice of every particular case of resistance is reduced to a **computation** of the quantity of the danger and grievance on the one side, and of the probability and expense of redressing it on the other." Of this, he says, every man shall judge for himself. But Paley appears never to have **contemplated** those cases to which the rule of expediency does not apply, in which a people, as well as an individual, must do justice, cost what it may. If I have unjustly **wrested** a plank from a drowning man, I must restore it to him though I drown myself. This, according to Paley, would be inconvenient. But he that would save his life, in such a case, shall lose it. This people must cease to hold slaves, and to make war on Mexico, though it cost them their existence as a people.

In their practice, nations agree with Paley; but does any one think that Massachusetts does exactly what is right at the present crisis?

"A **drab** of state, a cloth-o'-silver **slut**, To have her train **borne** up, and her soul trail in the dirt."

Practically speaking, the opponents to a reform in Massachusetts are not a hundred thousand politicians at the South, but a hundred thousand merchants and farmers here, who are more interested in commerce and agriculture than they are in humanity, and are not prepared to do justice to the slave and to

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borne: (*adj*) weak, wanting, spoony, soft, sappy, shallow, little, limited.

computation: (*n, v*) calculation, estimation, reckoning; (*n*) compute, estimate, account, arithmetic, figuring, count, computing; (*v*) enumeration. ANTONYMS: (*n*) guesswork, guessing, conjecture, estimation.

contemplated: (*adj*) intended, willful.

drab: (*adj*) dreary, gloomy, dingy, cheerless, somber, boring, dowdy,

dark, colorless, dull, depressing.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) colorful, vivid, brilliant, chic, flashy, interesting, cheerful, distinctive, smart, strong.

invading: (*adj*) invade, incursive, attacking, impertinent, abhorrent, abusive, aggressive, assailant, disgusting, disagreeable, distasteful.

revolutionize: (*v*) change, revolutionise, alter, overthrow, overturn, infect, bring down, inspire, subvert, reorganize, knock over.

slaves: (*n*) helotry, bondsmen.

slut: (*n*) hussy, slattern, jade, lollipop, prostitute, hooker, quean, wench, sloven; (*adj*) dowdy.

unjustly: (*adv*) wrongly, wrongfully, wickedly, iniquitously, inequitably, undeservedly, illegally, foully, injuriously, unrighteously, unjustifiedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) rightly, reasonably.

wrested: (*adj*) perverted, distorted, twisted, wry.

Mexico, cost what it may. I quarrel not with **far-off** foes, but with those who, near at home, co-operate with, and do the bidding of those far away, and without whom the latter would be harmless. We are accustomed to say, that the mass of men are unprepared; but improvement is slow, because the few are not materially wiser or better than the many. It is not so important that many should be as good as you, as that there be some absolute goodness somewhere; for that will leaven the whole lump. There are thousands who are in opinion opposed to slavery and to the war, who yet in effect do nothing to put an end to them; who, esteeming themselves children of Washington and Franklin, sit down with their hands in their pockets, and say that they know not what to do, and do nothing; who even postpone the question of freedom to the question of free-trade, and quietly read the prices-current along with the latest advices from Mexico, after dinner, and, it may be, fall asleep over them both. What is the price-current of an honest man and **patriot** to-day? They hesitate, and they regret, and sometimes they petition; but they do nothing in earnest and with effect. They will wait, well disposed, for others to remedy the evil, that they may no longer have it to regret. At most, they give only a cheap vote, and a feeble countenance and Godspeed, to the right, as it goes by them. There are nine hundred and ninety-nine **patrons** of virtue to one virtuous man; but it is easier to deal with the real possessor of a thing than with the temporary guardian of it.

All voting is a sort of **gaming**, like **checkers** or **backgammon**, with a slight moral **tinge** to it, a playing with right and wrong, with moral questions; and **betting** naturally accompanies it. The character of the voters is not staked. I cast my vote, perchance, as I think right; but I am not vitally concerned that that right should prevail. I am willing to leave it to the majority. Its obligation, therefore, never exceeds that of expediency. Even voting for the right is doing nothing for it. It is only expressing to men **feebly** your desire that it should prevail. A wise man will not leave the right to the mercy of chance, nor wish it to prevail through the power of the majority. There is but little virtue in the action of masses of men. When the majority shall at length vote for the abolition of slavery, it will be because they are indifferent to slavery, or because there is but little slavery left to be abolished by their vote. They will then be the only slaves.

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backgammon: (*n*) go bang, dominos, gammon, draughts, misere chess, checkers.

betting: (*adj*) gambling, dissipated, sporting; (*n*) gaming.

checkers: (*n*) checker, dominos, go bang, solitaire, chequers, board game, chessboard, backgammon, misere chess.

far-off: (*adj*) distant, far, faraway, outlying, extreme, inaccessible, last, long, obscure, unknown, wide.

feebly: (*adv*) faintly, unenthusiastically, dimly, hopelessly, unproductively, unpersuasively, unconvincingly, uncertainly, reluctantly, powerlessly, insipidly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) robustly, confidently, domineeringly, vehemently, stubbornly, strongly, effectively, convincingly, competently, admirably, wholeheartedly.

gaming: (*n*) play, game, diversion,

speculation, wager, frolic, bet, gamble, recreation, vice, betting.

patriot: (*n*) jingoist, jingo, subject, patriotic, Garibaldi, loyalist, national, chauvinist. ANTONYM: (*n*) turncoat.

patrons: (*n*) audience, following, attendance, customers, public.

tinge: (*n, v*) color, hue, tint, dye, stain, touch, tincture; (*n*) shade, cast, undertone; (*adj, n, v*) dash.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) whiten, pale; (*n*) white, information, pallor.

Only his vote can hasten the abolition of slavery who asserts his own freedom by his vote.

I hear of a convention to be held at Baltimore, or elsewhere, for the selection of a candidate for the Presidency, made up chiefly of editors, and men who are politicians by profession; but I think, what is it to any independent, intelligent, and respectable man what decision they may come to? Shall we not have the advantage of his wisdom and honesty, nevertheless? Can we not count upon some independent votes? Are there not many individuals in the country who do not attend **conventions**? But no: I find that the respectable man, so called, has immediately drifted from his position, and despairs of his country, when his country has more reason to despair of him. He forthwith adopts one of the candidates thus selected as the only available one, thus proving that he is himself available for any purposes of the **demagogue**. His vote is of no more worth than that of any **unprincipled** foreigner or hireling native, who may have been **bought**. Oh for a man who is a man, and, as my neighbor says, has a bone in his back which you cannot pass your hand through! Our statistics are at fault: the population has been returned too large. How many men are there to a square thousand miles in this country? Hardly one. Does not America offer any **inducement** for men to settle here? The American has dwindled into an Odd Fellow -- one who may be known by the development of his organ of **gregariousness**, and a manifest lack of intellect and cheerful **self-reliance**; whose first and chief concern, on coming into the world, is to see that the almshouses are in good repair; and, before yet he has **lawfully** donned the **virile garb**, to collect a fund for the support of the widows and orphans that may be; who, in short ventures to live only by the aid of the Mutual Insurance company, which has promised to bury him decently.

It is not a man's duty, as a matter of course, to devote himself to the eradication of any, even the most enormous wrong; he may still properly have other concerns to engage him; but it is his duty, at least, to wash his hands of it, and, if he gives it no thought longer, not to give it practically his support. If I devote myself to other pursuits and contemplations, I must first see, at least, that

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bought: (*n*) crook, hook.

conventions: (*n*) protocol.

demagogue: (*n*) agitator, speechmaker, fugleman, reactionist, rhetorician, orator, precentor, leader, bellwether; (*adj*) anarchist, brawler. ANTONYM: (*n*) pacifier.

garb: (*n, v*) dress, apparel, array, garment; (*n*) attire, clothing, costume, frock, outfit, clothes; (*v*) clothe.

gregariousness: (*n*) camaraderie. ANTONYM: (*n*) shyness.

inducement: (*n*) enticement, attraction, cause, incitement, impulse, temptation, bait, impetus, occasion, motive, goad. ANTONYMS: (*n*) disincentive, deterrent.

lawfully: (*adv*) justly, legally, rightfully, licitly, statutorily, fairly, validly, de jure, officially, rightly, truly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) unlawfully, illegitimately.

self-reliance: (*n*) confidence, assurance, independence, manhood,

enterprise.

unprincipled: (*adj*) abandoned, unscrupulous, depraved, dishonest, unethical, profligate, dissolute, shameless, unconscionable, vicious, immoral. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ethical, moral, honest, professional.

virile: (*adj*) strong, manly, male, potent, forceful, manful, vigorous, robust, mature, full grown, grown up. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unmanly, effeminate.

I do not pursue them sitting upon another man's shoulders. I must get off him first, that he may pursue his contemplations too. See what gross inconsistency is tolerated. I have heard some of my townsmen say, "I should like to have them order me out to help put down an **insurrection** of the slaves, or to march to Mexico; -- see if I would go"; and yet these very men have each, directly by their allegiance, and so indirectly, at least, by their money, furnished a substitute. The soldier is **applauded** who refuses to serve in an unjust war by those who do not refuse to sustain the unjust government which makes the war; is applauded by those whose own act and authority he disregards and sets at **naught**; as if the state were **penitent** to that degree that it hired one to **scourge** it while it sinned, but not to that degree that it left off **sinning** for a moment. Thus, under the name of Order and Civil Government, we are all made at last to pay homage to and support our own meanness. After the first blush of sin comes its indifference; and from immoral it **becomes**, as it were, **unmoral**, and not quite unnecessary to that life which we have made.

The broadest and most prevalent error requires the most disinterested virtue to sustain it. The slight reproach to which the virtue of patriotism is commonly liable, the noble are most likely to incur. Those who, while they **disapprove** of the character and measures of a government, yield to it their allegiance and support are undoubtedly its most conscientious supporters, and so frequently the most serious obstacles to reform. Some are **petitioning** the State to dissolve the Union, to disregard the requisitions of the President. Why do they not dissolve it themselves -- the union between themselves and the State -- and refuse to pay their quota into its treasury? Do not they stand in the same relation to the State, that the State does to the Union? And have not the same reasons prevented the State from resisting the Union, which have prevented them from resisting the State?

How can a man be satisfied to entertain an opinion merely, and enjoy it? Is there any enjoyment in it, if his opinion is that he is aggrieved? If you are cheated out of a single dollar by your neighbor, you do not rest satisfied with knowing that you are cheated, or with saying that you are cheated, or even with

Thesaurus

applauded: (*adj*) famous, highly praised, commended.

becomes: (*v*) become.

disapprove: (*v*) deprecate, object, blame, repudiate, censure, disallow, reject, turn down, refuse, discountenance, deny. ANTONYMS: (*v*) approve, endorse, accept, embrace, praise, agree, sanction, pass.

insurrection: (*n*) mutiny, uprising, revolt, outbreak, rising, disturbance, sedition, commotion, revolution, riot;

(*n, v*) rebellion.

naught: (*n*) cipher, nothing, null, aught, nix, nought, zip, cypher, nada; (*adj, n, pron*) nil; (*n, pron*) zilch.

penitent: (*adj*) contrite, apologetic, sorry, remorseful, regretful, guilty, sorrowful, rueful, penitential; (*n*) flagellant, religionist. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unrepentant, impenitent, unashamed, unremorseful.

petitioning: (*adj*) petitory, suppliant, prayerful, pleading, begging,

beseeking, entreating; (*n*) deprecation.

scourge: (*n*) curse, blight, affliction, plague, bane, calamity; (*v*) lash, flagellate, castigate, punish; (*n, v*) whip.

sinning: (*n*) sin, hell, evil-doing, original sin, mortal sin; (*adj*) errant, corrupt, faulty, morbid, peccant, evil.

unmoral: (*adj*) unfeeling, licentious, neutral, nonmoral. ANTONYM: (*adj*) immoral.

petitioning him to pay you your due; but you take effectual steps at once to obtain the full amount, and see that you are never cheated again. Action from principle -- the perception and the performance of right -- changes things and relations; it is essentially revolutionary, and does not consist wholly with anything which was. It not only divides states and churches, it divides families; ay, it divides the individual, **separating** the **diabolical** in him from the divine.

Unjust laws exist; shall we be content to obey them, or shall we endeavor to amend them, and obey them until we have succeeded, or shall we **transgress** them at once? Men generally, under such a government as this, think that they ought to wait until they have persuaded the majority to alter them. They think that, if they should resist, the remedy would be worse than the evil. But it is the fault of the government itself that the remedy is worse than the evil. It makes it worse. Why is it not more apt to anticipate and provide for reform? Why does it not cherish its wise minority? Why does it cry and resist before it is hurt? Why does it not encourage its citizens to be on the alert to point out its faults, and do better than it would have them? Why does it always **crucify** Christ, and **excommunicate** Copernicus and Luther, and pronounce Washington and Franklin rebels?

One would think, that a deliberate and practical denial of its authority was the only offence never contemplated by government; else, why has it not assigned its definite, its suitable and **proportionate**, penalty? If a man who has no property refuses but once to earn nine shillings for the State, he is put in prison for a period unlimited by any law that I know, and determined only by the discretion of those who placed him there; but if he should steal ninety times nine shillings from the State, he is soon permitted to go at large again.

If the injustice is part of the necessary friction of the machine of government, let it go, let it go; perchance it will wear smooth -- certainly the machine will wear out. If the injustice has a spring, or a **pulley**, or a rope, or a **crank**, exclusively for itself, then perhaps you may consider whether the remedy will not be worse than the evil; but if it is of such a nature that it requires you to be the agent of injustice to another, then, I say, break the law. Let your life be a

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crank: (*n*) grouch, nut, crackpot, conceit, quip, winch, bend, screwball, quirk, crosspatch; (*adj*) cranky.

crucify: (*v*) torment, persecute, badger, torture, tease, pester, bother, annoy, beleaguer, cruciate, agonize.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) compliment, solace, praise, laud, console, exalt.

diabolical: (*adj*) diabolic, demoniac, demonic, infernal, hellish, unholy, fiendish, wicked, satanic, atrocious, evil.

excommunicate: (*v*) curse, exclude, damn, proscribe, denounce, banish, fulminate, thunder against; (*adj*) blackball, exile, expatriate.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) allow, include, welcome.

proportionate: (*adj, v*) proportional; (*adj*) proportionable, equal, harmonious, comparable, balanced, sufficient, relative, appropriate, adequate, equitable. ANTONYM: (*adj*) disproportionate.

pulley: (*n*) sheave, tackle, crane, bollock, windlass, winch, wheel, hoist, spool, blockage, auction block.

separating: (*v*) parting, partible; (*n*) division, separation, severance, unscrambling, unraveling, removal; (*adj*) separated, disjoining, graduating.

transgress: (*v*) offend, infringe, break, trespass, contravene, violate, overstep, disobey, breach, infract; (*adj, v*) err. ANTONYM: (*v*) behave.

counter friction to stop the machine. What I have to do is to see, at any rate, that I do not lend myself to the wrong which I condemn.

As for adopting the ways which the State has provided for **remedying** the evil, I know not of such ways. They take too much time, and a man's life will be gone. I have other affairs to attend to. I came into this world, not chiefly to make this a good place to live in, but to live in it, be it good or bad. A man has not everything to do, but something; and because he cannot do everything, it is not necessary that he should do something wrong. It is not my business to be petitioning the Governor or the Legislature any more than it is theirs to petition me; and if they should not hear my petition, what should I do then? But in this case the State has provided no way; its very Constitution is the evil. This may seem to be harsh and **stubborn** and unconciliatory; but it is to treat with the **utmost** kindness and consideration the only spirit that can appreciate or deserves it. So is an change for the better, like birth and death which **convulse** the body.

I do not hesitate to say, that those who call themselves Abolitionists should at once effectually withdraw their support, both in person and property, from the government of Massachusetts, and not wait till they constitute a majority of one, before they suffer the right to **prevail** through them. I think that it is enough if they have God on their side, without waiting for that other one. Moreover, any man more right than his neighbors constitutes a majority of one already.

I meet this American government, or its representative, the State government, directly, and face to face, once a year -- no more -- in the person of its tax-gatherer; this is the only mode in which a man situated as I am necessarily meets it; and it then says distinctly, Recognize me; and the simplest, the most effectual, and, in the present **posture** of affairs, the indispensablest mode of treating with it on this head, of expressing your little satisfaction with and love for it, is to deny it then. My civil neighbor, the tax-gatherer, is the very man I have to deal with -- for it is, after all, with men and not with **parchment** that I **quarrel** -- and he has voluntarily chosen to be an agent of the government. How shall he ever know well what he is and does as an officer of the government, or as a man, until he is obliged to consider whether he shall treat me, his neighbor, for whom he has

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convulse: (*v*) agitate, jolt, shake, jar, jerk, toss, break the ranks, shudder, rock; (*adj*) accelerate, aggravate.

parchment: (*n*) vellum, sheepskin, lambskin, diploma, testament, will; (*v*) foolscap, tablet, table, slate, pillar.

posture: (*n*) attitude, condition, stance, deportment, aspect, circumstance, manner, figure, mien; (*n, v*) pose, place.

prevail: (*n, v*) triumph, control, govern; (*v*) dominate, overcome,

outweigh, obtain, persist, carry, vanquish; (*adj*) preponderate. ANTONYM: (*v*) lose.

quarrel: (*adj, n, v*) dispute; (*n, v*) fight, feud, brawl, row, altercation, argue, conflict, squabble; (*n*) dissension, difference. ANTONYMS: (*n*) agreement, reconciliation, acceptance, concord, consensus; (*v*) agree.

remedying: (*adj*) curative.

stubborn: (*adj*) contrary, hard,

intractable, perverse, rigid, determined, persistent, refractory, tenacious, obdurate, inveterate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) compliant, irresolute, flexible, amenable, docile, easygoing, malleable, agreeable, accommodating, cooperative, feeble. **utmost:** (*adj, n*) maximum, extreme, uttermost, furthestmost, best, highest; (*adj, adv*) farthest; (*adj, v*) supreme; (*adj*) last, furthest; (*adj, n, v*) greatest. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) moderate, worst.

respect, as a neighbor and well-disposed man, or as a maniac and **disturber** of the peace, and see if he can get over this obstruction to his neighborliness without a ruder and more **impetuous** thought or speech corresponding with his action? I know this well, that if one thousand, if one hundred, if ten men whom I could name -- if ten honest men only -- ay, if one HONEST man, in this State of Massachusetts, **ceasing** to hold slaves, were actually to withdraw from this **copartnership**, and be locked up in the county jail therefor, it would be the abolition of slavery in America. For it matters not how small the beginning may seem to be: what is once well done is done forever. But we love better to talk about it: that we say is our mission. Reform keeps many scores of newspapers in its service, but not one man. If my esteemed neighbor, the State's ambassador, who will devote his days to the settlement of the question of human rights in the Council Chamber, instead of being threatened with the prisons of Carolina, were to sit down the prisoner of Massachusetts, that State which is so anxious to **foist** the sin of slavery upon her sister -- though at present she can discover only an act of **inhospitality** to be the ground of a quarrel with her -- the Legislature would not wholly waive the subject the following winter.

Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is also a prison. The proper place to-day, the only place which Massachusetts has provided for her freer and less **desponding** spirits, is in her prisons, to be put out and locked out of the State by her own act, as they have already put themselves out by their principles. It is there that the fugitive slave, and the Mexican prisoner on parole, and the Indian come to plead the **wrongs** of his race, should find them; on that separate, but more free and **honorable** ground, where the State places those who are not with her, but against her -- the only house in a slave State in which a free man can abide with honor. If any think that their influence would be lost there, and their **voices** no longer **afflict** the ear of the State, that they would not be as an enemy within its walls, they do not know by how much truth is stronger than error, nor how much more eloquently and effectively he can combat injustice who has experienced a little in his own person. Cast your whole vote, not a strip of paper merely, but your whole influence. A minority is powerless while it conforms to the majority; it is

Thesaurus

afflict: (*n, v*) pain, distress; (*v*) trouble, grieve, torment, hurt, strike, aggrieve, smite, bother, disturb.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) aid, comfort, encourage, help, soothe.
ceasing: (*n*) stopping, subsidence.
copartnership: (*n*) partnership, colleagueship, alliance, joint stock.
desponding: (*adj*) despairing, despondent.
disturber: (*n*) troubler.
foist: (*n*) cutter, corvette, clipper, yawl,

hoy, ketch, lugger, smack; (*v*) inclose, introduce, inflict.
honorable: (*adj*) good, estimable, exalted, respectable, fair, decent, reputable, ethical, honor; (*adj, v*) great, noble. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) shameful, disgraceful, corrupt, degenerate, immoral, humiliating, dishonest, unethical, decadent, bad, deceitful.
impetuous: (*adj*) boisterous, hasty, fiery, headlong, heady, hot, brash,

foolhardy, dashing, fierce; (*adj, v*) impulsive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) considered, careful, slow, sensible, patient.
inhospitality: (*n*) unsociability, frostiness, aloofness, coldness, coolness, dreariness, gloominess, surliness, unfriendliness, desolation. ANTONYM: (*n*) friendliness.
voices: (*n*) chorus.
wrongs: (*n*) mala.

not even a minority then; but it is irresistible when it clogs by its whole weight. If the alternative is to keep all just men in prison, or give up war and **slavery**, the State will not hesitate which to choose. If a thousand men were not to pay their tax-bills this year, that would not be a violent and bloody measure, as it would be to pay them, and enable the State to commit violence and shed innocent blood. This is, in fact, the definition of a **peaceable** revolution, if any such is possible. If the tax-gatherer, or any other public officer, asks me, as one has done, "But what shall I do?" my answer is, "If you really wish to do anything, resign your office." When the subject has refused allegiance, and the officer has resigned his office, then the revolution is accomplished. But even suppose blood should flow. Is there not a sort of blood shed when the conscience is wounded? Through this wound a man's real **manhood** and immortality flow out, and he bleeds to an **everlasting** death. I see this blood flowing now.

I have contemplated the imprisonment of the offender, rather than the **seizure** of his goods -- though both will serve the same purpose -- because they who assert the purest right, and consequently are most dangerous to a corrupt State, commonly have not spent much time in accumulating property. To such the State renders comparatively small service, and a slight tax is wont to appear **exorbitant**, particularly if they are obliged to earn it by special labor with their hands. If there were one who lived wholly without the use of money, the State itself would hesitate to demand it of him. But the rich man -- not to make any invidious comparison -- is always sold to the institution which makes him rich. Absolutely speaking, the more money, the less virtue; for money comes between a man and his objects, and obtains them for him; and it was certainly no great virtue to obtain it. It puts to rest many questions which he would otherwise be taxed to answer; while the only new question which it puts is the hard but superfluous one, how to spend it. Thus his moral ground is taken from under his feet. The opportunities of living are diminished in proportion as what are called the "means" are increased. The best thing a man can do for his culture when he is rich is to endeavor to carry out those schemes which he entertained when he was poor. Christ answered the Herodians according to their condition. "Show me the tribute-money," said he; -- and one took a penny out of his pocket;

Thesaurus

everlasting: (*adj*) eternal, ceaseless, endless, constant, continual, perpetual, immortal, deathless, ageless, aeonian; (*adj, n*) lasting. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) finite, ephemeral, fleeting, mortal, ending, terminating, inconstant, fragile, perishable.
exorbitant: (*adj*) unreasonable, immoderate, steep, unconscionable, inordinate, extravagant, outrageous, enormous, extortionate, extreme, high. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) reasonable,

inexpensive, moderate, modest, sensible, fair.
manhood: (*n*) majority, maturity, valor, resolution, personality, humanity, integrity, bravery; (*adj*) manliness, ripe age, maturity full age.
peaceable: (*adj*) gentle, calm, pacific, amicable, quiet, friendly, inoffensive, moderate, meek, serene; (*adj, v*) peaceful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) argumentative, belligerent, intemperate, quarrelsome, crooked,

disruptive, harsh, disordered.
seizure: (*n*) arrest, confiscation, capture, seizing, apprehension, appropriation, attachment, convulsion, detention; (*adj, n*) attack, assumption. ANTONYMS: (*n*) release, restoration, surrender.
slavery: (*adj, n*) bondage, involuntary servitude; (*n*) servitude, drudgery, thralldom, thrall, yoke, travail, vassalage, thralldom, toil. ANTONYMS: (*n*) liberty, freedom.

-- if you use money which has the image of Caesar on it, and which he has made current and valuable, that is, if you are men of the State, and gladly enjoy the advantages of Caesar's government, then pay him back some of his own when he demands it; "Render therefore to Caesar that which is Caesar's, and to God those things which are God's" -- leaving them no wiser than before as to which was which; for they did not wish to know.

When I converse with the freest of my neighbors, I perceive that, whatever they may say about the magnitude and seriousness of the question, and their regard for the public **tranquillity**, the long and the short of the matter is, that they cannot spare the protection of the existing government, and they dread the consequences to their property and families of **disobedience** to it. For my own part, I should not like to think that I ever rely on the protection of the State. But, if I deny the authority of the State when it presents its tax-bill, it will soon take and waste all my property, and so **harass** me and my children without end. This is hard. This makes it impossible for a man to live honestly, and at the same time comfortably in outward respects. It will not be worth the while to accumulate property; that would be sure to go again. You must hire or squat somewhere, and raise but a small crop, and eat that soon. You must live within yourself, and depend upon yourself always tucked up and ready for a start, and not have many affairs. A man may grow rich in Turkey even, if he will be in all respects a good subject of the Turkish government. Confucius said, "If a state is governed by the principles of reason, poverty and misery are subjects of shame; if a state is not governed by the principles of reason, **riches** and **honors** are the subjects of shame." No: until I want the protection of Massachusetts to be extended to me in some distant Southern port, where my liberty is **endangered**, or until I am bent solely on building up an estate at home by peaceful enterprise, I can afford to refuse allegiance to Massachusetts, and her right to my property and life. It costs me less in every sense to **incur** the penalty of disobedience to the State than it would to obey. I should feel as if I were worth less in that case.

Some years ago, the State met me in behalf of the Church, and commanded me to pay a certain sum toward the support of a **clergyman** whose preaching my

Thesaurus

clergyman: (*n*) minister, chaplain, priest, pastor, churchman, preacher, parson, rector, dominie, vicar; (*adj*) divine. ANTONYMS: (*n*) layman, layperson.

disobedience: (*n*) contumacy, intractableness, rebelliousness, breach, recalcitrance, rebellion, refusal, noncompliance, mutiny, contravention, defiance. ANTONYMS: (*n*) compliance, meekness, conformity, devotion,

order, fulfillment, loyalty.

endangered: (*n*) tiger, white rhinoceros; (*adj*) risky, vulnerable, defenseless, at risk, in danger.

harass: (*n, v*) distress, annoy; (*v*) plague, fret, beset, tease, pester, disturb; (*adj, v*) molest, worry, tire. ANTONYMS: (*v*) defend, delight, encourage, praise, comfort.

honors: (*n*) formality.

incur: (*n, v*) contract; (*v*) catch, get, incite, begin, cause, encounter,

experience, obtain, suffer, receive.

riches: (*n, v*) money; (*n*) affluence, abundance, fortune, opulence, plenty, prosperity, exuberance, treasure, resources; (*v*) gold.

tranquillity: (*adj, n, v*) quiet; (*n*) serenity, quietness, relaxation, quietude, peacefulness, calmness; (*n, v*) repose, rest; (*adj, n*) stillness, calm. ANTONYMS: (*n*) noise, agitation, movement, panic, turbulence, turmoil.

father attended, but never I myself. "Pay," it said, "or be locked up in the jail." I declined to pay. But, unfortunately, another man saw fit to pay it. I did not see why the **schoolmaster** should be taxed to support the priest, and not the priest the schoolmaster: for I was not the State's schoolmaster, but I supported myself by voluntary subscription. I did not see why the **lyceum** should not present its tax-bill, and have the State to back its demand, as well as the Church. However, at the request of the selectmen, I condescended to make some such statement as this in writing:-- "Know all men by these presents, that I, Henry Thoreau, do not wish to be regarded as a member of any incorporated society which I have not joined." This I gave to the town clerk; and he has it. The State, having thus learned that I did not wish to be regarded as a member of that church, has never made a like demand on me since; though it said that it must **adhere** to its original presumption that time. If I had known how to name them, I should then have signed off in detail from all the societies which I never signed on to; but I did not know where to find a complete list.

I have paid no poll-tax for six years. I was put into a jail once on this account, for one night; and, as I stood considering the walls of solid stone, two or three feet thick, the door of wood and iron, a foot thick, and the iron grating which strained the light, I could not help being struck with the **foolishness** of that institution which treated me as if I were mere flesh and blood and bones, to be locked up. I wondered that it should have concluded at length that this was the best use it could put me to, and had never thought to avail itself of my services in some way. I saw that, if there was a wall of stone between me and my townsmen, there was a still more difficult one to climb or break through, before they could get to be as free as I was. I did not for a moment feel confined, and the walls seemed a great waste of stone and **mortar**. I felt as if I alone of all my townsmen had paid my tax. They plainly did not know how to treat me, but behaved like persons who are underbred. In every threat and in every compliment there was a blunder; for they thought that my chief desire was to stand the other side of that stone wall. I could not but smile to see how **industriously** they locked the door on my meditations, which followed them out again without let or **hindrance**, and they were really all that was dangerous. As

Thesaurus

adhere: (*v*) abide, cleave, accede, bond, cling, attach, stick, bind, persist, sustain; (*adj, v*) agree. ANTONYMS: (*v*) separate, repel, unfasten, loose, loosen.

foolishness: (*n*) folly, fatuity, craziness, nonsense, stupidity, indiscretion, ineptitude, mistake, fatuousness, irrationality; (*adj, n*) silliness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) prudence, sense, sensibleness, understanding, foresight, responsibility.

hindrance: (*n, v*) difficulty, obstacle, block, check, delay; (*n*) deterrent, barrier, obstruction, impediment, inconvenience, disturbance. ANTONYMS: (*n*) advantage, contribution, assistance, success, boost, incentive, strength.

industriously: (*adv*) diligently, painstakingly, busily, sedulously, tirelessly, untiringly, eagerly, studiously, laboriously, carefully, conscientiously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*)

wearily, carelessly.

lyceum: (*n*) gymnasium, lycee, highschool, high, seminary, university, school, grammar school, Alma mater, middle school, college.

mortar: (*n*) howitzer, plaster, trench mortar, field piece, glue, lute, heavy gun, gun, birdlime, gum, cannon.

schoolmaster: (*n*) master, preceptor, pedagogue, headmaster, dominie, teacher, principal, educator, head, Lufjanus apodus, housemaster.

they could not reach me, they had resolved to punish my body; just as boys, if they cannot come at some person against whom they have a spite, will abuse his dog. I saw that the State was half-witted, that it was timid as a lone woman with her silver spoons, and that it did not know its friends from its foes, and I lost all my remaining respect for it, and pitied it.

Thus the State never **intentionally** confronts a man's sense, intellectual or moral, but only his body, his senses. It is not armed with superior wit or honesty, but with superior physical strength. I was not born to be forced. I will breathe after my own fashion. Let us see who is the strongest. What force has a **multitude**? They only can force me who obey a higher law than I. They force me to become like themselves. I do not hear of men being forced to have this way or that by masses of men. What sort of life were that to live? When I meet a government which says to me, "Your money or your life," why should I be in **haste** to give it my money? It may be in a great **strait**, and not know what to do: I cannot help that. It must help itself; do as I do. It is not worth the while to **snivel** about it. I am not responsible for the successful working of the machinery of society. I am not the son of the engineer. I perceive that, when an **acorn** and a **chestnut** fall side by side, the one does not remain **inert** to make way for the other, but both obey their own laws, and spring and grow and flourish as best they can, till one, perchance, overshadows and destroys the other. If a plant cannot live according to its nature, it dies; and so a man.

The night in prison was novel and interesting enough. The prisoners in their shirt-sleeves were enjoying a chat and the evening air in the doorway, when I entered. But the jailer said, "Come, boys, it is time to lock up"; and so they dispersed, and I heard the sound of their steps returning into the hollow apartments. My room-mate was introduced to me by the jailer as "a first-rate fellow and a clever man." When the door was locked, he showed me where to hang my hat, and how he managed matters there. The rooms were **whitewashed** once a month; and this one, at least, was the whitest, most simply furnished, and probably the neatest apartment in the town. He naturally wanted to know where I came from, and what brought me there; and, when I had told

Thesaurus

acorn: (*n*) acorn-shell, acorn squash, truck.

chestnut: (*adj, n*) auburn, commonplace; (*n*) chestnut tree, sweet chestnut, wood, anecdote, joke, banality; (*adj*) bay, trite, castaneous.

haste: (*n, v*) hurry, dash, dispatch, rush; (*n*) celerity, expedition, rapidity, speed, bustle, hastiness, quickness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) delay, patience, forethought, caution.

inert: (*adj*) idle, dead, sluggish, dull,

indolent, inactive, lifeless, dormant, flat, inanimate, passive.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) active, animate, proactive, keen, live, alive, mobile.

intentionally: (*adv*) deliberately, advisedly, consciously, purposely, on purpose, knowingly, willfully, studiously, expressly, purposefully, intendedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) accidentally, innocently.

multitude: (*n*) flock, horde, crowd, host, throng, concourse, mob, masses,

mass, herd, swarm. ANTONYM: (*n*) trickle.

snivel: (*n, v*) blubber, sob, whine, sniffle, snuffle; (*v*) weep, whimper, sniff, wail, pule; (*n*) sniveling.

strait: (*adj*) narrow; (*n*) pinch, pass, inlet, need, channel, crisis, poverty, difficulty; (*adj, n*) quandary; (*n, v*) dilemma.

whitewashed: (*adj*) overpowered, overcome, crushed, conquered, beaten, routed, painted.

him, I asked him in my turn how he came there, **presuming** him to be an honest man, of course; and, as the world goes, I believe he was. "Why," said he, "they **accuse** me of burning a barn; but I never did it." As near as I could discover, he had probably gone to bed in a barn when drunk, and smoked his pipe there; and so a barn was burnt. He had the reputation of being a clever man, had been there some three months waiting for his trial to come on, and would have to wait as much longer; but he was quite **domesticated** and **contented**, since he got his board for nothing, and thought that he was well treated.

He occupied one window, and I the other; and I saw that if one stayed there long, his principal business would be to look out the window. I had soon read all the tracts that were left there, and examined where former prisoners had broken out, and where a grate had been sawed off, and heard the history of the various occupants of that room; for I found that even here there was a history and a gossip which never **circulated** beyond the walls of the jail. Probably this is the only house in the town where verses are composed, which are afterward printed in a circular form, but not published. I was shown quite a long list of verses which were composed by some young men who had been **detected** in an attempt to escape, who avenged themselves by singing them.

I pumped my fellow-prisoner as dry as I could, for fear I should never see him again; but at length he showed me which was my bed, and left me to blow out the lamp.

It was like travelling into a far country, such as I had never expected to behold, to lie there for one night. It seemed to me that I never had heard the town-clock strike before, nor the evening sounds of the village; for we slept with the windows open, which were inside the grating. It was to see my native village in the light of the Middle Ages, and our Concord was turned into a Rhine stream, and visions of knights and castles passed before me. They were the voices of old burghers that I heard in the streets. I was an **involuntary spectator** and auditor of whatever was done and said in the kitchen of the adjacent village-inn -- a wholly new and rare experience to me. It was a closer view of my native town. I was fairly inside of it. I never had seen its institutions before. This is one of its

Thesaurus

accuse: (*v*) charge, incriminate, arraign, denounce, defame, criminate, indict, fault, betray, condemn, inculpate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) absolve, exculpate, exonerate, praise, support, clear.
circulated: (*adj*) disseminated, diffuse, dispersed, distributed.
contented: (*adj*) content, happy, comfortable, quiet, cheerful, smug, complacent, satisfied, easy, proud, delighted. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

discontented, unhappy, depressed, unsatisfied, sad, anxious.
detected: (*adj*) apparent, convicted, detect.
domesticated: (*adj*) tame, vernacular, subdued, gentle, tamed, naturalized, submissive, depressed, crushed, cade, broken. ANTONYM: (*adj*) wild.
involuntary: (*adj*) instinctive, unconscious, unintentional, forced, mechanical, unthinking, reluctant, unwilling, compulsory, inadvertent,

accidental. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) voluntary, intentional, intended, willing.
presuming: (*adj*) forward, arrogant, insolent, familiar, overconfident, conceited, assuming, rash, brash, pretentious, confident.
spectator: (*n*) eyewitness, observer, onlooker, witness, audience, beholder, viewer, watcher, spectators, looker, ogler. ANTONYM: (*n*) player.

peculiar institutions; for it is a **shire** town. I began to **comprehend** what its inhabitants were about.

In the morning, our breakfasts were put through the hole in the door, in small oblong-square tin pans, made to fit, and holding a pint of chocolate, with brown bread, and an iron spoon. When they called for the vessels again, I was green enough to return what bread I had left; but my **comrade** seized it, and said that I should lay that up for lunch or dinner. Soon after he was let out to work at haying in a neighboring field, **whither** he went every day, and would not be back till noon; so he **bade** me good-day, saying that he **doubted** if he should see me again.

When I came out of prison -- for some one interfered, and paid that tax -- I did not perceive that great changes had taken place on the common, such as he observed who went in a youth and emerged a tottering and gray-headed man; and yet a change had to my eyes come over the scene -- the town, and State, and country -- greater than any that mere time could effect. I saw yet more distinctly the State in which I lived. I saw to what extent the people among whom I lived could be trusted as good neighbors and friends; that their friendship was for summer weather only; that they did not greatly propose to do right; that they were a distinct race from me by their prejudices and superstitions, as the Chinamen and Malays are; that in their sacrifices to humanity, they ran no risks, not even to their property; that after all they were not so noble but they treated the thief as he had treated them, and hoped, by a certain **outward observance** and a few prayers, and by walking in a particular straight though useless path from time to time, to save their souls. This may be to judge my neighbors harshly; for I believe that many of them are not aware that they have such an institution as the jail in their village.

It was formerly the custom in our village, when a poor debtor came out of jail, for his acquaintances to **salute** him, looking through their fingers, which were crossed to represent the grating of a jail window, "How do ye do?" My neighbors did not thus salute me, but first looked at me, and then at one another, as if I had returned from a long journey. I was put into jail as I was going to the

Thesaurus

bade: (*v*) bid, command, bad.

comprehend: (*v*) grasp, catch, see, comprise, appreciate, feel, sense, apperceive, read; (*adj, v*) understand; (*n, v*) embrace. ANTONYMS: (*v*) mistake, misapprehend, exclude, misunderstand, misconceive.

comrade: (*n*) colleague, chum, buddy, fellow, compeer, partner, brother, mate, familiar; (*adj, n*) associate, ally. ANTONYMS: (*n*) stranger, enemy, foe, opponent.

doubted: (*adj*) distrusted, suspected.

observance: (*n*) ceremony, commemoration, observation, rite, fulfillment, obedience, manner, compliance, discharge, conformity, custom. ANTONYMS: (*n*) breaking, disobedience, disregard, nonobservance, inattention, omission.

outward: (*adj*) external, apparent, extrinsic, outer, superficial, surface, outside, ostensible, foreign, outdoor;

(*adv*) out. ANTONYMS: (*adj, adv*) inward; (*adj*) inner, internal, deep.

salute: (*v*) greet, hail, kiss, accost, acknowledge, buss; (*n*) salutation, bow, salaam; (*n, v*) address, compliment.

shire: (*n*) canton, province, county, country, parish, territory, township, shier, administrative district, Shire horse, administrative division.

whither: (*adv*) hither, thither, whereunto, whereto, for.

shoemaker's to get a shoe which was mended. When I was let out the next morning, I proceeded to finish my errand, and, having put on my mended shoe, joined a huckleberry party, who were impatient to put themselves under my conduct; and in half an hour -- for the horse was soon tackled -- was in the midst of a huckleberry field, on one of our highest hills, two miles off, and then the State was nowhere to be seen.

THIS IS THE WHOLE HISTORY OF "MY PRISONS."

I have never declined paying the highway tax, because I am as desirous of being a good neighbor as I am of being a bad subject; and as for supporting schools, I am doing my part to educate my fellow-countrymen now. It is for no particular item in the tax-bill that I refuse to pay it. I simply wish to refuse allegiance to the State, to withdraw and stand **aloof** from it effectually. I do not care to trace the course of my dollar, if I could, till it buys a man or a **musket** to shoot one with -- the dollar is innocent -- but I am concerned to trace the effects of my allegiance. In fact, I quietly declare war with the State, after my fashion, though I will still make what use and get what advantage of her I can, as is usual in such cases.

If others pay the tax which is demanded of me, from a sympathy with the State, they do but what they have already done in their own case, or rather they **abet injustice** to a greater extent than the State requires. If they pay the tax from a mistaken interest in the individual taxed, to save his property, or prevent his going to jail, it is because they have not considered **wisely** how far they let their private feelings interfere with the public good.

This, then, is my position at present. But one cannot be too much on his guard in such a case, lest his action be **biased** by obstinacy or an undue regard for the opinions of men. Let him see that he does only what belongs to himself and to the hour.

Thesaurus

abet: (*v*) assist, countenance, support, help, incite, favor, aid, back, instigate, encourage, provoke. ANTONYMS: (*v*) hinder, impede, undermine, thwart, prohibit, obstruct, frustrate, dissuade, discourage, denounce, counter.

aloof: (*adj*) distant, reserved, cool, standoffish, unconcerned, indifferent, unfriendly, frigid, arrogant, cold; (*adv*) afar. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) friendly, involved, approachable,

sociable, outgoing, open, enthusiastic, relaxed, communicative, affable, respectful.

biased: (*adj*) slanted, partial, unfair, skewed, coloured, predisposed, prejudiced, jaundiced, subjective, colored, bigoted. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) neutral, fair, just, impartial, balanced, innocent, objective, broadminded.

injustice: (*n*) iniquity, wrong, unfairness, bigotry, wickedness, prejudice, crime; (*adj, n*) injury, evil,

harm, damage. ANTONYMS: (*n*) fairness, evenhandedness, reasonableness, goodness, tolerance.

musket: (*n*) fusil, blunderbuss, gun, rifle.

wisely: (*adv*) judiciously, prudently, sagaciously, cleverly, discreetly, shrewdly, smartly, learnedly, astutely, sharply, perspicaciously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) stupidly, recklessly, imprudently, immaturely, illogically.

I think sometimes, Why, this people mean well; they are only ignorant; they would do better if they knew how: why give your neighbors this pain to treat you as they are not inclined to? But I think, again, This is no reason why I should do as they do, or permit others to suffer much greater pain of a different kind. Again, I sometimes say to myself, When many millions of men, without heat, without **ill-will**, without personal feeling of any kind, demand of you a few shillings only, without the possibility, such is their constitution, of retracting or **altering** their present demand, and without the possibility, on your side, of appeal to any other millions, why expose yourself to this overwhelming brute force? You do not resist cold and hunger, the winds and the waves, thus **obstinately**; you quietly submit to a thousand similar necessities. You do not put your head into the fire. But just in proportion as I regard this as not wholly a brute force, but partly a human force, and consider that I have relations to those millions as to so many millions of men, and not of mere brute or **inanimate** things, I see that appeal is possible, first and **instantaneously**, from them to the Maker of them, and, secondly, from them to themselves. But, if I put my head deliberately into the fire, there is no appeal to fire or to the Maker of fire, and I have only myself to blame. If I could convince myself that I have any right to be satisfied with men as they are, and to treat them accordingly, and not according, in some respects, to my requisitions and expectations of what they and I ought to be, then, like a good Mussulman and **fatalist**, I should endeavor to be satisfied with things as they are, and say it is the will of God. And, above all, there is this difference between **resisting** this and a purely brute or natural force, that I can resist this with some effect; but I cannot expect, like Orpheus, to change the nature of the rocks and trees and beasts.

I do not wish to quarrel with any man or nation. I do not wish to split hairs, to make fine distinctions, or set myself up as better than my neighbors. I seek rather, I may say, even an excuse for conforming to the laws of the land. I am but too ready to conform to them. Indeed, I have reason to suspect myself on this head; and each year, as the tax-gatherer comes round, I find myself **disposed** to review the acts and position of the general and State governments, and the spirit of the people, to discover a **pretext** for conformity.

Thesaurus

altering: (*n*) castration, fixing, interchange, neutering; (*adj*) changing, alterant.
disposed: (*adj*) prone, apt, ready, subject, prepared, liable, game, inclined, fain, likely, minded.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ailing, indisposed, unlikely, disinclined, reluctant, impervious.
fatalist: (*n*) determinist, necessitarian, dark horse, destinist, pessimist, quitter, defeatist, predestinationist.

ill-will: (*n*) enmity.
inanimate: (*adj*) defunct, dull, breathless, inorganic, inactive, lifeless, exanimate, deceased, extinct, unconscious, spiritless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) living, animate, spirited.
instantaneously: (*adv*) directly, instantly, at once, forthwith, suddenly, promptly, abruptly, momentarily, outright, right away, in a flash. ANTONYM: (*adv*) eventually.
obstinately: (*adv*) obdurately,

mulishly, persistently, perversely, doggedly, refractorily, unyieldingly, willfully, pigheadedly, waywardly, firmly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) helpfully.
pretext: (*n*) pretense, pretension, color, pretence, mask, plea, guise, sham, appearance; (*n, v*) excuse, cloak.
resisting: (*adj*) tough, tenacious, sequacious, stringy, tough as whiteleather, resistant, recalcitrant, opposing, making resistance, loath; (*v*) resist.

"We must affect our country as our parents,
 And if at any time we **alienate**
 Our love or industry from doing it honor,
 We must respect effects and teach the soul
 Matter of conscience and religion,
 And not desire of rule or benefit."

I believe that the State will soon be able to take all my work of this sort out of my hands, and then I shall be no better a patriot than my fellow-countrymen. Seen from a lower point of view, the Constitution, with all its faults, is very good; the law and the **courts** are very respectable; even this State and this American government are, in many respects, very **admirable** and rare things, to be thankful for, such as a great many have described them; but seen from a point of view a little higher, they are what I have described them; seen from a higher still, and the highest, who shall say what they are, or that they are worth looking at or thinking of at all?

However, the government does not concern me much, and I shall bestow the fewest possible thoughts on it. It is not many moments that I live under a government, even in this world. If a man is thought-free, **fancy-free**, imagination-free, that which is not never for a long time appearing to be to him, unwise rulers or reformers cannot fatally **interrupt** him.

I know that most men think differently from myself; but those whose lives are by profession devoted to the study of these or kindred subjects, content me as little as any. Statesmen and legislators, standing so completely within the institution, never distinctly and **nakedly** behold it. They speak of moving society, but have no resting-place without it. They may be men of a certain experience and discrimination, and have no doubt invented **ingenious** and even useful systems, for which we sincerely thank them; but all their wit and **usefulness** lie within certain not very wide limits. They are wont to forget that the world is not governed by policy and expediency. Webster never goes behind

Thesaurus

admirable: (*adj*) fine, outstanding, beautiful, great, commendable, lovely, good, creditable, praiseworthy, worthy, grand.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) appalling, poor, unworthy, despicable, contemptible, detestable, dishonorable, rotten, unimpressive, loathsome, low.
alienate: (*v*) alien, transfer, cede, wean, disaffect, abalienate; (*adj, v*) set against; (*adj*) envenom, incense, repel, sow dissension. ANTONYMS: (*v*)

involve, unite, reunite, endear.
courts: (*n*) judges.
fancy-free: (*adj*) freely, single, unmarried, vagabond.
ingenious: (*adj*) adroit, artful, clever, cunning, deft, expert, creative, imaginative, cute, acute, able.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) impulsive, naive, unoriginal, inept.
interrupt: (*v*) disturb, break, hinder, intermit, stop, cut, break in, arrest, check; (*n, v*) suspend; (*adj, v*) pause.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) cheer, respect, restore.
nakedly: (*adv*) barely, uncoveredly, openly, unclothedly, manifestly, plainly, rawly, simply, baldly, merely, undisguisedly.
usefulness: (*n*) utility, service, benefit, convenience, practicality, avail, helpfulness, effectiveness, efficacy, value; (*adj, n*) worth. ANTONYMS: (*n*) inefficiency, inutility, clumsiness, insignificance.

government, and so cannot speak with authority about it. His words are wisdom to those legislators who contemplate no essential reform in the existing government; but for thinkers, and those who **legislate** for all time, he never once glances at the subject. I know of those whose serene and wise speculations on this theme would soon reveal the limits of his mind's range and hospitality. Yet, compared with the cheap professions of most reformers, and the still cheaper wisdom and eloquence of politicians in general, his are almost the only sensible and valuable words, and we thank Heaven for him. Comparatively, he is always strong, original, and, above all, practical. Still, his quality is not wisdom, but prudence. The lawyer's truth is not truth, but consistency or a consistent expediency. Truth is always in harmony with herself, and is not concerned chiefly to reveal the justice that may consist with wrong-doing. He well deserves to be called, as he has been called, the Defender of the Constitution. There are really no blows to be given by him but defensive ones. He is not a leader, but a **follower**. His leaders are the men of '87. "I have never made an effort," he says, "and never propose to make an effort; I have never **countenanced** an effort, and never mean to countenance an effort, to disturb the arrangement as originally made, by which the various States came into the Union." Still thinking of the sanction which the Constitution gives to slavery, he says, "Because it was a part of the original compact -- let it stand." Notwithstanding his special **acuteness** and ability, he is unable to take a fact out of its merely political relations, and behold it as it lies absolutely to be disposed of by the intellect -- what, for instance, it behooves a man to do here in America to-day with regard to slavery, but ventures, or is driven, to make some such desperate answer as the following, while **professing** to speak absolutely, and as a private man -- from which what new and singular code of social duties might be inferred? "The manner," says he, "in which the governments of those States where slavery exists are to **regulate** it is for their own consideration, under their responsibility to their constituents, to the general laws of **propriety**, humanity, and justice, and to God. Associations formed elsewhere, **springing** from a feeling of humanity, or any other cause, have nothing whatever to do with it. They have never received any encouragement from me, and they never will."

Thesaurus

acuteness: (*n*) acuity, sharpness, acumen, discrimination, gravity, insight, sensitivity, perspicacity, penetration, keenness, intensity.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) faintness, insignificance, dullness.

countenanced: (*adj*) aided.

follower: (*n*) backer, devotee, fan, admirer, adherent, cohort, apostle, partisan, believer, attendant; (*adj*) lover. ANTONYMS: (*n*) detractor, rebel, superior, disbeliever, cynic,

leader.

legislate: (*v*) establish, constitute, authorise, fade, give, extend, expire, exit, glide by, fleet, excrete.

professing: (*n*) avowal, profession, community.

propriety: (*adj, n*) decency, modesty, correctness, aptitude; (*n*) decorum, fitness, etiquette, civility, grace, politeness, manners. ANTONYMS: (*n*) impropriety, rudeness, unsuitableness, indecorum,

decadence, tactlessness, corruption, vulgarity, indecency.

regulate: (*adj, n, v*) adjust; (*v*) manage, control, determine, fix, influence, govern, modulate, regularize; (*n, v*) direct, order. ANTONYMS: (*v*) destabilize, intensify.

springing: (*v*) jumping, climbing, bounding, furious, conspicuous, prominent, ascending, projecting outwardly; (*n*) growth, suspension, emanation.

They who know of no purer sources of truth, who have **traced** up its stream no higher, stand, and wisely stand, by the Bible and the Constitution, and drink at it there with reverence and **humility**; but they who behold where it comes trickling into this lake or that pool, **gird** up their **loins** once more, and continue their pilgrimage toward its fountain-head.

No man with a genius for legislation has appeared in America. They are rare in the history of the world. There are orators, politicians, and **eloquent** men, by the thousand; but the speaker has not yet opened his mouth to speak who is capable of settling the much-vexed questions of the day. We love eloquence for its own sake, and not for any truth which it may utter, or any heroism it may inspire. Our legislators have not yet learned the comparative value of free-trade and of freedom, of union, and of **rectitude**, to a nation. They have no genius or talent for comparatively humble questions of taxation and finance, commerce and manufacturers and agriculture. If we were left solely to the **wordy** wit of legislators in Congress for our guidance, **uncorrected** by the **seasonable** experience and the effectual complaints of the people, America would not long retain her rank among the nations. For eighteen hundred years, though perchance I have no right to say it, the New Testament has been written; yet where is the legislator who has wisdom and practical talent enough to avail himself of the light which it sheds on the science of legislation?

The authority of government, even such as I am willing to submit to -- for I will cheerfully obey those who know and can do better than I, and in many things even those who neither know nor can do so well -- is still an impure one: to be strictly just, it must have the sanction and consent of the governed. It can have no pure right over my person and property but what I concede to it. The progress from an absolute to a limited monarchy, from a limited monarchy to a democracy, is a progress toward a true respect for the individual. Even the Chinese philosopher was wise enough to regard the individual as the basis of the empire. Is a democracy, such as we know it, the last improvement possible in government? Is it not possible to take a step further towards recognizing and organizing the rights of man? There will never be a really free and enlightened

Thesaurus

eloquent: (*adj*) glib, fluent, persuasive, expressive, meaningful, significant, graphic, vivid, speaking, forcible, moving. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) incoherent, innocent, straightforward, weak.
gird: (*adv, v*) encircle, environ; (*v*) begird, circle, girt, jest; (*n*) jeer, scoff, deride; (*n, v*) fortify, brace.
humility: (*n*) diffidence, modesty, submission, shyness, meekness, lowliness, timidity, trait, humiliation,

resignation; (*adj*) veneration. ANTONYMS: (*n*) haughtiness, affectation, conceit, arrogance.
loins: (*n*) waist, body part, haunch, lends, pubic region, area, pubes.
rectitude: (*adj, n*) justice, honesty, equity; (*n*) integrity, veracity, virtue, uprightness, morality, purity, propriety; (*adj*) fidelity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) immorality, incorrectness, wickedness.
seasonable: (*adj*) timely, fit, well

timed, favorable, timely; (*adj, n, v*) appropriate; (*adj, v*) convenient; (*adj, adv*) early; (*n*) fit adapted, in loco, a propos. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) untimely, unseasonable.
traced: (*adj*) graphic.
uncorrected: (*adj*) unpunished.
wordy: (*adj*) prolix, windy, lengthy, verbose, redundant, loquacious, talkative, garrulous, rambling, tedious, exuberant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) taciturn, quiet.

State until the State comes to recognize the individual as a higher and independent power, from which all its own power and authority are derived, and treats him accordingly. I please myself with **imagining** a State at least which can afford to be just to all men, and to treat the individual with respect as a neighbor; which even would not think it **inconsistent** with its own repose if a few were to live aloof from it, not **meddling** with it, nor **embraced** by it, who **fulfilled** all the duties of neighbors and fellow-men. A State which **bore** this kind of fruit, and suffered it to drop off as fast as it ripened, would prepare the way for a still more perfect and glorious State, which also I have **imagined**, but not yet **anywhere** seen.

Thesaurus

anywhere: (*adv, n*) anyplace; (*adv*) someplace, wherever, everywhere.

bore: (*v*) dig, tire, pierce, tap, annoy, perforate; (*n, v*) bother, plague; (*n*) auger, well, gimlet. ANTONYMS: (*v*) fascinate, excite, hypnotize, engage, entertain, stimulate; (*n*) charmer, exciter, excitement, pleasure.

embraced: (*adj*) popular.

fulfilled: (*adj*) complete, finished, done, satisfied, accomplished, completed, whole, delighted,

concluded, happy, full of pride.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) incomplete, unfulfilled, frustrated, ashamed, dissatisfied.

imagined: (*adj*) fanciful, notional, unreal, fancied, fictitious, nonexistent, unseen, hypothetical, feigned, dubious, doubtful.

imagining: (*n*) conception, daydream, fantasy, opinion; (*v*) imagine; (*adj*) imaginant.

inconsistent: (*adj*) incoherent,

incompatible, inconsequent, conflicting, absurd, discrepant, illogical, erratic; (*adj, n*) contradictory, contrary, discordant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) constant, reliable, ordered, predictable, corresponding, dependable, flawless, usual, fixed. **meddling:** (*adj*) busy, inquisitive, curious, meddlesome, intrusive, officious, nosy, dabbling, impertinent, busybodied; (*adj, n*) prying.

GLOSSARY

abdomen: (n) belly, venter, gut, breadbasket, guts, tummy, tum, paunch, underbelly, abdominal cavity

abelard: (n) Pierre Abelard

abet: (v) assist, countenance, support, help, incite, favor, aid, back, instigate, encourage, provoke.

ANTONYMS: (v) hinder, impede, undermine, thwart, prohibit, obstruct, frustrate, dissuade, discourage, denounce, counter

abide: (v) endure, bide, undergo, tolerate, take, suffer, stomach, bear, brook; (adj, v) stay, dwell.

ANTONYMS: (v) check, depart, disallow, disapprove, disbelieve, journey, dodge, leave, migrate, move, pass

abject: (adj) contemptible, pitiful, low, wretched, despicable, sordid, base, mean, vile; (n) ignominious, dirty. ANTONYMS: (adj) honorable, hopeful, magnificent, esteemed, proud, dignified, commendable, noble, exalted, worthy, happy

abode: (n) dwelling, house, residence, place, domicile, lodge, abidance, mansion, lodging, address, seat

aboriginal: (adj) original, early, autochthonous, first, primaeval, primal, primary, primeval, primordial; (n) abo, aborigine. ANTONYMS: (adj) nonnative, foreign, alien, newcomer, immigrant

aborigines: (n) indigene, autochthones

absent-minded: (adj) forgetful, oblivious, inattentive, preoccupied, abstracted

absorbing: (adj) fascinating, engrossing, charming, enthralling, gripping, captivating, riveting, absorbent, attractive, readable; (adj, v) exciting. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, irksome, tedious, repellent, uninteresting

abstain: (v) desist, forbear, avoid,

give up, eschew, withhold, cease, decline, fast, neglect; (adj, v) deny oneself. ANTONYMS: (v) consume, yield, use, surrender, partake, indulge, imbibe, persist, vote, eat

abstemiousness: (n) temperance, soberness, restraint, sobriety, frugality, moderation, chastity, self-control, austerity. ANTONYM: (n) indulgence

abstinence: (n) temperance, abstinence, forbearance, sobriety, chastity, soberness, celibacy, teetotalism, fast, abstinency, restraint. ANTONYMS: (n) excess, intoxication, revelry, intemperance, drunkenness, dissipation, extravagance, wantonness

abutment: (n) jamb, support, weir abutment, osculation, union, joint, meeting, thrust bearing, mullion

acanthus: (n) cartouche, zigzag, astragal

accented: (adj) strong, emphatic, heavy

accompaniment: (n) concomitant, part, backing, escort, support, occurrence, protection, companionship, addition; (adv) second, bass

accompaniments: (n) equipment, trimmings, fixing

accomplish: (v) perform, reach, do, compass, perfect, attain, make, fulfill, realize, execute, carry out. ANTONYMS: (v) abandon, neglect, choke, blow, lose

accomplishing: (n) doing; (adj) effectual

accomplishment: (n) attainment, completion, exploit, performance, deed, skill, fulfillment, feat, action, act, acquisition. ANTONYMS: (n) abandonment, washout, flop, debacle, defeat

according: (adj) pursuant, consonant, equal, agreeable, harmonious, conformable, consistent,

corresponding, respondent; (adv) correspondingly, accordingly

accumulate: (v) pile, gather, collect, amass, heap, hoard, compile, assemble, lay up, accrue, cumulate. ANTONYMS: (v) distribute, dwindle, spend, lose, waste, dissipate, lessen, scatter, shuck, shed, decrease

accused: (adj) execrable, abominable, detestable, accurst, hateful, damned, damnable, maledict, blasted; (v) atrocious, stranded

accuse: (v) charge, incriminate, arraign, denounce, defame, criminate, indict, fault, betray, condemn, inculpate. ANTONYMS: (v) absolve, exculpate, exonerate, praise, support, clear

accustomed: (adj, n) habitual; (adj) familiar, normal, wonted, usual, natural, everyday, ordinary, habituated, common, traditional. ANTONYMS: (adj) unusual, green, unseasoned, unconventional, untrained, abnormal,

uncharacteristic, exceptional

acorn: (n) acorn-shell, acorn squash, truck

acquaintances: (n) associates

acquainted: (adj) knowledgeable, informed, aware, cognizant, conversant, hand and glove, intimate, thick; (adv) abreast; (v) inform, acquaint

actuated: (adj) motivated, actuate

acuteness: (n) acuity, sharpness, acumen, discrimination, gravity, insight, sensitivity, perspicacity, penetration, keenness, intensity. ANTONYMS: (n) faintness, insignificance, dullness

adhere: (v) abide, cleave, accede, bond, cling, attach, stick, bind, persist, sustain; (adj, v) agree. ANTONYMS: (v) separate, repel, unfasten, loose, loosen

adjunct: (n) addendum, addition,

- appendage, extra, attachment, adjutant, increment, coadjutor; (adj, n) assistant; (adj) auxiliary, appurtenant. ANTONYMS: (n) lessening, detriment
- admirably:** (adv) superbly, perfectly, excellently, admirable, marvellously, heroically, bravely, brilliantly, nicely, creditably, ably. ANTONYMS: (adv) badly, inadequately, dishonorably, execrably, incompetently, poorly
- admiring:** (adj) admire, admiringly, loving, respectful, glowing, affectionate, amatory, appreciative, enthusiastic, flattering, approving. ANTONYMS: (adj) defamatory, critical, disdainful, disapproving, disrespectful, uncomplimentary
- admittance:** (n) access, accession, introduction, door, matriculation, inlet, permit, entrance, entree, entry, input
- adorn:** (v) deck, dress, embellish, ornament, beautify, enrich, grace, trim, garnish, gild, blazon. ANTONYMS: (v) mar, disfigure, deform, deface, damage, hurt
- adorned:** (adj) decorated, ornate, bedecked, decked out, fancy, garnished, ornamented, decked, beautiful, inscribed, festooned
- adventurously:** (adv) venturesomely, boldly, bravely, enterprisingly, audaciously, intrepidly, dangerously, gallantly, venturously, fearlessly, hazardously
- aeolian:** (adj, n) eolian; (adj) Aeolic
- aesculapius:** (n) Hippocrates
- afar:** (adv) off, away, far away, distantly, beyond, Afar off, in the distance, by far, apart; (adj) outlying, far. ANTONYMS: (adv) close, nearby, near; (prep) within
- affections:** (n) bosom
- affirmed:** (adj) acknowledged, avowed, guaranteed
- afflict:** (n, v) pain, distress; (v) trouble, grieve, torment, hurt, strike, aggrieve, smite, bother, disturb. ANTONYMS: (v) aid, comfort, encourage, help, soothe
- afflicted:** (adj) miserable, distressed, stricken, pitiful, sorrowful, ill, woeful, dejected, sorry; (v) afflict, displeased
- afloat:** (n) afloat, prevalent; (v) on foot, on the tapis, agoing; (adv) walking, abroad; (adj) underway, itinerant, current
- aforthought:** (adj) deliberate, premeditated, intentional, plotted, studied, intended, designed, planned, forethought; (v) prepenze; (n) premeditation
- afterward:** (adv, conj) then, after that; (adv) thereafter, afterwards, later, subsequently, later on, next, soon; (adj) following; (n) future. ANTONYMS: (adv) now, previously, before
- aggrieved:** (adj) injured, offended, hurt, persecuted, harmed, pained, resentful, indignant, bitter, angry, affronted. ANTONYMS: (adj) assisted, comforted, happy, pleased, unaffected
- agitated:** (adj) upset, excited, nervous, restive, tumultuous, distressed, tense, jumpy, overwrought, anxious, alarmed. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, lethargic, tranquil, relaxed, assured, cool, still
- agreeable:** (adj) accordant, nice, sweet, consistent, suitable, amusing, enjoyable, affable; (adj, v) pleasant, desirable; (adj, n) acceptable. ANTONYMS: (adj) disagreeable, discordant, unpleasant, nasty, unwilling, resistant, aggressive, repugnant, averse, stubborn, unacceptable
- ailment:** (n) complaint, affection, disease, trouble, condition, ill, disorder, sickness, affliction; (adj, n) infirmity; (v) distemper
- airs:** (n, v) pretension; (n) affectation, pride, pose, pretensions, attitude; (adj, n) arrogance; (v) precisionism, euphuism, purism, pedantry. ANTONYMS: (n) humility, personality, realness, truthfulness, honesty
- airy:** (adj) light, windy, aery, aerial, ethereal, insubstantial, sprightly, perky, volatile, aeriform, aired. ANTONYMS: (adj) airless, hot, massive, wooden, weighty, substantial, stifling, sluggish, ponderous, musty, lumbering
- akin:** (adj) near, like, allied, equivalent, alike, similar, analogous, parallel, cognate, kindred, corresponding. ANTONYMS: (adj) unconnected, alien, disconnected, dissimilar, different
- alabaster:** (n) whiteness, calcite, gypsum, onyx marble, Oriental alabaster; (adj) ivory, milk, lily, milky, paper, white
- alacrity:** (n) rapidity, speed, promptness, activity, preparedness, velocity, haste, swiftness, quickness, expedition; (adj) life. ANTONYMS: (n) aversion, reservation, reluctance, indifference, hesitance, dullness, disinclination, apathy, tardiness, delay
- alarming:** (adj) scary, alarm, awful, formidable, shocking, appalling, awesome, dire, horrid, horrible, dreadful. ANTONYMS: (adj) soothing, lovely, normal
- alburnum:** (n) sapwood, duramen, alburn
- alder:** (n) wood, alder tree
- alderman:** (n) councilman, constable, portreeve, warden, ealdorman, deputy mayor, seneschal, councilwoman, burgomaster, Corregidor
- aldermanic:** (adj) legislative
- alders:** (n) Alnus, genus Alnus
- alienate:** (v) alien, transfer, cede, wean, disaffect, abalienate; (adj, v) set against; (adj) envenom, incense, repel, sow dissension. ANTONYMS: (v) involve, unite, reunite, endear
- alight:** (v) light, land, perch, dismount, get down, settle, get off, descend; (adj) ablaze, burning, blazing. ANTONYM: (v) mount
- aliment:** (n) meal, sustenance, food, nutriment, diet, maintenance, meat, alimentation, eating, nutrition, nourishment
- alkali:** (n, v) caustic; (n) salt, base, lye, alkalis, pedestal, foundation, basis, radix, glyoxaline; (v) lunar caustic. ANTONYM: (n) acid
- alligator:** (n) lagarto, mosquito, leather, octopus, mugger, gator, crocodile, crocodilian
- alloy:** (n) amalgam, admixture, blend, mixture, fusion, compound; (adj, v) sophisticate; (v) devalue, mix, debase, deteriorate. ANTONYMS: (v) clean, clear, separate
- all-seeing:** (adj) omniscient, almighty
- allure:** (n, v) tempt, decoy, lure, appeal, draw, entice, seduce; (v) attract, persuade; (n) attraction, charisma. ANTONYMS: (n) repulsion, ugliness, repulsiveness; (v) repel, dissuade, discourage, threaten, warn, deter, prevent
- alluvion:** (n) alluvium, flood, inundation, alluvio, drift, flowage, overflow, catastrophe, debacle, placer, alluvial sediment
- almanac:** (n) calendar, annual, year-book, schedule, yearbook, almanack, record, instruction book, index, address list, annual report
- almond:** (n) Prunus Amygdalus, Prunus Dulcis, Amygdalus

- communis, almonds, almond tree, sweet almond, almond kernel, natural almond
- almshouse:** (n) townhouse, workhouse
- aloft:** (adj, adv) overhead; (adv) up, on high, over, aloof, upwards, uphill, above ground; (prep) upon; (adj) eminent, lofty
- aloof:** (adj) distant, reserved, cool, standoffish, unconcerned, indifferent, unfriendly, frigid, arrogant, cold; (adv) afar. ANTONYMS: (adj) friendly, involved, approachable, sociable, outgoing, open, enthusiastic, relaxed, communicative, affable, respectful
- alphabet:** (n) rudiments, rudiment, elements, grammar, ABC, fundamentals, basics, first rudiment, first principle, outlines, abecedary
- altering:** (n) castration, fixing, interchange, neutering; (adj) changing, alterant
- alternately:** (adv) alternatively, by turns, in turn, secondarily, reciprocally, mutually, off-and-on, rather, anthemwise, secondly; (adj, adv) on and off
- alternating:** (adj) intermittent, recurrent, irregular, regular, every other, blinking, successive; (adv) back and forth. ANTONYM: (adj) direct
- ambassadors:** (n) ambassador
- amber:** (n) yellow, yellowness, electrum, ambergris, gold, brown, electron, gum; (adj) chromatic
- ambrosial:** (adj) luscious, heavenly, fragrant, spicy, delicate, aromatic, delicious, ambrosian, sweet, divine, redolent
- amend:** (adj, v) improve; (v) ameliorate, rectify, better, fix, reform, alter, correct, emend, revise, redress. ANTONYMS: (v) corrupt, damage, debase, impair, reduce, mar, blemish, maintain, leave
- amends:** (n) atonement, compensation, recompense, satisfaction, redress, damages, reprisal, indemnity, requital; (n, v) restitution, restoration
- amok:** (adj) berserk, demoniacal, possessed, demonic; (adv) murderously
- amphitheatre:** (n) amphitheater, arena, stadium, gallery, bowl, coliseum, colosseum
- amuse:** (v) please, beguile, absorb, entertain, enjoy, disport, distract, delight, occupy, recreate, rejoice. ANTONYMS: (v) bore, dull, tire, annoy, anger, cloy, depress, weary, disappoint
- analytic:** (adj) logical, calculable, computable, docimastic, numerable, statistical, clinical, methodical, psychic, questioning; (adv) analytically. ANTONYMS: (adj) synthetic, illogical
- ancestor:** (n) forerunner, forefather, parent, father, precursor, antecedent, forebear, forbear, prototype, ancestry, ascendant. ANTONYMS: (n) descendant, successor, offspring, progeny
- anchored:** (adj) fixed, immobile, stationary, secure, stable, firm; (v) rock solid, moored, on a rock, tethered
- anciently:** (adv) antiquatedly, formerly, oldly, primevally, hoarily, primordially, obsoletely, bygone, archaically, antediluvianly, pastly
- anew:** (adv) again, newly, lately, recently, over again, once more, once again, new; (adj) only yesterday, the other day, just now
- angler:** (n) monkfish, allmouth, plotter, schemer, fisher, fisherman, troller, angler fish, piscator, anglerfish, angelfish
- animate:** (v) inspire, encourage, quicken, invigorate, stimulate, revive, hearten; (adj, v) cheer, inspirit, exhilarate; (adj) live. ANTONYMS: (v) deaden, inhibit, kill, discourage; (adj) inanimate, dead, dull, dispirited, insentient, sluggish, spiritless
- animated:** (adj) alive, lively, animate, perky, spirited, sprightly, brisk, cheerful, quick, vivacious, airy. ANTONYMS: (adj) lethargic, dull, blank, lifeless, spiritless, stiff, unanimated, bored, impassive, unexciting, dead
- annihilation:** (n) abolition, death, slaughter, destruction, obliteration, extermination, extirpation, disintegration, demolition, defeat, pulverization. ANTONYMS: (n) preservation, survival, creation, protection
- anon:** (adv) directly, immediately, early, readily, soon, instantly, again, forthwith, promptly, shortly, rath
- antaeus:** (adj) Gog and Magog, Gargantua, Cyclops, Goliath, mammoth, Samson, Brobdingnagian, giant, Hercules, superman, atlas
- ante:** (n) wager, stake, craps, roulette, pitch and toss, farthing, cup tossing, chuck, faro, gamble; (adv, prep) before
- antiquity:** (n) ancientness, ancientry, past, relic, status quo, artefact, artifact, oldness, old age, hoariness; (adj, n) age. ANTONYMS: (n) today, newness, modernity
- apace:** (adj, adv) speedily, quickly; (adv) fast, rapidly, hastily, soon, promptly; (adj) forthwith, immediately, incontinently, shortly. ANTONYM: (adv) slowly
- apex:** (n) top, peak, vertex, crown, acme, apices, extremity, height, summit, pinnacle, point. ANTONYMS: (n) base, nadir, trough, bottom, abyss, depth
- apexes:** (n) acme, apex
- applauded:** (adj) famous, highly praised, commended
- apprehend:** (v) arrest, comprehend, grasp, catch, understand, fathom, realize, sense, follow, nail; (adj, v) conceive. ANTONYMS: (v) misunderstand, discharge, free, liberate
- apprehending:** (v) apprehend; (n) perception, thought, recognition
- appropriated:** (adj) taken, destined, taken over, confiscate, confiscated, condemned, seized, reserved
- approving:** (n) adoption, appreciation, admiration, acceptance; (adj) good, approbative, approbatory, sympathetic, favourable; (adv) approvingly; (v) approve. ANTONYMS: (adj) against, mocking, scornful, critical, negative, uncomplimentary; (n) disapproval
- approximation:** (n) guess, vicinity, affinity, guesswork, estimate, idea, appearance, proximity, joining; (n, v) estimation; (adv) about
- arabian:** (n) Arab, Saracen, Beduin; (adj) arabesque
- arbitrarily:** (adv) randomly, despotically, erratically, absolutely, haphazardly, autocratically, positively, domineeringly, capriciously, imperiously, dictatorially. ANTONYMS: (adv) systematically, logically
- arcadia:** (n) Happy Valley, Bowers of bliss, Agapemone, Elysian Fields, Shangri-la, Saturnia regna, paradise, utopia, heaven
- arching:** (adj) arced, curved, bowed, arciform, arcuate; (n) hogging, curvature, upthrust

ardor: (adj, n) eagerness, zeal; (n) fervor, fervency, fire, flame, passion, enthusiasm, ardency, heat, avidity. ANTONYMS: (n) apathy, coolness, coldness, hatred

arithmetic: (adj) arithmetical, numerical; (n) calculation, computation, algorism, mathematics, math, estimate, weighing up; (v) fluxions, geometry

armful: (n) mouthful, containerful, capful, spoonful

arousing: (adj, n) stirring; (adj) moving, stimulating, affecting, animating, hopeful, pitiful, poignant; (n) awakening, start, beginning

arroyo: (adj) barbed

artery: (n) aorta, corridor, road, tendon, thoroughfare, celiac axis, Pipe-stem arteries, arteria, aisle, arteriola, arteriole

articulation: (n, v) juncture, hinge; (n) enunciation, junction, accent, diction, delivery, utterance, pronunciation, speech, link. ANTONYMS: (n) mumble, murmur

artificer: (n) artisan, Wright, craftsman, manufacturer, maker, inventor, machinist, architect, discoverer, journeyman, armorer

ascend: (n, v) mount; (v) arise, scale, uprise, climb, go up, come up, increase, elevate; (n) ascending, ascent. ANTONYMS: (v) descend, drop, decline, fall, lower, set, sink

ascertained: (adj) discovered, determined; (v) absolute, recognized, received, noted, notorious, decisive, unmistakable, unequivocal, positive

ascetic: (adj) abstemious, austere, Spartan, ascetical, severe; (n) hermit, abstinent, monk, recluse, eisel, abstainer. ANTONYMS: (adj) sumptuous, fussy, hedonistic, lavish

asiatic: (n) oriental, Irani, Bhutani, coolie, Dardanian, Israelite, Laos, Maldivian, turkis, cooly

aspire: (v) aim, lust, hanker, crave, plan, hope, want, rise, purpose, wish, long. ANTONYM: (v) wallow

aspiring: (adj) aspirant, wishful, enterprising, envious, desirous, coming; (v) aspire, vaulting. ANTONYM: (adj) desperate

asserting: (v) affirm; (adj) declaratory, declarative, evidentiary; (n) assertion

assiduously: (adv) diligently, industriously, busily, sedulously, carefully, attentively, studiously,

constantly, untiringly, thoroughly, scrupulously. ANTONYMS: (adv) carelessly, inconsistently, hastily

assign: (v) allot, delegate, consign, ascribe, appoint, place, allocate, appropriate; (n, v) allow, apply, give. ANTONYMS: (v) relieve, discharge, discredit, divest, refuse, take

associating: (n) connection, reference

assuage: (n, v) alleviate, appease, ease, solace; (v) calm, abate, mitigate, relieve, temper, soften; (adj, v) pacify. ANTONYMS: (v) aggravate, upset, accentuate, exacerbate

astonish: (adj, v) astound; (adj, n, v) surprise; (adj) astonishing, surprised; (v) flabbergast, daze, confound, dazzle, stun, alarm, nonplus. ANTONYMS: (v) expect, bore

astor: (n) Nancy Witcher Astor, viscountess Astor

astounding: (adj) amazing, miraculous, wonderful, incredible, tremendous, spectacular, sensational, breathtaking, awesome, staggering, prodigious. ANTONYMS: (adj) unremarkable, comforting, predictable, boring, insignificant

astray: (adj, adv) adrift, off course; (adj) lost, wrong, disoriented, awry; (adv) amiss, widely, far, afield, aside. ANTONYM: (adj) accurate

astronomically: (adv) vastly, celestially, astrophysically, galactically

astronomy: (n) astrology, astrometry, physics, astrodynamics, astrophysical, astrophysics

athwart: (adj, adv, n, prep) across; (adv, prep) aslant, cross; (adj, adv, prep) thwart; (adj, adv) crosswise; (adv) sideways, obliquely, transversely, traverse, overthwart, crossways

atlantis: (n) Happy Valley, millennium, fairyland, fantasy, utopia

atlas: (n) telamon, Caryatides, Persides, chart, atlantes, map collection, book of maps; (adj) Cyclops, Goliath, Samson, superman

atoning: (v) atone; (adj) apologetic, expiatory, penitent, piacular, satisfactory

attain: (v) make, reach, achieve, acquire, gain, strike, catch, arrive at, find, obtain, come to. ANTONYMS:

(v) lose, fail, abandon, surrender, differ

attained: (adj) attains, attain, reached, complete, earned, fulfilled

attaining: (v) attain, achieve; (n) attainment

augean: (n) corrupter

auger: (n) borer, wimble, drill, gimlet, snake, broach, perforator, awl, probe, trepan, bit

aurora: (n) daybreak, sunrise, dawn, morning, prime, cockcrow, dawning, dayspring, first light, Apollo, Eos. ANTONYM: (n) sunset

auroral: (adj) bright

austere: (adj) ascetic, stern, severe, harsh, plain, rigorous, rigid, abstemious, stark, astringent, stiff. ANTONYMS: (adj) ornate, luxurious, frivolous, hedonistic, extravagant, lush, elaborate, spending, sunny, warm, indulgent

austerity: (adj, n) acerbity, stringency; (n) asceticism, strictness, sternness, gravity, severity, hardship, harshness, plainness, simplicity. ANTONYMS: (n) permissiveness, leniency, lenience, exuberance, abandonment, gentleness, indulgence, joy, warmth, affluence, cheerfulness

autumnal: (adj) maturer, vespertine. ANTONYMS: (adj) summery, vernal, wintry

avail: (n, v) advantage, assist, aid, profit, benefit, help; (adj, n) service; (n) good, assistance, utility; (v) do. ANTONYMS: (v) useless, hurt, hinder, harm; (n) inappropriateness

avails: (n) Vail

avarice: (n) cupidity, covetousness, rapacity, avariciousness, avidity, eagerness, voracity, voraciousness, stinginess; (adj, n) greediness; (adj) extortion. ANTONYMS: (n) philanthropy, benevolence, charity

avast: (adj) stop, a truce to

avenge: (v) revenge, punish, retaliate, wreak, vindicate, repay, get even, penalize, requite, vengeance, venge. ANTONYMS: (v) excuse, overlook, tolerate, pardon

avenger: (n) vindicator, revenger, wrecker, venger, Eumenides, aggressor, assailant, attacker, retaliator

avenging: (adj) justificatory, vindictive, vengeful, rigorous, ruthless, retributive, retributory; (n) revenge, vengeance, eye for an eye, reprisal

aversion: (n) antipathy, distaste,

- abhorrence, disinclination, dislike, grudge, aversation, nausea, enmity, revulsion; (n, v) disgust.
ANTONYMS: (n) attraction, love, inclination, predilection, desire, fondness, goodwill
- awaited:** (adj) expected, appointed, scheduled, forthcoming, prospective
- awakened:** (adj) excited, aroused, awakens, awoke, interested
- awakening:** (n) arousal, waking up, revival, disenchantment, awakenment, introduction, provocation; (adj) arousing, moving, animating; (v) awake. **ANTONYM:** (n) suppression
- awakens:** (adj) awakened
- awed:** (adj) frightened, groveling, reverential, reverent, overwhelmed, overcome, intimidated, worshipful, impressed, fearful, abominable.
ANTONYMS: (adj) unawed, irreverent
- awning:** (n) screen, shade, tilt, sunblind, marquee, umbrella, blind, canopy, cover, tarpaulin, shelter
- awoke:** (adj) awakened
- azure:** (adj, n) cerulean, blue; (n) sapphire, blueness, indigo, lazuline, heaven; (adj) chromatic, bright blue, azurn, azureous
- baboons:** (n) Papio, genus Papio
- backgammon:** (n) go bang, dominos, gammon, draughts, misere chess, checkers
- bade:** (v) bid, command, bad
- badge:** (n) sign, emblem, insignia, medal, token, plaque, symbol, logo, indication, identification, characteristic
- bagdad:** (n) Baghdad, capital of Iraq
- baggage:** (n) bag, bags, trunk, pack, gear, equipment, stuff, effects, suitcases, woman, thing
- bake:** (v) roast, broil, fire, fry, cook, stew, to bake, grill, scorch, toast, heat
- baking:** (adj) hot, scorching, roasting, burning, boiling, sweltering, torrid; (n) cookery, cooking, stoving, firing. **ANTONYM:** (adj) fresh
- balked:** (adj) frustrated, baffled, discouraged, at sea
- bandbox:** (adj) dapper, spruce
- banish:** (v) dispel, expel, displace, relegate, oust, expatriate, eject, dismiss, transport, cast out; (adj, v) exile. **ANTONYMS:** (v) keep, embrace, adopt, invite, include
- barb:** (adj, n) point; (n) jag, arrow, fluke, prickle, gibe, quill, spine, spike; (adj) spur, aculeate.
- ANTONYMS:** (n) praise, kindness
- barbaric:** (adj) boorish, uncivil, graceless, churlish, uncouth, uncivilized, savage, barbarous, wild, gross, inhuman. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) refined, civilized, cultured, polished
- barbarous:** (adj) barbaric, savage, gothic, brutal, heathen, truculent, rude, fell, ferocious, fierce, uncivilized. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) nice, cultured, civilized, sophisticated, refined, humane
- barber:** (v) shave, neaten; (n) shaver, hairdresser, Chinook, foehn, khamstin, norther, vendaval, wuther, hairstylist
- barefooted:** (adj) shoeless, unshod, discalced, bare footed
- barking:** (adj) latrant; (n) abay, latration
- barrelful:** (n) containerful, cask
- barter:** (n, v) trade, swap, truck, traffic, swop, switch; (v) bargain, change; (n) commutation, permutation, interchange
- bathe:** (adj, v) steep, lave, immerse, soak; (v) take a bath, tub, clean, rinse, bath; (n, v) swim; (n) bathing. **ANTONYMS:** (v) smudge, stain, soil, dip
- bathed:** (adj) sweaty
- bather:** (n) traveler, traveller, surfer, floater, aquanaut, natator
- bathing:** (n) bathe, bath, shower, diversion, recreation, dip, washing, wash, purification, washup
- bayou:** (n) inlet, estuary, fiord, lake, swamp, cove, fen, marsh; (v) creek, river, stream
- bays:** (n) decoration, chaplet, civic crown, crown, laurels, Bayes, bay, honor, garland, palm, trophy
- beacon:** (n, v) guide; (n) cairn, flare, pharos, lighthouse, signal, light, watchtower, beacon light, buoy, sign
- bearings:** (n) bearing, direction, crest, position
- beastly:** (adj) animal, disgusting, horrid, bestial, brute; (adj, v) nasty, abominable, offensive; (adv) ugly, brutally, brutally. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) civilized, cultured, kind, good, refined, humane, inoffensive; (adj) lovely, pleasant
- beasts:** (n) stock
- bedded:** (adj) lay, laminal, laminar, layered, foliate, foliated.
ANTONYMS: (adj) unstratified, bedless
- bedstead:** (n) bed, berth, cot, bedframe, furniture, shakedown, pallet, stretcher, tester, stead, hatch
- beech:** (n) Black beech, copper beech, tree, common beech, wood, beech tree, beech wood
- beets:** (n) beta, genus beta
- beggarly:** (adj) base, mean, shabby, sorry, miserable, poor, humble, pitiable, ignoble; (adj, n) scrubby, vile
- behavior:** (n, v) bearing, demeanor; (n) carriage, conduct, deportment, act, behaviour, manner, character, action, morality
- beheld:** (adj) visual
- behindhand:** (adv) behind; (adj, adv) backward; (adj) tardy, slow, belated, overdue, dilatory, untimely, undone, serotine; (adj, v) remiss
- behold:** (v) see, view, contemplate, regard, perceive, observe, look, consider, discern, descry, watch. **ANTONYMS:** (v) Miss, disregard, ignore, overlook
- beholder:** (n) witness, looker, observer, onlooker, viewer, eyewitness, bystander, auditor, audile, passer by, watcher
- beholding:** (n) fusion, seeing, visual perception, look
- belfry:** (n) apse, room, bell tower, head, pinnacle, belltower
- belles-lettres:** (n) pure literature, writing
- bellowing:** (n) roaring, roar, bellows, hollo, holloa, rout, yowl, boation, mugieny, hollering; (adj) mugient
- bellows:** (n) blower, lung, bellowing, blowpipe, organ; (v) air blower, air pump, fan, punkah, ventilator
- bencher:** (n) leader
- bended:** (adj) bent, bowed
- bends:** (n) caisson disease, aeroembolism, air embolism, bend, gas embolism, compressed air sickness
- benefactor:** (n) sponsor, patron, backer, supporter, giver, Good Samaritan, contributor, benefactress, philanthropist, helper, humanitarian. **ANTONYMS:** (n) antagonist, opposer, detractor
- beneficence:** (n) benefaction, grace, charity, benevolence, goodness, generosity, bounty, munificence, almsgiving, alms; (adj, n) kindness. **ANTONYM:** (n) maleficence
- beneficent:** (adj) benevolent, kind, philanthropic, good, gracious, munificent, merciful, generous, eleemosynary, bounteous; (n) kindly
- benevolence:** (n) beneficence, affection, favor, mercy, compassion, favour, kindness, benefaction, pity,

- kindliness, generosity.
ANTONYMS: (n) malevolence, meanness, cruelty, misanthropy, wickedness, nastiness, malice
- bequeathed:** (adj) hereditary
- beseechingly:** (adv) pleadingly, entreatingly, suppliantly, supplicatingly, importunately, beseeching, beggingly
- beset:** (v) beleaguer, afflict, assault, siege, molest, worry, attack, plague, obsess, assail; (adv, v) surround
- bestow:** (v) give, confer, grant, impart, contribute, donate, apply, award; (adj, v) accord, allow, present. **ANTONYMS:** (v) deprive, refuse, withhold, retrieve, withdraw
- bestowed:** (adj) presented, conferred, awarded, accurate
- bestower:** (n) donor, disposer
- betimes:** (adv) early, soon, anon, rath, betime, ahead of time, rath
- betray:** (v) deceive, bewray, sell, grass, dupe, reveal, mislead, disclose, accuse, befool, bamboozle. **ANTONYMS:** (v) protect, un deceive, hide, defend, withhold
- betraying:** (adj) treacherous, revealing, Judas
- betting:** (adj) gambling, dissipated, sporting; (n) gaming
- beverage:** (n) potable, alcohol, refresher, potion, drinkable, potation, draught, draft, libation; (v) broth, soup. **ANTONYM:** (n) solid
- biased:** (adj) slanted, partial, unfair, skewed, coloured, predisposed, prejudiced, jaundiced, subjective, colored, bigoted. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) neutral, fair, just, impartial, balanced, innocent, objective, broadminded
- bicolor:** (adj) bicolour, bicoloured, bichrome, coloured, colorful; (v) versicolor, tricolor
- bide:** (v) abide, await, endure, bear, remain, last, dwell; (adj, v) tarry, wait; (adj) tolerate, stand. **ANTONYMS:** (v) go, move, hurry
- billows:** (n) great waters, high seas, offing, watery waste, brine, vapors, clouds, smoke, sea, ocean, main
- biped:** (adj, n) bipedal, human; (n) creature, brute, fauna, animate being, beast
- birch:** (v) lash, flog, scourge, wipe, warm, whop; (adj) birchen; (n) birch tree, stick, white birch, rod
- bison:** (n) aurochs, buffalo, zebu, yak, bovid, wisent, antelopes, bubaline, Ruminantia, suborder Ruminantia
- bittern:** (n) heron, salt liquor
- blackberry:** (v) bloater, bouilli, bouillon, breadfruit, chop suey, blancmange; (n) drupelet, mulberry, bramble, black haw, blackberry bush
- blacksmith:** (n) farrier, horseshoer, forger, locksmith, metalworker, sailmaker, wheelwright, smithy, smith
- blanched:** (adj) ashen, colorless, white, bleached, bloodless, benevolent, wan, pale, lightened, fair, faded
- blasted:** (adj) cursed, infernal, damned, goddamn, darned, damn, goddamned, blessed, deuced, blame, blamed
- bleach:** (adj, v) whiten, blanch, decolorize, wash out; (v) decolor, fade, white, decolourize; (n) bleaching agent, whitener, blanching agent. **ANTONYMS:** (v) melanize, yellow, blacken, contaminate, dye
- bleating:** (n) bleat, baaing
- blindly:** (adv) darkly, dimly, blindly, purblindly, obscurely, heedlessly, unreasoningly, blindfold, unsightedly, inconsiderately, ignorantly. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) sensibly, carefully, considerately, purposely
- blistered:** (adj) scalded, scorched
- bloated:** (adj) swollen, inflated, distended, turgid, proud, supercilious, haughty, puffed, pompous, tumescent, tumid
- bloodsucker:** (n) vampire, gorilla, ogre, vulture, ghoul, extortioner, freeloader, hanger-on, hirudinean, scrounger, sponger
- blooming:** (adj) rosy, thriving, flourishing, healthy, prosperous, ruddy, booming, blossoming, cherry, verdant, green. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) arid, pale
- blossom:** (adj, n, v) flower, blow; (n, v) bud; (n) blooming, heyday, efflorescence; (v) prosper, flourish, thrive, progress, unfold. **ANTONYMS:** (v) wither, deteriorate, struggle, shrivel, shrink, fade, die; (n) withering
- blossoming:** (n) bloom, florescence, flowering, anthesis, blossom, efflorescence, inflorescence, ontogeny, ontogenesis; (adj) budding, growing. **ANTONYM:** (adj) failing
- blueberries:** (n) genus *Vaccinium*
- blueberry:** (n) whortleberry, huckleberry, swamp-blueberry, blueberry, whinberry, deerberry, blueberry bush, blueberries
- bluebird:** (n) thrush, fairy bluebird
- bluish:** (adj) blueish, blasphemous, powder blue, coloured, colorful, colored, chromatic, bluey, aristocratic, aristocratical
- blunder:** (n, v) mistake, stumble, slip, botch; (adj, n) fault; (n) error, gaffe, trip; (v) fail, fumble; (adj, n, v) miss. **ANTONYMS:** (v) succeed, correct, accomplish, achieve; (n) achievement
- blundering:** (adj) clumsy, tactless, inept, maladroit, ungainly, unthinking, ridiculous, obtuse, oblivious, lumbering, insensitive. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) graceful, sensitive, dexterous
- blush:** (n, v) glow, color; (v) redden, crimson; (n) red, bloom, rosiness, ruddiness, redness; (adj) bashful; (adv) blushing. **ANTONYMS:** (v) blanch, pale, blench; (n) paleness
- blustering:** (adj, v) stormy; (adj) raging, blusterous, blustery, turbulent, loud, vaporing, vociferous, noisy, hectoring; (adv) blusteringly
- boarding:** (n) embarkation, embarkment, boards, construction, departure, going, leaving, escalade, structure, lodging, board fence. **ANTONYM:** (n) debarkation
- boast:** (v) bluster, brag, blow, crow, gasconade, show off, rodomontade, exult; (n, v) vaunt, pride; (n) arrogance. **ANTONYMS:** (n) deprecation; (v) downplay, lack
- boggy:** (adj) swampy, quaggy, muddy, sloughy, fenny, miry, poachy, flashy, spongy, soggy, soft. **ANTONYM:** (adj) dry
- boisterous:** (adj, n) rough; (adj) furious, loud, noisy, fierce, raucous, wild, rude, vociferous; (adj, v) tempestuous, rampant. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) restrained, orderly, calm, dignified, silent, tranquil, gentle, placid
- boldly:** (adj, adv) courageously, valiantly, heroically; (adv) fearlessly, daringly, bravely, intrepidly, impudently, audaciously, shamelessly, brashly. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) discreetly, modestly, nervously, hesitantly, shyly, fearfully, meekly, submissively, secretly, respectfully, diffidently
- bole:** (adj, n) trunk; (n) tree trunk, shaft, body, clay; (adj) main part, major part, skeleton greater part,

- hull, hulk, principal part
bolted: (adj) barred, Bolten, secured, firm, barricaded, blockaded, bolted attachment, fast, fastened, latched, tight
bombay: (n) greater Bombay
bonaparte: (n) Napoleon Bonaparte, Napoleon, Napoleon I, the little corporal
bonfire: (n) fire, balefire, blaze, conflagration, firecracker, fireworks, salute, beacon, campfire, feu de joie, flames
bonnet: (n) cap, protection, chapeau, tile, wimple, beret, lid, cowling, castor, poke bonnet, sunbonnet
bony: (adj) osseous, gaunt, lean, thin, emaciated, scrawny, skinny, angular, lanky, meager, boney.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) plump, boneless, fat, stout
booby: (n) tomfool, numskull, loggerhead, jackass, idiot, coot, dolt, oaf, dope, pinhead, dummy
booming: (adj) thriving, roaring, flourishing, successful, loud, blooming, prospering, palmy, resonant, wealthy, deep.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) failing, quiet, poor, weak, shrill, thin
bosom: (n) heart, interior, boob, thorax, chest, bust, tit; (n, v) embrace; (v) cherish, hug; (adj) intimate. ANTONYMS: (n) outside, exteriority
botanic: (adj) vegetative, botanical, floral
bottleful: (n) containerful, split
bottomless: (adj) limitless, infinite, deep, unlimited, profound, immeasurable, fathomless, boundless, unfounded, groundless, unplumbed. ANTONYMS: (adj) shallow, bottomed, limited, restricted
bottoms: (n) swamp, lees, residue
bough: (n) arm, limb, bow, member, tigella, ramage, offshoot, ramification, spray, sprig, stem
bounce: (n, v) jump, spring, leap, bound, jolt, discharge; (n) impact; (v) recoil, glance, sack, beat.
 ANTONYMS: (n) tranquility, calmness; (v) stay, clear
bounded: (adj) restricted, limited, delimited, encircled, enclosed, confined, leap, spring, bordered, circumscribed, constrained.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) unbounded, unconfined, unlimited, free
bounding: (n) jumping, confinement; (v) confine, salient; (adj) terminal, moving, subsultory
boundless: (adj) limitless, endless, unlimited, infinite, bottomless, incalculable, immense, immeasurable, interminable, unbounded, vast. ANTONYMS: (adj) limited, restricted, confined, finite, incomplete, negligible, small
bounteous: (adj) bountiful, liberal, ample, copious, plentiful, bighearted, generous, munificent, handsome, benevolent, affluent.
 ANTONYM: (adj) scarce
bouquet: (n) aroma, nosegay, perfume, smell, scent, bunch, odor, redolence, posy, flavour, spray
bout: (n, v) round; (n) attack, spell, turn, competition, fight, battle, fighting, effort, game, fit
bowels: (n) gut, compassion, pity, inside, bowel, viscera, innards, belly, guts, insides, intestines
bower: (n) arbour, alcove, pergola, hermitage, grotto, framing, framework, summer house; (v) inclose, embower, enclose
boyhood: (n) babyhood, adolescence, youth, youthhood, infancy, girlhood, age, boyism, puberty.
 ANTONYM: (n) adulthood
bracing: (n) brace, backing; (adj) invigorating, brisk, exhilarating, refreshing, tonic, enlivening, cool, benign, energizing. ANTONYMS: (adj) soporific, tiring, debilitating, draining, exhausting, soothing, warm, balmy, still
brag: (n, v) bluster, vaunt, crow; (v) pride, gasconade, blow, show off, rodomontade; (n) boasting, bragging; (adj) great
brahma: (n) Allah, Bathala, Brahm, Devi, Ushas, oread, Kali, Durga, the Creator, Brahmin, Bos indicus
bran: (adj) farina, sporule, flour, paddy, rice, meal; (n) stubble, cellulose, roughage, fiber, bren
brat: (n) imp, bairn, rogue, urchin, scamp, kid, monkey, whippersnapper, scalawag, pickaninny, jackanapes
bravely: (adv) courageously, fearlessly, valiantly, boldly, intrepidly, dauntlessly, gallantly, audaciously, undauntedly, heroically, doughtily. ANTONYMS: (adv) timidly, fearfully, execrably, nervously
bravery: (n) courage, fortitude, audacity, valor, boldness, mettle, nerve, manhood, valiancy, heart, heroism. ANTONYMS: (n) fear, anxiety, fearfulness, timidity
brazen: (adj) audacious, impudent, brassy, insolent, bold, brash, impertinent, blatant, flagrant, forward, saucy. ANTONYMS: (adj) shy, abashed, prudish, reserved, quiet, discreet, respectful, ashamed, veiled, modest
breadthwise: (adv) broadwise
bream: (n) freshwater bream, percoïd, percoïdean, sunfish, centrarchid, bluegill, genus Lepomis, pomfret, porgy, black bream; (v) broom
breastplate: (n) corselet, armour plate, armor plating, armor plate; (n, v) shield, bulletproof vest; (v) cuirass, mask, gauntlet, apron, armored vest
breeches: (n) knickers, inexpressibles, knickerbockers, brogues, short, smalls, overalls, small clothes, pants, trousers, pantaloons
brighten: (adj, v) clear up; (v) light, illuminate, burnish, clear, gild, glow, perk up, cheer, irradiate, enliven. ANTONYMS: (v) upset, sadden, overcast, fade, dim, depress, blacken, spoil
brightness: (n) luminance, light, shine, clarity, lustre, glow, glare, glitter, luminosity; (n, v) illumination, gloss. ANTONYMS: (n) cloudiness, murkiness, dimness, darkness, mistiness, softness, sadness, bleakness, dirtiness, pessimism; (adv) seriously
bristling: (n) brisling; (adj) thorny, mucicated, pectinated, studded, thistly, bristled, bushy, teeming, horrid, horrent
broadway: (n) show business
brood: (n, v) breed; (v) sulk, think, incubate; (n) offspring, issue, progeny, young, posterity, family; (adj, n) herd. ANTONYMS: (v) reassure, delight, console
brooks: (n) streams, Brookes, van Wyck Brooks
broom: (v) sweep, to sweep, bream, shovel, rake, screen, sieve; (n) brush, Scots heather, Calluna vulgaris, heath
brows: (n) brow
browsing: (n) feeding, eating, reading, bruting
brushy: (adj) bristly, bushy, shaggy, rough, hirsute, wooded
brute: (adj) brutal, harsh, gruff, brutish; (adj, n) animal, savage; (n) barbarian, fiend, creature, monster; (adv) beastly. ANTONYMS: (adj)

- weak, refined, mild, gentle; (n) gentleman
- brutish:** (adj) brutal, barbarous, bestial, brute, savage, fierce, boorish, ferocious, cruel, indelicate; (adj, adv) beastly. ANTONYMS: (adj) gentle, humane, refined
- bubbles:** (n) froth, suds, effervescence, spume, fizz, lather, sparkle
- buckeye:** (n) seed, Aesculus hippocastanum, conker, horse chestnut, Ohioan
- buckled:** (v) wreathy, frizzly, crepe; (adj) warped, misshapen, malformed, distorted, askew, deformed
- budding:** (adj) blossoming, emergent, green, juvenile, youthful, incipient, puisne, sappy, under age, flourishing; (n) shooting. ANTONYMS: (adj) shrinking, unlikely, withering
- buffalo:** (n) American bison, bison bison, anoa, American buffalo, zebu, yak, metropolis, Cape buffalo, city; (v) cow, bully
- bulkhead:** (n) isolating curtain, dissepiment, septum, divider, chine bulkhead, cofferdam, fire wall, after peak, bulkhead rib; (v) bulkhead in
- bulrush:** (n) *Juncus effusus*, bullrush, *Typha latifolia*, reed; (adj) peppercorn, pinch of snuff, rap, halfpenny, doit, farthing, feather
- bumblebee:** (n) humblebee, bee, bombus
- bunker:** (n) dugout, trap, fortification, pillbox, sand trap, military post, menhaden, exceptional emergency system, foxhole, locker, cellaret
- buoyancy:** (n) animation, buoyance, cheerfulness, levity, lightness, spring, floatage, enthusiasm, sprightliness, floatability, elasticity. ANTONYMS: (n) depression, dejection, defeatism, pessimism
- buoyant:** (adj) cheerful, light, optimistic, lighthearted, airy, hopeful, floaty, bright, blithe, elastic; (adj, n) sanguine. ANTONYMS: (adj) heavy, weighted, down, depressed, somber, miserable, serious, melancholy, downbeat
- buoys:** (n) buoyage
- burgoyne:** (n) gentleman johnny
- burrow:** (adj, v) delve, dig, gouge, mine; (n, v) tunnel, earth; (n) lair, den, hole, cavity; (v) nestle. ANTONYMS: (v) fill, plant
- bushel:** (v) repair, mend, fix, doctor; (n) basket, handbasket, mountain, filling; (adj) cargo, darned, filled
- bushy:** (adj) dense, shagged, shaggy, hairy, bearded, brushy, gross, bushies, pilous, pappous, hispid. ANTONYMS: (adj) bald, neat, unhealthy, tidy, thin, sparse, sleek
- bustle:** (adj, n, v) hurry; (n, v) flurry, ado, fuss, hustle; (adj, n) stir, movement; (n) bother, commotion, disorder; (adj, v) hasten. ANTONYMS: (n) inactivity, stillness, idleness; (v) laziness, relaxation
- bustling:** (adj) lively, busy, boisterous, buzzing, brisk, alive, vibrant, noisy, tumultuous; (v) stirring, full of incident. ANTONYM: (adj) inactive
- butt:** (v) bunt, abut; (n) extremity, stump, grip, stub, rump, cask, rear, tail; (n, v) edge
- buttermilk:** (n) milk
- buzzing:** (n) noise, murmur; (adj) humming, abuzz, bustling, lively, droning, purring, vibrant, vivacious, full of beans
- byword:** (n) aphorism, saw, saying, maxim, personification, proverb, sentence, motto, slogan, expression, catchphrase
- cackle:** (n, v) giggle, snicker, chatter; (v) gaggle, crow, chortle; (adj) prattle, prate; (n) laugh, yack, laughter
- cadaverous:** (adj) gaunt, wan, ghastly, thin, haggard, deathly, pale, ashen, dead, skeletal, bony. ANTONYMS: (adj) rosy, ruddy, flushed, glowing, lifelike, lively, plump
- caged:** (adj) jailed, imprisoned, incarcerated, confined, enslaved, in prison, behind bars, restrained, trapped, locked up
- calculable:** (adj) computable, numerable, arithmetical, analytic, algebraic, measurable, reckonable, countable, estimable, able to be gauged, assessable. ANTONYMS: (adj) incalculable, inestimable
- calculator:** (v) counter, arithmetician, mathematician; (n) computer, adding machine, abacus, reckoner, estimator, actuary, abacist, adder
- callous:** (adj) heartless, insensible, relentless, cruel, brutal, obdurate, hard, hardened, hardhearted, indifferent, insensitive. ANTONYMS: (adj) caring, merciful, compassionate, sensitive, sympathetic, tender, nice
- thoughtful, affectionate, concerned, flattering
- callow:** (adj) inexperienced, juvenile, youthful, young, green, unsophisticated, naive, unfledged, beardless; (v) bald; (n) cub. ANTONYMS: (adj) sophisticated, worldly, mature, urbane
- canine:** (n) canine tooth, canid, dogtooth, eyetooth, cuspid, fang; (adj) laniary, bovine, animal, feline, fishy
- cannibal:** (n) savage, barbarian, anthropophagus, brute; (adj) anthropophagous, carnivorous
- cannonball:** (n) cannon ball, shell, letter, round shot, epistle, bullet train, ammunition, message, Shinkansen
- cano:** (n) dugout, pirogue, canoes, caique, birchbark, dugout canoe, birchbark canoe, felucca; (adj) self-sufficient
- cant:** (n) jargon, lingo, slang, vernacular, argot; (n, v) bank, tilt, bias, incline; (adj, n) bevel; (v) list
- capacious:** (adj) large, big, ample, roomy, broad, extensive, vast, commodious, voluminous, wide, expansive. ANTONYMS: (adj) small, confined, squeezed, tiny
- caravansary:** (n) caravanserai, caravan inn, hotel, lodge, hospice, dak bungalow, inn, hostelry, hostel, khan, tavern
- caraway:** (n) *Carum Carvi*, herb, caraway seed, *Carum*, anise, *Apiaceae*, carrot family, *Carraway*, family *Apiaceae*, family *Umbelliferae*, genus *Carum*
- carelessly:** (adv) incautiously, hastily, recklessly, heedlessly, casually, sloppily, imprudently, inconsiderately, rashly, negligently, unwarily. ANTONYMS: (adv) thoroughly, diligently, carefully, warily, laboriously, thoughtfully, attentively, daintily, methodically, discreetly, economically
- caribou:** (n) reindeer, Greenland caribou, cervid, sambar, elk, moose, musk ox, coyote, deer, Barren ground caribou
- carload:** (n) assemblage, shipload
- carmine:** (adj, n) scarlet; (n) vermilion, cardinal, carnation, couleur de rose, lake, maroon, pink, redness; (adj) crimson; (v) redden
- carnage:** (n, v) slaughter, havoc; (n) bloodshed, bloodbath, murder, massacre, holocaust, slaying, battue, killing, mass murder

- carnivorous:** (adj) phytivorous, graminivorous, granivorous, herbivorous, insectivorous, predaceous, predacious, zoophagous, hungry, omnivorous, sarcophagous. ANTONYMS: (adj) vegetarian, omnivorous, insectivorous
- carpenter:** (n) woodman, woodsman, woodworker, Joseph; (v) build
- carpentry:** (n) woodwork, woodworking, cabinetmaking, cabinetwork, craft, trade, cabinetry, carpentering
- carriion:** (n) carcass, offal, dead body, corpse, filth, ket, any filth, caroigne; (adj) garbage
- carting:** (n) cartage, portorage, portage, transport
- carve:** (v) cut up, cut, mold, incise, shape, inscribe, engrave, whittle, slash, hew; (n) carving
- caryatides:** (n) atlas, Hercules, Persides
- casket:** (n) box, coffin, chest, sarcophagus, coffer, caddy, bier, gasket, reliquary, desk; (v) enclose
- castoff:** (n) desertion, scrap
- catechism:** (n) interrogation, creed, education, question, test; (v) challenge
- caterpillar:** (n) cutworm, larva, Aurelia, cabbageworm, armyworm, bollworm, cankerworm, worm, maggot, orphan, cocoon
- causeway:** (n) pathway, sidewalk, path, track, alley, footpath, jetty, causey, walkway; (v) furnish, provide
- cavernous:** (adj) profound, concave, echoing, resonant, sepulchral, yawning, huge, deep, depressed, sunken, vast. ANTONYMS: (adj) cramped, claustrophobic, convex, crowded, shallow, small, tiny, confined, narrow
- cavity:** (n) antrum, cave, hole, pocket, hollow, void, pit, chamber, caries, depression, hollowness. ANTONYMS: (n) hump, lump
- ceaseless:** (adj) eternal, uninterrupted, constant, perpetual, everlasting, endless, continuous, unremitting, continual, unending, nonstop. ANTONYMS: (adj) intermittent, temporary, sporadic, completed, restricted, limited, fleeting, finished, concluded, ending, inconstant
- ceaselessly:** (adv) incessantly, perpetually, unceasingly, eternally, unremittingly, continuously, constantly, everlastingly, continually, unendingly, uninterruptedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) temporarily, briefly
- ceasing:** (n) stopping, subsidence
- cedar:** (n) true cedar, pahautea, kawaka, deodar, cedar tree
- celestial:** (adj) ethereal, divine, supernal, angelic, holy, sacred, astronomical, unworldly, superlunary, from on high; (n) heaven. ANTONYMS: (adj) mundane, secular, terrestrial, mortal
- cellars:** (n) cellar
- cellini:** (n) Benvenuto Cellini
- celt:** (n) Celtic, Keltic, Briton, Gael, Gaul
- celtis:** (n) family Ulmaceae, genus Celtis, Ulmaceae
- cent:** (adj) picayune, mill, pistareen; (n) subunit, rupee, red cent, centime
- centipede:** (n) arthropod
- cerberus:** (n) beadle, bokadam
- cerulean:** (adj, n) blue, sapphire; (adj) bright blue, ceruleous, navy, cobalt, cerule, chromatic; (n) lazuline, blueless
- cessation:** (n) pause, abatement, close, stop, respite, suspension, surcease, standstill, rest, termination; (n, v) death. ANTONYMS: (n) beginning, continuation, commencement, persistence
- chaff:** (v) tease, jest, rally, mock, kid, jolly, joke; (n) bran, raillery, husk; (n, v) ridicule
- chained:** (adj) in chains, enchained, bound
- chaise:** (n) shay, carriage, equipage, rig, coach, daybed, chaise longue, bed, cabriole chair, chair
- champlain:** (n) Samuel de Champlain
- changeable:** (adj) inconsistent, erratic, capricious, irregular, mobile, mutable, slippery, uncertain, unsettled, unstable, mercurial. ANTONYMS: (adj) fixed, stable, unchangeable, consistent, predictable, regular, dependable, immutable, certain, invariable, lasting
- chanticleer:** (n) dunghill cock, partlet, rooster, barn door fowl, hen, poultry, chicken, fowl
- chaps:** (n) chops, fauces, crack
- char:** (v) scorch, coal, bake, carbonize, sear, singe; (n) charr, charcoal, cleaning woman, chore, charwoman
- chariot:** (n) car, wagon, carriage, waggon, vehicle, wain, equipage, char
- charleston:** (v) dance
- charmed:** (adj) enchanted, delighted, fascinated, spellbound, entranced, captive, beguiled, infatuated, absorbed, enamored, captive hours
- chasm:** (n) breach, gap, hiatus, gulf, ravine, hole, abysm, vacancy, canyon, aperture, emptiness. ANTONYMS: (n) junction, closure
- chaste:** (adj) virtuous, moral, virgin, modest, unsullied, austere, vestal, severe, continent, spotless, decent. ANTONYMS: (adj) corrupt, wanton, lewd, sleazy, promiscuous, immoral, dirty, defiled, impure, tainted
- chastity:** (n) honor, purity, abstinence, virtue, innocence, chasteness, continence, modesty, cleanliness, austerity; (adj) honesty. ANTONYMS: (n) nymphomania, lewdness, adultery
- chattering:** (n) chatter, cackle, yak, grabbing, claver; (adj) talkative, loquacious, noisy, gabby, garrulous; (v) natter
- cheaply:** (adv) commonly, shoddily, tawdrily, stingily, meanly, trashily, flashily, economically, tackily, vulgarly, chintzily. ANTONYMS: (adv) extravagantly, luxuriously, tastefully
- cheat:** (n, v) trick, con, fake, sham; (n) fraud, bilk, impostor; (v) defraud, beguile, betray, fleece. ANTONYMS: (v) support, repay, help, contribute, aid
- cheated:** (adj) embittered, resentful
- checker:** (n) checkers, examiner, counter, superintendent, supervisor, inspector, overseer; (adj) variegate; (v) chequer, vary, diversify
- checked:** (adj) check, chequered, varied, ever changing, motley, plaid, dappled, variable, mutable, multicolored, mottled
- checkers:** (n) checker, dominos, go bang, solitaire, chequers, board game, chessboard, backgammon, misere chess
- cheering:** (adj, n) encouraging, inspiring; (adj) comforting, hearty, exhilarating, heartening, amusing; (n) applause, acclaim, ovation, cheers. ANTONYMS: (adj) disheartening, heartbreaking, discouraging, depressing, dejecting, disturbing
- chemic:** (adj) chemical, hermetical
- cherish:** (v) care for, nurture, treasure, entertain, cultivate, bosom, prize, esteem, harbor; (n, v) hug, foster. ANTONYMS: (v) hate, scorn,

- reject, denounce, despise, neglect
cherished: (adj) dear, precious, loved, treasured, prized, intimate, wanted, valued, pet, valuable, close.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) unremarkable, hated, distant
- chestnut:** (adj, n) auburn, commonplace; (n) chestnut tree, sweet chestnut, wood, anecdote, joke, banality; (adj) bay, trite, castaneous
- chestnuts:** (n) *Castanopsis*, *Fagaceae*, *Castanea*, genus *Castanea*, beech family
- chew:** (n, v) chew, bite; (v) champ, munch, gnaw, chomp, crunch, manducate, masticate, mouth; (n) cud. ANTONYMS: (v) dismiss, ignore
- chickadee:** (n) titmouse, tit, chicken
- chickaree:** (adj) courser, race horse, greyhound, eagle, antelope, doe, camel bird, gazelle, squirrel, hare
- chiding:** (n) scolding, rebuke, blame, reprehension, rap, censure, upbraiding, wiggling, brawl, admonition; (adv) scoldingly
- chilled:** (adj) frozen, freezing, cool, refrigerated, icy, inhibited, restrained, confined, shivering, iced, stiff
- chilling:** (adj) icy, bloodcurdling, wintry, macabre, ghastly, cold, scary, apathetic; (n) cooling, freezing, refrigeration. ANTONYM: (adj) reassuring
- chirp:** (n, v) chirrup, peep; (v) sing, trill, chitter, warble, carol, emit, whistle, utter; (adj) take heart
- chisel:** (v) cut, cheat, shape, beguile, screw, engrave, beat, victimize, sculpture, cozen; (n) burin
- chivalry:** (n) gallantry, knighthood, generosity, courtesy, knight service, courtliness, knight errantry, principle, valiance; (adj, n) heroism; (adj) prowess. ANTONYMS: (n) impoliteness, dishonor, discourtesy, cowardice
- choicest:** (adj) optimum, best
- chopper:** (n) helicopter, axe, cleaver, whirlybird, mincer, chop, grounder, knife, copter, hatchet, tooth
- chopping:** (adj) jolly
- chowder:** (n) potage, soup, gumbo, consommé, bouillabaisse, bisque
- christen:** (v) entitle, baptize, dub, name, baptize, designate, style, term, specify, define, denominate
- chuckle:** (n, v) snicker, snigger, giggle, chortle, titter, crow; (v) chuck, laugh, cackle, exult; (n) laughter
- chuckling:** (n) laughter
- churn:** (v) seethe, agitate, toss, bubble, eddy, whirl, roil, shake, stir, buffet; (n) butter churn
- cider:** (v) Brazil tea, ice water, claret; (n) inebriant, alcoholic beverage, hard cider, pomade, sicer, sider, alcohol, beverage
- cigar:** (n) cheroot, cigars, smoke, cigarette, corona, panatela, panetella, segar, cigarillo
- cimeter:** (n) scimitar, sword, broadsword, saber, falchion
- cinderella:** (n) tramp, tatterdemalion, cordon bleu, gaberlunzie, mudlark, muckworm, outcast of society, scullion, pariah, beggar, chef de cuisine
- cinders:** (n) cinder, dust, ash, flue dust, powder, residue, slag; (adj) mother, scoriae, precipitate
- cinquefoil:** (n) carving, silverweed
- cipher:** (n) zero, nothing, number, nil, nobody, null; (n, v) figure, cypher, code; (v) calculate; (adj, n) nonentity. ANTONYMS: (n) infinity; (v) encode, decode, code, scramble
- circling:** (v) snaky, serpentine; (adj) rotating, spinning, circular, spiral, moving; (n) circulation, circuit, cycling; (adv) around
- circulate:** (v) broadcast, circle, disseminate, disperse, distribute, propagate, circularize, mobilize, diffuse, proclaim, issue.
 ANTONYMS: (v) suppress, hide, block, withhold, concentrate
- circulating:** (v) circulate; (adj) cyclic, circulative, moving; (n) distribution
- circumference:** (n) circuit, border, perimeter, boundary, periphery, outline, brim, compass, circle, edge, rim. ANTONYMS: (n) middle, inside, interior, center
- circumspection:** (n) care, wariness, chariness, cautiousness, calculation, precaution, vigilance, discernment, judgment; (adj, n) discretion, prudence. ANTONYM: (n) recklessness
- circumstantial:** (adj) particular, detailed, incidental, thorough, presumptive, precise, coincidental, elaborate, exact, special, specific.
 ANTONYM: (adj) concrete
- citadel:** (n) castle, bastion, fortification, bulwark, Acropolis, fort, stronghold, tower, chateau; (n, v) fortress; (v) keep
- civility:** (n) politeness, courtesy, comity, attention, propriety, affability, amenity, cultivation, complaisance, courteousness, civilization. ANTONYMS: (n) rudeness, incivility, coarseness
- civilized:** (adj) civil, refined, polite, civilised, cultivated, educated, courteous, urbane, kind, gentle, genteel. ANTONYMS: (adj) uncouth, noncivilized, discourteous, loutish, rude, inhumane, wild
- clad:** (adj) dressed, attired, clothed, coated, garbed; (n) cladding; (prep) gowned; (v) costume, shod, dress, attire. ANTONYMS: (adj) undressed, unclothed
- clammy:** (adj) viscous, sweaty, sticky, muggy, moist, humid, damp, viscid, sultry, dank; (n) ropy. ANTONYMS: (adj) arid, dried, fresh
- clamor:** (n, v) outcry, cry, clamour, hullabaloo, roar, shout; (n) noise, racket, uproar, exclamation, hubbub. ANTONYMS: (n) silence, serenity, tranquility; (v) whisper, mutter
- clangor:** (n, v) clang, clangour; (n) din, crash, clash, clank, clatter, uproar, racket, roll, ring
- clarified:** (adj) clean
- clarifying:** (adj) illustrative, instructive, clarification, illuminating, elucidative, descriptive
- clasp:** (n, v) embrace, hug, grip, grasp, squeeze, clutch, buckle, brooch; (adj, n, v) pin; (v) stick, cling. ANTONYMS: (v) unbuckle, loose, unclasp, relax, detach
- claws:** (v) tentacle, tenaculum, unguis, hook, fangs, teeth; (n) clutches, jaws
- cleanse:** (adj, v) clean; (v) bathe, wash, clarify, wipe, scour, scrub, clear, rinse, disinfect, refine.
 ANTONYMS: (v) dirty, soil, stain
- cleansed:** (adj) clean, refined, cleaner, depurate
- cleaver:** (n) riving knife, bramble, hatchet, cleaver knife, chop, meat cleaver, ax; (adj) billhook, cutter
- cleft:** (adj, n) split; (n) fissure, cleavage, crevice, rift, fracture, aperture, breach, chap, chink, crack.
 ANTONYM: (adj) united
- clergyman:** (n) minister, chaplain, priest, pastor, churchman, preacher, parson, rector, dominie, vicar; (adj) divine. ANTONYMS: (n) layman, layperson
- cliffy:** (adj) rugged, precipitous, craggy
- clinch:** (n, v) clutch, clench, grip,

- hold, embrace, clasp, grasp, gripe, squeeze; (adj, v) fasten; (v) clamp. ANTONYM: (v) unfasten
- clinchd:** (adj) assured, decided, tight, tighter
- cling:** (v) adhere, cleave, stick, cohere, hang, attach, grasp, adjoin, clutch, grip, hold. ANTONYMS: (v) detach, repel, unfasten
- close:** (n) cupboard, cubicle, cell, latrine, bathroom, wardrobe, water closet; (adj) clandestine, confidential, secret, private. ANTONYM: (adj) open
- clothe:** (v) dress, cover, garb, apparel, clad, vest, arrange, deck, invest, wrap; (n, v) attire. ANTONYMS: (v) reveal, strip, uncover
- clothed:** (adj) dressed, wrapped, cloaked, robed, covered, attired, vested, absorbed, decent; (v) accustomed, arrayed. ANTONYM: (adj) unclothed
- cloudy:** (adj) dull, gloomy, nebulous, murky, dark, turbid, foggy, muddy, misty, sunless, vaporous. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, bright, sunny, cloudless
- clout:** (n, v) cuff, punch, slap, swipe, knock, smack, whack, strike, crack; (n) authority, control
- cluck:** (v) cackle, clack, click, chuckle, utter, emit, chuck, fuss, blab, clatter; (n, v) cry
- clutched:** (adj) tense, worried, anxious, neurotic
- cluttered:** (adj) disorderly, chaotic, jumbled, messy, muddled, disordered, all over the place, messed up, littered, in disarray, in a state. ANTONYM: (adj) tidy
- coarsely:** (adv) grossly, rudely, harshly, roughly, crudely, commonly, vulgarly, bluntly, uncouthly, inelegantly, offensively. ANTONYMS: (adv) politely, evenly, finely, smoothly, tastefully
- coastwise:** (adj) coastal
- cobweb:** (n) web, filament, entanglement, mouse trap, tissue, fibril, pitfall; (adj) chaff, straw, cork; (adj, n) gossamer
- cockerel:** (n) rooster, chicken
- cocoon:** (n) coco, cocoa-nut, coconut palm, coco palm, cocoa palm
- coddling:** (n) indulgence
- coeval:** (adj, n) contemporary; (adj) coetaneous, concurrent, contemporaneous, simultaneous, synchronous, present, coeuous, synchronal, concomitant; (n) compeer
- cognate:** (adj) alike, allied, related, like, connate, kindred, kin, consanguineous; (n) relative, cognate word, sib. ANTONYMS: (adj) dissimilar, unrelated, unlike, unlike, disassociated, unconnected
- cohabit:** (v) shack, dwell, inhabit, live, people, populate, reside, cohabiting, accustom, shack up, miscegenate
- coil:** (n, v) spiral, curl, roll, circle, loop, reel; (v) round, wind, involve; (adj, v) twist; (adj) coiling. ANTONYMS: (v) uncoil, untwist, unwind, straighten
- coincident:** (adj) concurrent, simultaneous, consistent, coincidental, identical, congruent, accordant, concomitant, coexisting, at the same time, corresponding. ANTONYM: (adj) inconsistent
- colic:** (n) Uterine colic, gripe, hurting, mulligrubs, pain, stomach pain, tummy ache, newborn colic, enteralgia, intestinal colic, tummy pain
- color:** (n, v) flush, blush, tint, tinge, paint, stain; (adj, n, v) colour; (v) redden; (n) guise, complexion; (adj, n) tone. ANTONYMS: (v) discolor, pale, show, whiten, untwist, denote, depict, represent, blanch, blench
- colorado:** (adj) Arizona, California, southwestern; (n) carbon dioxide, carbonic acid gas, Centennial State, cobalt, Co
- colored:** (adj) chromatic, black, tinged, tinted, colorful, dyed, coloured, partial, dark, bleached, biased. ANTONYMS: (adj) truthful, white, uncolored, unbiased, pale, objective, honest, genuine, real
- coloring:** (n) color, paint, coloration, tint, colouring, dye, complexion, pigment, colour, dyeing, colouration
- colorless:** (adj) achromatic, neutral, drab, dull, monotonous, wan, tame, pallid, bloodless, white, colourless. ANTONYMS: (adj) rosy, interesting, rich, vivid, brilliant, vibrant, stimulating, lively, glamorous, exciting, distinctive
- colors:** (n) flag, colours, paints, banner, color, colour, ensign, pigment, tint, dye, paint
- columbia:** (n) Columbia river, Columbia university, United States
- columbus:** (n) Cristobal colon, Cristoforo Colombo
- combustion:** (n) fire, burning, burn, blaze, firing, lighting, kindling, incineration, ignition, conflagration, arson
- comet:** (n) Ariel, iris, Dendrocometes, celestial body
- comforts:** (n) amenities, bread and butter, convenience, conveniences
- commemorate:** (v) remember, memorialize, mark, observe, signalize, record, honor, celebrate keep, hold, memorialise, hallow. ANTONYMS: (v) dishonor, forget, neglect
- commence:** (v) begin, start, open, initiate, embark, institute, introduce, launch, arise, inaugurate, enter. ANTONYMS: (v) finish, stop, terminate, complete, remain, relinquish
- commentator:** (n) annotator, reviewer, critic, announcer, newscaster, reporter, expositor, scholiast, glossarist, glossographer, exponent
- commodious:** (adj) capacious, wide, roomy, spacious, comfortable, voluminous, extensive, useful, large; (adj, v) convenient, easy. ANTONYMS: (adj) small, uncomfortable, tight, incommodious, confined, squeezed
- commander:** (n) skipper, lieutenant, master, mate, commissioned naval officer, perry, commander
- commonness:** (n) frequency, grossness, vulgarism, vulgarity, commonplaceness, commonality, community, normalcy, inelegance, normality, generality. ANTONYMS: (n) uncommonness, fame, tastefulness, uniqueness
- commune:** (v) talk, communicate, intercommunicate, convey, chat, speak; (n) community, county, arrondissement, district, gathering
- communicable:** (adj) infectious, contagious, communicative, epidemic, transmissible, pestiferous, transferable, ancestral, communicatory, transmittable, contractable. ANTONYMS: (adj) incommunicable, noncontagious
- compactly:** (adv) solidly, succinctly, closely, thickly, tightly, firmly, heavily, neatly, pithily, concisely, trimly. ANTONYMS: (adv) loosely, sparsely, awkwardly
- companionable:** (adj) sociable, affable, convivial, gregarious, cordial, clubbable, congenial, friendly, jovial, genial, cosey. ANTONYMS: (adj) nasty, antagonistic, cold, unfriendly,

- different, frosty, shy, hostile
- compel:** (v) force, coerce, pressure, necessitate, enforce, command, oblige, require, make, obligate, press. ANTONYMS: (v) impede, deter, check, block, request, prevent
- compensated:** (adj) remunerated, salaried, stipendiary, compensable
- complacent:** (adj) self-satisfied, contented, smug, satisfied, gracious, accommodating, comfortable, placid, proud, arrogant, self-righteous. ANTONYMS: (adj) dissatisfied, discontented, insecure, modest, troubled, uneasy, unsatisfied, concerned, anxious
- complemental:** (adj) supplementary, supplemental, unessential, completing
- completeness:** (n) thoroughness, entirety, fullness, entireness, unity, integrality, plenitude, comprehensiveness, perfection, totality, wholeness. ANTONYM: (n) incompleteness
- complexion:** (n, v) tint; (n) cast, character, appearance, look, hue, aspect, flush, glow, dye, fashion
- compose:** (v) build, compile, write, weave; (adj, v) appease, tranquilize, allay, lull; (n, v) calm, constitute, settle. ANTONYMS: (v) destroy, ruin, unsettle, annihilate, discompose, demolish, disturb, fluster
- comprehend:** (v) grasp, catch, see, comprise, appreciate, feel, sense, perceive, read; (adj, v) understand; (n, v) embrace. ANTONYMS: (v) mistake, misapprehend, exclude, misunderstand, misconceive
- comprehended:** (adj) understood, apprehended
- computation:** (n, v) calculation, estimation, reckoning; (n) compute, estimate, account, arithmetic, figuring, count, computing; (v) enumeration. ANTONYMS: (n) guesswork, guessing, conjecture, estimation
- comrade:** (n) colleague, chum, buddy, fellow, compeer, partner, brother, mate, familiar; (adj, n) associate, ally. ANTONYMS: (n) stranger, enemy, foe, opponent
- concealment:** (n) suppression, confidentiality, concealing, secrecy, screen, disguise, hiding, privacy, camouflage, blind, covering. ANTONYMS: (n) discovery, disclosure, exposure, expression, openness, uncovering, revelation
- conceited:** (adj) arrogant, cocky, vain, boastful, proud, smug, affected, assuming, egotistical, haughty, pompous. ANTONYMS: (adj) modest, insecure, meek, selfless, unassuming
- conceiving:** (n) fantasy, daydream; (adj) imaginal, original
- concentric:** (adj) homocentric, unrelieved, coaxial, axial, focal, zygous, umbilical
- concord:** (n) agreement, accordance, unity, harmony, union, unison, alliance, tune; (n, v) concert, peace; (v) agree. ANTONYMS: (n) discord, conflict, war, disunity, disarray; (v) disagree
- concur:** (v) accede, accord, assent, acquiesce, consent, accept, yield, concede, comply, admit; (n, v) coincide. ANTONYMS: (v) disagree, altercate, dispute, argue, resist, object, oppose, diverge, conflict
- concurring:** (v) concur; (adj) congruent, simultaneous, in agreement, cooperative, concordant, agreeable; (n) agreement
- condensed:** (adj) concise, compressed, concentrated, succinct, compact, summary, compendious, short, shortened; (adj, v) condense; (n) tabloid. ANTONYMS: (adj) loose, uncondensed, diluted, expanded, convoluted, long
- condiment:** (n) relish, dressing, flavoring, sauce, catsup, chutney, flavour, flavouring, seasoner, spice, paste
- confederacy:** (n) coalition, confederation, federation, association, union, conspiracy, cabal, combination, league, merger, faction. ANTONYM: (n) divergence
- confessions:** (n) confession, life, journal, fortunes, personal narrative, memoir, experiences, biography
- confine:** (n, v) bound, border, limit; (v) bind, restrain, circumscribe, tie, incarcerate, hold; (n) boundary, bounds. ANTONYMS: (v) release, free, liberate, broaden
- confinement:** (n, v) childbirth, delivery; (n) detention, custody, restraint, internment, prison, labor, containment, incarceration, arrest. ANTONYMS: (n) release, death, liberation
- confines:** (n) boundary, bound, barrier, compass, limit, limits, range, frontier; (adj) environs, alentours; (adj, n) neighborhood
- conflicting:** (adj) repugnant, opposed, incompatible, clashing, inconsistent, opposite, contrary, divergent, adverse, paradoxical; (v) antagonistic. ANTONYMS: (adj) consistent, compatible, parallel, peaceful, harmonious, corresponding, agreeing, agreeable, congruous
- confluent:** (v) convergent; (adj) flowing together, blending, merging
- conformably:** (adv) consistently, agreeably, alike, correspondingly, pursuantly, correspondently
- conforming:** (v) conform; (adj) parallel, like, congruent, according, seemly, respectable, relevant, proper; (n) accordance, matching
- confound:** (v) bewilder, baffle, nonplus, perplex, astonish, puzzle, amaze, astound, mistake; (adj, v) confuse, stupefy. ANTONYMS: (v) explain, clarify, comfort, lose, distinguish; (n) understanding
- confounded:** (adj) bemused, accursed, execrable, baffled, cursed, befuddled, confused, puzzled, aghast, perplexed; (adj, v) abashed
- confucius:** (n) Mohammed, Zoroaster
- congealed:** (adj) firm, solidify, frozen, jelled, jellied, stiff, thick, concrete
- congenial:** (adj, v) concordant, consonant, accordant; (adj) compatible, affable, kindred, genial, kind, pleasant, pleasing, delightful. ANTONYMS: (adj) uncongenial, unfriendly, disagreeable, hostile, incompatible, despicable, abominable, unsavory, reserved
- congratulate:** (v) compliment, felicitate, preen, pride, celebrate, applaud, joy, salute, commemorate, approve; (n) congratulation. ANTONYMS: (v) commiserate, slur, disparage, belittle, condemn, boo
- congratulation:** (n) compliment, greeting, congratulate, congratulations, acknowledgement, gratulation, acknowledgment
- congregate:** (v) gather, assemble, concentrate, convene, meet, crowd, come together, get together, amass, accumulate, compile. ANTONYMS: (v) disperse, separate, scatter, divide, part, disband, diverge
- conical:** (adj) pyramidal, tapering, copped, conelike, coniform, taper, cone, tapered, copped, pointed
- conjecture:** (n) supposition, speculation, assumption, surmise, hypothesis; (v) suppose, believe, anticipate, assume, speculate; (n, v)

- estimate. ANTONYMS: (n) certainty; (v) demonstrate, know, learn, prove
- conjectured:** (adj) supposed, opinionative
- conjure:** (v) invoke, entreat, arouse, juggle, bewitch, beseech, bid, conjure up, evoke, implore, bring up
- computed axial tomography, computed tomography, computerized axial tomography, Connecticut river, Constitution state, cat, Nutmeg State**
- conquer:** (n, v) capture; (v) subdue, vanquish, surmount, suppress, subjugate, overcome, overpower, quell, prevail; (adj, v) defeat. ANTONYMS: (v) lose, yield, succumb, retreat, forfeit, fall, bow, resist, fail, submit, incite
- conquered:** (adj) overcome, vanquished, overwhelmed, crushed, subdued, profligate, routed, overthrown, done for, under enemy control, baffled. ANTONYMS: (adj) victorious, liberated
- consanguinity:** (n) kindred, cognation, relation, relationship, kin, blood kinship, lineage, affinity, alliance, kinship, brotherhood
- conscientious:** (adj) scrupulous, painstaking, honest, thorough, meticulous, dutiful, close, principled, strict; (adj, v) ethical, moral. ANTONYMS: (adj) sloppy, unconscientious, immoral, irresponsible, unscrupulous, conscienceless, corrupt, dishonest, inexact, slack, slipshod
- consecrate:** (n, v) sanctify; (v) devote, commit, ordain, apply, dedicate, hallow, vow, exalt; (adj) dedicated, consecrated. ANTONYMS: (v) despoil, revile, damage, defile, deprecate; (adj) desecrated
- consecrated:** (adj) consecrate, blessed, sanctified, hallowed, holy, dedicated, divine, devoted, adopted; (adj, prep) set apart; (prep) dedicate. ANTONYM: (adj) secular
- consenting:** (adj) agreeable, yielding, submissive, consentant, compliant, affirmative, accepting; (v) complying, chosen
- considerate:** (adj, n) thoughtful, benevolent, nice, gentle, sympathetic, humane; (adj) magnanimous, kind, polite, delicate, discreet. ANTONYMS: (adj) uncaring, thoughtless, tactless, inconsiderate, selfish, rude, unkind, unforgiving, offhand, disrespectful, unsympathetic
- console:** (v) cheer, soothe, quiet, relieve, reassure, encourage; (n, v) solace; (n) cabinet, ally, control console, control panel. ANTONYMS: (v) hurt, discourage, grieve, sadden, distress, dispirit, dishearten, upset
- constellation:** (adj, n) galaxy; (n) cancer, centaur, Andromeda, asterism, group, zodiac, Capricorn, carina, Cassiopeia; (adj) star
- constrain:** (v) confine, compel, force, make, drive, bind, curb, bridle, obligate, require, restrain. ANTONYMS: (v) liberate, encourage, free, release, broaden, extend
- constructing:** (adj) building, edificant; (n) synthesis
- consummate:** (adj, v) perfect; (n, v) conclude, crown; (v) accomplish, achieve, execute; (adj) accomplished, absolute, profound, matchless, masterful. ANTONYMS: (adj) inadequate, mediocre, incomplete, deficient, amateurish, untrained, abysmal, inept; (v) start, initiate, begin
- contagion:** (n) plague, contagious disease, taint, transmission, contamination, disease, conduction, pest, corruption, pollution, grippe
- contemplated:** (adj) intended, willful
- contemplation:** (n) consideration, reflection, thought, attention, cogitation, musing, introspection, speculation, animus, deliberation; (n, v) study
- contenting:** (adj) contentious, conflicting, competitive, competing, competitory, combatant, challenging, factious, militant, warlike, fighting
- contented:** (adj) content, happy, comfortable, quiet, cheerful, smug, complacent, satisfied, easy, proud, delighted. ANTONYMS: (adj) discontented, unhappy, depressed, unsatisfied, sad, anxious
- contentedly:** (adv) gladly, satisfiedly, contently, gratefully, pleasedly, cheerfully, joyfully, smugly, easily, complacently, placidly. ANTONYMS: (adv) crossly, awkwardly, unhappily, discontentedly, sadly
- contentment:** (n) content, happiness, pleasure, fulfillment, ease, delight, comfort, complacency, bliss, joy, contentedness. ANTONYMS: (n) dissatisfaction, sadness, discomfort, discontentment, misery, unhappiness, displeasure, discontent, panic, anxiety
- contiguous:** (adj) adjoining, close, conterminous, abutting, near, nearby, immediate, bordering upon, bordering, touching, connected. ANTONYMS: (adj) remote, removed, separated, apart
- continuance:** (n) duration, abidance, existence, endurance, protraction, adjournment, resumption, prolongation, time, standing, perseverance. ANTONYMS: (n) discontinuation, destruction
- contriving:** (adj) designing, deep, calculating, shifty
- conveniences:** (n) creature comforts, comforts, convenience, living, support, livelihood, keep, sustenance, facility, facilities, device
- convicticle:** (n) meetinghouse, clique, assembly, caucus, meeting, tabernacle, cathedral, Bethel, kirk, convention, church
- conversant:** (adj) proficient, knowing, informed, familiar, versed, learned, cognizant, conscious, erudite, experienced, skilled. ANTONYMS: (adj) unfamiliar, oblivious, inexperienced
- converse:** (n, v) chat, discourse, argue; (v) confer, confabulate, speak; (n) conversation, colloquy, contrast; (adj, n) opposite; (adj) counter. ANTONYMS: (adj, n) equal; (adj) similar, complementary; (n) similarity
- conveyance:** (n) transfer, vehicle, assignment, alienation, transference, delivery, transportation, negotiation, portage; (n, v) carriage, ecstasy
- conveying:** (n) conveyance, delivery, conveying, conveyance of title, transference, transmission, convey, transmit, assigning, transfer, delegation
- conviviality:** (n) merrymaking, joviality, geniality, hospitality, festivity, jollification, sociability, revelry, celebration, friendliness, mirth. ANTONYMS: (n) hostility, shyness, unfriendliness
- convulse:** (v) agitate, jolt, shake, jar, jerk, toss, break the ranks, shudder, rock; (adj) accelerate, aggravate
- convulsion:** (adj, n, v) spasm; (n) fit, paroxysm, commotion, attack, clonus, shake, seizure, upheaval, cramp; (adj, n) disturbance. ANTONYM: (n) peace
- convulsive:** (adj) spastic, galvanic,

- fitful, paroxysmal, violent, choreic, unsteady, hysterical; (v) unquiet, restless, saltatory
- cookery:** (n) cuisine, kitchen, gastronomy, browning, broiling, preparation, culinary art, roasting, toasting, frying, braising
- cooled:** (adj) refrigerated, frozen; (n) cooler
- cooly:** (adv) calmly, soberly, coldly, composedly, coolly, collectedly
- copartnership:** (n) partnership, colleagueship, alliance, joint stock
- copernicus:** (n) Nicolaus Copernicus
- copious:** (adj) bountiful, ample, affluent, plentiful, rich, plenteous, much, many, generous, large; (adj, n) luxuriant. ANTONYMS: (adj) small, meager, sparse, lacking, rare, scant, scanty, thin, few; (adv) partially
- copse:** (n) brush, coppice, brake, brushwood, forest, underwood, grove, spinney, thicket, undergrowth, canebrake
- coral:** (adj) rosy, chromatic; (n) roe, red coral, red, precious coral, madreporae, anthozoan, actinozoan, orange
- corded:** (adj) twilled, twill, pique, unsmooth, rough
- CORDS:** (n) trousers, bands, line, strings, corduroys, raised bands
- cormorants:** (n) order Pelecaniformes, Pelecaniformes, Phalacrocoracidae, sea bird, seafowl, albatrosses, seabird
- cornfield:** (n) corn field
- cornice:** (n) architrave, zoophorus, entablature, epistyle, framing, framework, pediment, projection, sconce; (v) furnish, provide
- coronet:** (n) corona, chaplet, tiara, snood, necklace, circlet, wreath, diadem, cap of maintenance, laurel, ribbon
- corrosion:** (n) erosion, corroding, decay, deterioration, canker, rot, rust, attrition, wear, putrefaction, impairment
- corrupted:** (adj) tainted, rotten, spoiled, degraded, adulterated, depraved, distorted, decayed, impaired, debased; (n) corrupter. ANTONYM: (adj) pure
- corse:** (n) cadaver, dry bones, skeleton, Corsica, carcass, bones
- cortex:** (n) cerebral cortex, rind, skin, coat, crust, peel, archipallium, cerebral mantle, integument, shuck, husk
- cosmical:** (adj) systematical
- cosmogonal:** (adj) cosmic
- cosmopolite:** (n) Benthamite, communist, citizen, philanthropist, utilitarian, socialist
- cosmos:** (n) nature, creation, world, outer space, space, macrocosm, deep space, flower, galaxy, the universe, aerospace
- countenance:** (n) aspect, expression, brow, complexion; (n, v) face, sanction, support, favor; (v) allow, tolerate, uphold. ANTONYMS: (v) reject, oppose, discourage, disapprove, prohibit
- countenanced:** (adj) aided
- counterbalance:** (v) compensate, counteract, neutralize, countervail, cover, counterweight; (n, v) counterpoise; (n) counterweight, equilibrium, poise, equilibration. ANTONYMS: (v) unbalance, overbalance
- counterbalanced:** (adj) counterpoised
- courageous:** (adj, n) bold; (adj) audacious, fearless, valiant, gallant, intrepid, spirited, heroic, undaunted, manly, confident. ANTONYMS: (adj) timid, wimpy, weak, spineless, pusillanimous, fearful, fainthearted, afraid, despicable
- coursing:** (v) chase, shooting, fishing, hunting, steeple chase, race; (n, v) hunt
- cove:** (n) bay, cave, harbor, bight, inlet, recess, creek, glen, man, fellow, guy
- coveted:** (adj) sought after, desirable, in demand. ANTONYM: (adj) unpopular
- cowbirds:** (n) *Molothrus*, genus *Molothrus*
- cowboy:** (n) buckaroo, cowherd, cowman, wrangler, vaquero, cowpuncher, cowpoke, cowhand, performer; (v) bull whacker, farrier
- cowhide:** (v) trounce, lambaste, flog; (n) leather, knout, bullwhip, lash, whip, strap, thong
- cowyard:** (n) barnyard
- cracking:** (n) crack, break, fracture; (adj) splitting, swell, smashing, corking, bully, great, keen, neat. ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, slow
- crackling:** (adj, n) crisp; (adj) snapping, crepitant, cheerful, brittle, noisy; (n) crepitation, decrepitation, crackleware, crackle China, bohemian crackle
- crag:** (adj, n) rock; (n) bluff, precipice, heugh; (adj) stone, pike, crest, granite, quartz, sugar loaf, crystal
- cranberry:** (n) shrub, foxberry, lingenberry, bacca, simple fruit; (adj) maroon, deep red, claret, crimson, burgundy, ruby
- cranes:** (n) Gruiformes, Gruidae, family Gruidae
- crank:** (n) grouch, nut, crackpot, conceit, quip, winch, bend, screwball, quirk, crosspatch; (adj) cranky
- crave:** (v) covet, ask, want, beseech, implore, wish, long, entreat, desire, fancy, claim. ANTONYMS: (v) dislike, spurn, loathe, hate, detest, grant
- crawl:** (adv, v) grovel, lag; (n, v) clamber, climb; (v) sneak, fawn, cringe, teem, swarm, scramble, inch. ANTONYMS: (v) fly, rush, hurry, hasten, dart, dash, lead, soothe, speed
- crawling:** (adj, n) creeping; (n) creep, itch; (adj) slow, teeming, thick, swarming, repentant, populous, packed, moving
- creaking:** (adj, v) creaky; (adj) squeaking, harsh, squeaky, noisy, arthritic; (v) rickety; (n) scream
- creased:** (adj) wrinkled, wrinkly, rumpled, lined, furrowed, corrugated, wizened, bent. ANTONYM: (adj) straight
- creeping:** (n) creep, crawl, locomotion, spreading; (v) lensor; (adj) reptile, slow, repentant, reptatory, serpiginous, moving
- crevice:** (n) cleft, break, chink, cranny, chap, fissure, interstice, rift, gap, hole, fracture
- crimson:** (adj, n) carmine, ruby, scarlet, maroon; (v) blush, flush, redden; (adj) bloody, ruddy, cherry; (n) deep red
- crippled:** (adj) deformed, game, exhausted, broken, decrepit, crooked, halt, impotent; (n) limping; (v) drooping, flagging. ANTONYMS: (adj) healthy, functioning, fit
- crisp:** (adj) short, terse, fresh, crispy, sharp, crunchy, brisk; (adj, v) wrinkle; (v) crease, crinkle; (n) chip. ANTONYMS: (adj) soggy, soft, limp, wilted, rumpled, stale, slovenly, sloppy, wordy, long, lengthy
- croaking:** (adj) hollow, raucous, sepulchral, dry, cacophonous, harsh, guttural, gruff, croaky, cacophonous, husky
- croesus:** (n) nabob, Timon of Athens, dives, Plutus, Idas, capitalist

- millionaire
- cromwell:** (n) Oliver Cromwell
- crooked:** (adj) bent, corrupt, dishonest, curved, unfair, deformed; (adj, n, v) awry; (adj, v) irregular, askew, wry, indirect. ANTONYMS: (adj) straight, honest, principled, even, aboveboard, lawful, level, moral, flat, aligned, honorable
- cropping:** (n) harvest, napping, masking
- crow:** (n, v) brag, cry, snigger; (v) exult, triumph, cackle, chuckle, talk big; (n) gasconade, crowing; (adj) raven
- crowding:** (n) plough crowding, bunch, jostlement, overcrowding
- crucify:** (v) torment, persecute, badger, torture, tease, pester, bother, annoy, beleaguer, cruciate, agonize. ANTONYMS: (v) compliment, solace, praise, laud, console, exalt
- crudity:** (n) crudeness, rudeness, coarseness, immaturity, wild, impoliteness, rawness, grossness, uncouthness, incivility, vulgarity. ANTONYM: (n) decency
- crumbled:** (adj) rotten, fragmented
- crumbling:** (adj, v) moldering, ramshackle; (adj) rotten, dilapidated, worn out; (n) ruin, decay, disintegration, fragmentation; (v) waterlogged, tainted. ANTONYM: (adj) pristine
- crumpled:** (adj) rumpled, crinkly, wrinkled, bent, corrugated, crinkled, disheveled, lined, furrowed, dented, damaged
- crushing:** (adj) overpowering, overwhelming, destructive; (n) grinding, quelling, stifling, suppression, flattening, pressure; (v) shatter; (adv) crushingly. ANTONYMS: (adj) mild, wonderful
- crusty:** (adj) brusque, crotchety, crabbed, crusted, curt, gruff, cantankerous, cross, churlish, abrupt, rough. ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, pleasant, bendable, cheerful, easygoing, elastic, flexible, happy, pliable, pliant, friendly
- crystalline:** (adj) limpid, transparent, lucid, crystal, serene, pellucid, crystal clear, vitreous, translucent, perspicuous; (v) crystallizable. ANTONYM: (adj) noncrystalline
- crystallization:** (n) crystallisation, crystal, crystallizing, condensation, chemical phenomenon, crystallurgy, efflorescence, formation; (adj) precipitation; (v) crystallize
- cubic:** (adj) solid, Ternary cubic, cuboid, cubiform, compact. ANTONYM: (adj) planar
- cuckoos:** (n) order Cuculiformes
- cuffs:** (n) handcuffs, manacles, manacle, handcuff, shackles, fetters, bond, bonds, handlock, chains
- culinary:** (adj) cooking, eatable
- cultivate:** (v) civilize, educate, train, produce, polish, farm, crop, develop, domesticate, raise; (adj, v) promote. ANTONYMS: (v) neglect, sterilize, brutalize, stunt, retard, pollute, ignore, harm, discourage
- cultivating:** (adj) educating, taming, humanizing, calming
- cultivator:** (n, v) tiller, plowman; (n) agriculturist, grower, raiser, woodcutter, granger, sodbuster, planter, culturist, husbandman
- cumbrous:** (adj) unwieldy, weighty, massive, heavy, bulky, awkward, ponderous, clumsy, vexatious, burdensome, inept
- cunning:** (adj) crafty, canny, adroit, wily, sly, shrewd, tricky, artful; (n) craftiness, craft, cleverness. ANTONYMS: (adj) simple, honest, stupid, unimaginative, gullible, ingenuous, straightforward, candid, sincere; (n) frankness, straightforwardness
- cunningly:** (adv) craftily, artfully, cleverly, ingeniously, trickily, shrewdly, astutely, insidiously, smartly, foxily, slipperily. ANTONYMS: (adv) ineptly, openly
- cupreous:** (adj) containing copper
- curacy:** (n) spot, situation, position, office, post, cure, curateship, berth
- cured:** (adj) recovered, corned, aged, mellow, whole, better, pickle cured, salted, vulcanised, well, vulcanized
- curled:** (adj) damned, doomed, execrable, cussed, wretched, unlucky, accursed, blamed, blasted, confounded; (v) accurst. ANTONYMS: (adj) commendable, honorable, nice, sweet, kine
- curse:** (n) abuse
- cursing:** (adj) cursed, execrative; (n) blasphemy, anathema, swearing, blasphemous word, malediction, execration, denunciation, cursedness; (v) beshrew
- cuticle:** (n, v) epidermis; (n) shell, stratum, rind, scarfskin, integument, case, body covering, carapace, cuticula; (adj) cuticular
- cutters:** (adj, n) shears; (n) clippers; (adj) pruning shears
- cyclopaedia:** (n) encyclopedia, encyclopaedia, book of facts, book of knowledge
- cygnosure:** (n) guide, center, polestar, focus, North Star, wonder, celebrity, personality, pattern, paragon; (adj) mirror
- cypress:** (n) cyprus, wood, cypresses, juniper, sequoia, sandarac, cypress tree; (adj) deep mourning, willow, mourning, cypress green
- czar:** (n) king, tzar, tsar, sovereign, mogul, despot, autocrat, kaiser, tyrant, dictator, magnate
- dabbling:** (n) dalliance; (adj) dilettante, unfinished
- dainty:** (adj, v) nice; (adj, n, v) delicacy; (adj) fastidious, savory, tasteful, squeamish, particular, mincing, refined; (adj, n) tidbit; (n) luxury. ANTONYMS: (adj) coarse, vulgar, rough, inelegant, harsh, gross, awkward, accepting, heavy, careless, thick
- dammable:** (adj) cursed, damned, abominable, hateful, accursed, devilish, infernal, disgusting, sinful, deplorable, offensive. ANTONYMS: (adj) commendable, laudable, praiseworthy
- dandelion:** (n) herb, taraxacum, family Compositae, family Asteraceae, daisy, compositae, common dandelion, aster family, Asteraceae
- dank:** (adj) damp, wet, moist, humid, sticky, soggy, sultry, muggy, juicy, rheumy, musty. ANTONYMS: (adj) arid, parched, bright
- darkening:** (adj) dark, blue, gloomy, causing dejection; (v) darken; (n) change of color, eclipse
- dart:** (n, v) dash, run, flit; (v) bound, flash, shoot, rush, race, gallop; (adj, n) arrow, rocket. ANTONYMS: (v) plod, trudge, slog, linger, dawdle, dally, delay, amble; (n) tonic
- darting:** (adj) arrowy, moving; (v) Sally
- dashing:** (adj) stylish, dapper, gallant, showy, smart, snappy, impetuous, rakish, raffish, brave; (adj, n) spruce. ANTONYMS: (adj) boring, unstylish, dull, blumbling, bland, awkward, drab, graceless
- daubed:** (adj) beplastered, covered, greasy
- daunted:** (adj) downcast, dispirited, discouraged, frightened, intimidated, disheartened, dismayed, afraid, abashed, bashful, discomposed
- dawning:** (n) daybreak, sunrise, start, beginning, aurora, cockcrow,

- dayspring, morning, birth, first light, break of day. ANTONYM: (n) sunset
- dazzled:** (adj) confused, dazzle, bewildered, blind, blinder, fascinated, unsighted
- dazzling:** (adj) brilliant, blinding, splendid, glaring, vivid, stunning, dazzlingly, striking, sparkling, fulgent, resplendent. ANTONYMS: (adj) dim, ugly, uninspired, unremarkable, unexceptional, gradual, abysmal, humdrum, dark
- dearly:** (adv) affectionately, preciously, darlingly, sweetly, petly, expensively, belovedly, intimately, highly, heartfully, lovely
- dearth:** (n) shortage, famine, want, deficiency, lack, scarcity, paucity, scarceness, scantiness, rarity, shortfall. ANTONYMS: (n) abundance, excess, glut, plenty, plethora, sufficiency, surplus, supply
- debauched:** (adj) corrupt, fast, rakish, dissipated, depraved, licentious, profligate, immoral, degenerate, libertine, lewd. ANTONYMS: (adj) upright, redeemed, purified, pure, cleansed, chaste, clean, innocent
- decayed:** (adj) spoiled, corrupt, dilapidated, rank, rusty, rotting, decaying, rotted, putrid; (adj, v) wasted; (v) stale. ANTONYMS: (adj) matured, restored, strengthened
- decaying:** (adj) rotten, decayed, rotting, stale, decadent, stinking, decomposed, smelly, shabby, seedy; (n) fading. ANTONYM: (adj) pristine
- deceived:** (adj) mistaken, misguided
- decently:** (adv) becomingly, decorously, fairly, correctly, seemly, fitly, courteously, justly, appropriately, rightly, right. ANTONYMS: (adv) rudely, improperly, disreputably, inappropriately, immorally
- decipher:** (v) interpret, explain, solve, decode, translate, disentangle, resolve, construe, read, decrypt, discover. ANTONYMS: (v) encode, code, encipher, scramble, confuse
- deducting:** (adj) save
- deem:** (v) believe, assume, consider, count, hold, think, feel, view, suppose, regard, imagine. ANTONYMS: (v) disregard, doubt
- deepened:** (adj) concentrated, gathered
- defaced:** (adj) marred
- defiant:** (adj) bold, rebellious, audacious, resistant, brazen, stubborn, unruly, mutinous, rude, recalcitrant, obstinate. ANTONYMS: (adj) submissive, respectful, accepting, acquiescent, compliant, conforming, cooperative, loyal, meek, amenable
- deficient:** (adj) wanting, inadequate, scanty, imperfect, short, scarce, less, lacking, low, meager, insufficient. ANTONYMS: (adj) sufficient, perfect, ample, flawless, enough, excessive, complete, present, sound, strong, confident
- defiled:** (adj) impure, polluted, dirty, maculate, debauched, contaminated, corrupt, violated, tainted, abusive, adulterate. ANTONYMS: (adj) hallowed, purified, sanctified, cleansed, untarnished
- defiling:** (adj) impious, infectious; (n) iniquation
- deformed:** (adj) distorted, misshapen, bent, malformed, ugly, crippled, contorted, warped, shapeless, twisted, deform. ANTONYMS: (adj) beautiful, flawless, unflawed, perfect, straight
- defrauding:** (n) fraudment, theft
- degeneracy:** (n) corruption, depravity, decadence, degeneration, decline, debasement, decay, degenerateness, depravation, immorality; (adj, n) meanness. ANTONYMS: (n) morality, purity, righteousness
- degenerate:** (adj) corrupt, debauched, depraved, dissolute; (v) decay, degrade, relapse, decline, drop, rot; (adj, n) profligate. ANTONYMS: (adj) upright, honorable, moral, healthy, virtuous, regenerate; (v) develop, flourish, recuperate, uplift, upgrade
- degraded:** (adj) debased, low, ignoble, debauched, depraved, abject, sordid, dishonored, corrupted, contemptible, base. ANTONYM: (adj) good
- deity:** (n) God, godhead, godhood, godship, idol, immortal, goddess, Jupiter; (adj, n) divinity, the Deity, theology. ANTONYMS: (n) human, mortal, person
- dejection:** (n) discouragement, depression, sadness, despair, sorrow, woe, grief, melancholy, blues, desolation, despondency. ANTONYMS: (n) cheerfulness, ecstasy, encouragement, hopefulness, joy, cheer
- delectable:** (adj) luscious, tasty, scrumptious, dainty, savory, charming, appetizing, palatable, delightful, lovely; (adj, v) sweet. ANTONYMS: (adj) nauseating, offensive, sickening, tasteless, unpleasant, disagreeable, disgusting, unappealing, detestable
- deliberating:** (adj) deliberative, pondering
- deliberation:** (n) cogitation, counsel, debate, caution, thought, advisement, attention, contemplation, consultation; (adj, n) calculation, circumspection. ANTONYMS: (n) thoughtlessness, carelessness, impetuosity, distraction, rashness
- delicacy:** (adj, n) weakness, fragility, tidbit; (n) finesse, daintiness, delicate, elegance, sensitivity, luxury, treat, airiness. ANTONYMS: (n) sturdiness, toughness, durability, frankness, inelegance, ruggedness, vulgarity, tactlessness, insensitivity, inaccuracy, clumsiness
- delights:** (n) delices
- deliquium:** (n) collapse, lipothymy, swoon, fainting, faint; (adj) apoplexy, exhaustion, inanition, syncope, palsy, sideration
- delirium:** (n) craze, insanity, mania, disturbance, fever, ecstasy, derangement; (adj, n) fury; (adj) furor, rage, distraction. ANTONYMS: (n) indifference, dejection
- deluded:** (adj) besotted, mistaken
- deluge:** (adj, v) inundate; (n) cataclysm, downpour, cloudburst, torrent, delacale; (v) overrun, overwhelm; (n, v) overflow, surge, stream. ANTONYMS: (n) drought, abatement, trickle, lack; (v) drain, capitulate, desiccate, surrender, parch, dry, dehydrate
- delusion:** (n) hallucination, deception, cheat, chimera, misunderstanding, mirage, trick, fallacy, error, aberration, falsehood. ANTONYMS: (n) comprehension, fact, truth
- delusions:** (n) delusion, mental illness
- demagogue:** (n) agitator, speechmaker, fogleman, reactionist, rhetorician, orator, precentor, leader, bellwether; (adj) anarchist, brawler. ANTONYM: (n) pacifier
- demigod:** (adj, n) hero; (n) daemon, Ubermensch, Adonis, leader, divinity, seraph, undergod, superman, heroine, God

demon: (n) ghost, fiend, incubus, monster, daemon, ogre, daimon, goblin, duce, genie, elf.

ANTONYM: (n) saint

demoniac: (adj) diabolic, devilish, possessed, demoniacal, amuck, amok, berserk, violent; (n) fiend, monster, ogre

demonically: (adv) demonically, possessedly, brutally, frenetically

denomination: (n) appellation, title, cognomen, class, communion, appellative, designation, sect, name, value, degree

densely: (adv) solidly, heavily, slowly, obtusely, compactly, firmly, dully, dumbly, closely, tightly, stupidly. ANTONYMS: (adv)

loosely, sparsely, brightly

dent: (v) indent, cut; (n, v) hollow, nick, dint, pit, impress; (n) recess, depression, indentation, blemish.

ANTONYMS: (v) bolster, repair, fill; (n) hump, boost, lump

departing: (adj, v) parting; (adj, n) leaving, going away; (adj) outgoing, outbound, outward, passing, decedent, valedictory, retiring; (v) depart. ANTONYM: (n) arrival

depreciated: (adj) adulterate, cheap, depleted, depressed; (v) depreciating

derision: (n) contempt, mockery, scorn, banter, jeering, disdain, scoff, insult, irony, sport, gibe.

ANTONYMS: (n) applause, esteem, admiration, praise, approval

derivation: (n) ancestry, origin, birth, extraction, source, cause, lineage, derivative, foundation, descent, etymology. ANTONYMS: (n) result, outgrowth

derivative: (n) derivation, offshoot, differential, curvature, derivative instrument, differential coefficient, figuring, extension; (adj) derived, unoriginal, copied. ANTONYMS: (adj, n) original; (adj) primary, new, inventive, unborrowed, imaginative; (n) invention

deriving: (n) etymologizing, ancestry, account, thought

dervish: (n) faquir, fakeer, faqir, fakir, whirler, mufti, hadji

descend: (v) settle, condescend, down, drop, deign, subside, go down, dismount, derive, get off, come down. ANTONYMS: (v) ascend, climb, float, scale, increase, level, mount

descending: (v) descend; (adj) downhill, down, descendent,

decreasing, dropping, falling, sloping, degressive, occasive; (adv) downward. ANTONYM: (adj) upward

deserts: (n) desert, just deserts, due, compensation, comeupance

desirous: (adj) wistful, avid, ambitious, greedy, longing, eager, hungry, covetous, envious, agog; (adj, v) willing. ANTONYMS: (adj) undesirous, reluctant, undesiring, uncontented

despatch: (n) shipment, expedition, communique, mission, consignment, sending, forwarding; (v) transmit, expedite, quicken, send

despicable: (adj) vile, base, abominable, mean, abject, miserable, dishonorable, filthy, dirty, hateful, ignoble. ANTONYMS: (adj)

honorable, creditable, praiseworthy, worthy, noble, loveable, likable, laudable, endearing, commendable, lovable

despised: (adj) scorned, despicable, hated, abject, disparaged, mean, attaching disgrace, unpopular, unloved, reviled, opprobrious

desponding: (adj) despairing, despondent

dessert: (n) sweet, afters, pudding, ambrosia, blancmange, compote, confectionery, confection; (v) bait, bever, dejeuner

detain: (v) arrest, confine, catch, capture, apprehend, stay, keep, jail, imprison, incarcerate, retard.

ANTONYMS: (v) free, liberate, rush

detering: (adj) discouraging

detriment: (n, v) cost, loss; (adj, n) injury; (n) prejudice, harm, hurt, disadvantage, lesion, impairment, mischief, drawback. ANTONYMS: (n) help, benefit

devastation: (n) demolition, desolation, ruin, catastrophe, havoc, obliteration, damage, disaster, wreck, annihilation; (n, v) waste. ANTONYMS: (n) construction, building, creation, order, preservation

devilish: (adj, v) diabolic, satanic, infernal, mephistophelian, demoniacal; (adj) demonic, wicked, diabolical, terrific; (v) Stygian; (adv) devilishly. ANTONYMS: (adj) cherubic, godlike, good, saintly, virtuous

devils: (n) unclean spirits

devour: (v) eat, bolt, gulp, demolish, guzzle, swallow, gorge, ingurgitate, gobble, use up, absorb.

ANTONYMS: (v) avoid, abstain, regurgitate, nibble, fast, sip

devoured: (adj) eaten up

dewy: (adj) wet, dank, bedewed, humid, moist, damp, fresh, new, roric, undried, rorid

diabolical: (adj) diabolic, demoniac, demonic, infernal, hellish, unholy, fiendish, wicked, satanic, atrocious, evil

diagonal: (n) bias, slant, slash, stroke, virgule, solidus; (adj) sloping, aslant, slanting, inclined, aslope.

ANTONYMS: (adj) level, flat, horizontal, square, straight, vertical

dialect: (n) language, speech, vernacular, tongue, accent, lingo, conversation, say, talk, patois, phraseology

dialogues: (n) dialog

dietetic: (adj) dietary, alimentary, dietetical, dietic, dietical, food, nutritional

diffused: (adj) spread, dispersed, dim, distributed, softened

digby: (n) Atlantic herring

digest: (n) resume, compilation, epitome, compendium,

condensation, collection; (v) stomach, absorb, summarize,

apprehend; (adj) brook.

ANTONYMS: (v) misinterpret, lengthen, expand, enlarge, elaborate, misunderstand, avoid, succumb, misapprehend, detail, reject

digested: (adj) mature, digestible

digestive: (adj) alimentary, concoctive; (n) digester, digestion

dignified: (adj) exalted, majestic, noble, grand, lofty, respectable,

solemn, distinguished, lordly, high; (adj, v) great. ANTONYMS: (adj)

undignified, foolish, dishonorable, boisterous, unceremonious, unseemly, vulgar, poor, lowly, modest, base

dignitary: (n) notable, celebrity, big shot, dignity, officer, grandee, very important person, public figure, personage, person, panjandrum

dilapidated: (adj, v) bedraggled, frayed; (adj) decayed, decrepit, derelict, shabby, worn out, rickety, broken, ragged, damaged.

ANTONYMS: (adj) pristine, elegant, trim, tidy, thriving, sound, solid, intact, sturdy, habitable

dilettantism: (adj) sciolism, smattering, glimmering

diligent: (adj) busy, active, assiduous, painstaking, careful, earnest, studious, attentive, laborious,

industrious, zealous. ANTONYMS: (adj) careless, negligent, dilatory, idle, inactive, languid, slack, sluggish, lethargic, weary, indolent
diligently: (adv) busily, assiduously, sedulously, attentively, industriously, earnestly, actively, laboriously, tirelessly, carefully, studiously. ANTONYMS: (adv) wearily, hastily
dilute: (adj) watery, weak, diluted, washy; (adj, v) thin; (v) adulterate, reduce, debase, rarefy, weaken; (n, v) water. ANTONYMS: (v) strengthen, increase, concentrate, enrich, thicken, reduce; (adj) strong, undiluted, concentrated, thick
diluvian: (adj) diluvial, antediluvian
dimly: (adv) obscurely, darkly, faintly, dull, duskily, vaguely, shadowily, hazily, gloomily, somberly; (adj, adv) palely. ANTONYMS: (adv) clearly, strongly, distinctly
dimple: (n) depression, dint, indentation, hollow, cavity, dip, pit, spot hole, follicle, lacuna, hole. ANTONYMS: (n) hump, lump
dingy: (adj) dark, black, drab, dull, muddy, impure, dim, seedy, dowdy, unclean, grimy. ANTONYMS: (adj) immaculate, spotless, sparkling, bright, neat, brilliant, interesting, smart
dipped: (adj) immersed, unfit, swaybacked, lordotic, curved in, swayback
dipper: (n) shovel, spoon, Big Dipper, scoop, butterball, bafflehead, Little Dipper, plough, duck, oscine, thimble
disapprove: (v) deprecate, object, blame, repudiate, censure, disallow, reject, turn down, refuse, discountenance, deny. ANTONYMS: (v) approve, endorse, accept, embrace, praise, agree, sanction, pass
discern: (v) differentiate, see, comprehend, detect, distinguish, make out, perceive, find, note; (n, v) descry; (adj, v) recognize. ANTONYMS: (v) Miss, neglect, disregard, observe, overlook
discolored: (adj) wan, blond, flecked, flawed, faded, dirty, rusty, dingy, dark, freckled, crusty. ANTONYMS: (adj) clean, plain, unblemished
discomfort: (n) embarrassment, confusion, perturbation, discomfort, discomfit, disconcertion, discomposure, humiliation,

consternation; (adj) rebuff, rout. ANTONYMS: (n) contentment, honor
disconsolate: (adj) inconsolable, blue, cheerless, melancholy, dejected, depressed, sad, miserable, dark, crestfallen, gloomy. ANTONYMS: (adj) happy, joyous, euphoric, consolable, enthusiastic
discontent: (n) disapproval, discontentment, disaffection, displeasure, disappointment, discontentedness, unrest; (adj) melancholy, dissatisfied, disgruntled, discontented. ANTONYMS: (n) contentment, pleasure, accord, happiness; (v) content; (adj, n) happy; (adj) contented
discontented: (adj, v) querulous, complaining; (adj) disaffected, disgruntled, malcontent, unsatisfied, dissatisfied, displeased, miserable, put out, ungratified. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleased, satisfied, happy, content
discordant: (adj) conflicting, dissonant, jarring, raucous, incompatible, discrepant, inconsistent, disharmonious, harsh, hoarse, incongruous. ANTONYMS: (adj) musical, melodic, compatible, pleasant, cooperating, accordant, agreeable, agreeing, soft
discriminating: (adj) discerning, astute, discriminate, refined, penetrating, keen, sharp, critical, discriminatingly, characteristic, distinctive. ANTONYMS: (adj) indiscriminate, indiscriminating, uncritical, stupid
dis eased: (adj) bad, ailing, sickly, unsound, sick, ill, unhealthy, pathological, infected, unwholesome, infirm. ANTONYMS: (adj) well, fit
disgorge: (v) vomit, throw up, be sick, spill, spew, pour, eject, empty, cast, evacuate, puke. ANTONYM: (v) retain
disgracing: (adj) opprobrious, disgraceful; (n) dehonoration
dishabile: (n) morning dress, status, negligé, bareness; (adj) dirty, nude
dishonest: (adj) crooked, corrupt, crafty, underhand, fraudulent, deceptive, wrong, disloyal, untruthful, unscrupulous, shifty. ANTONYMS: (adj) truthful, principled, sincere, sporting, aboveboard, straightforward, trustworthy, open, moral, fair, legal

disinterested: (adj) indifferent, detached, fair, unbiased, objective, neutral, dispassionate, equitable, evenhanded, uninterested, impassive. ANTONYMS: (adj) biased, interested, prejudiced, eager, passionate, riveted, concerned, partial, personal
dismal: (adj) cheerless, dejected, dreary, gloomy, desolate, disconsolate, depressing, melancholy, black, dim, dull. ANTONYMS: (adj) bright, happy, lively, uplifting, sunny, pleasant, light, cheery, strong, soulful, wonderful
disobedience: (n) contumacy, intractableness, rebelliousness, breach, recalcitrance, rebellion, refusal, noncompliance, mutiny, contravention, defiance. ANTONYMS: (n) compliance, meekness, conformity, devotion, order, fulfillment, loyalty
disown: (v) disavow, disinherit, abandon, renounce, disclaim, forsake, refuse, recant, repudiate, retract, disallow. ANTONYMS: (v) bequeath, accept, avow, adopt, admit, claim
dispel: (v) dissipate, disperse, break up, scatter, chase away, dissolve, diffuse, disband, chase, dismiss, resolve. ANTONYMS: (v) garner, gather, appear, attract
disperse: (v) allot, deal, administer, assign, deal out, apportion, dole out, give, issue, diffuse, furnish. ANTONYMS: (v) prohibit, receive, withhold
dispensing: (n) dispensation, distribution, giving out, supply, administration, dispensary, provision, central weighing
disperse: (v) dispel, spread, circulate, break up, disband, scatter, dissipate, diffuse, disperse, disseminate, break. ANTONYMS: (v) gather, collect, converge, centralize, capture, congregate, garner, concentrate, swarm, crowd, aggravate
disregard: (n, v) disdain, slight, scorn; (n) carelessness, contempt; (v) discount, defy, despise, cut, flout; (adj, v) overlook. ANTONYMS: (v) notice, heed, value, obey, accept, consider; (n) respect, thoughtfulness, consideration, attention; (n, v) regard
disregarded: (adj) unnoticed, neglected, unseen, written off, wretched, unvalued, unheeded,

- overlooked, lost, irrecoverable; (v) unregarded
- disreputable:** (adj, n, v) discreditable; (adj) base, dishonorable, doubtful, sordid, infamous, shameful, dishonourable, dishonest, despicable, notorious. ANTONYMS: (adj) honorable, respected, ethical, noble, decent, respectable, sporting, pleasant, admirable, famous, honest
- dissipate:** (adj, v) waste; (v) disperse, squander, disappear, diffuse, consume, scatter, disseminate, break, evaporate, spend. ANTONYMS: (v) save, conserve, appear, collect, hoard, absorb, gather
- dissipated:** (adj, v) fast; (adj) dissolute, immoral, abandoned, profligate, prodigal, gay, rakish, degenerate, squandered, licentious. ANTONYMS: (adj) upright, moral
- dissipating:** (n) distribution
- dissipation:** (n) waste, dissolution, licentiousness, extravagance, excess, profligacy, consumption, decomposition, disintegration; (n, v) diffusion, dissemination. ANTONYMS: (n) appearance, growth, restraint, moderation, decency, uprightness
- dissolve:** (v) break up, disperse, dissipate, evaporate, fuse, melt, disband, fade, vanish, resolve, dispel. ANTONYMS: (v) solidify, appear, harden, thicken, coagulate, congeal, continue, integrate, materialize, open, start
- distantly:** (adv) reservedly, aloofly, coldly, formally, coolly, frigidly, standoffishly, farly, removedly, vaguely, detachedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) intimately, passionately, clearly, warmly, nearby, alertly
- distend:** (v) expand, bulge, inflate, bloat, blow up, balloon, enlarge, swell, widen; (adj, v) stretch, extend. ANTONYMS: (v) shrink, constrict, contract, compress
- distended:** (adj) inflated, bloated, turgid, puffed, bombastic, distent, expanded, enlarged; (adj, v) puffy; (v) blowzy, bigswoln
- distention:** (n) dilatation, dilation, swelling, inflation, bulge, extension, expansion, enlargement, conceit, stress, rise
- distilled:** (adj) alcoholic
- distiller:** (n) manufacturer, alembic
- distinguishable:** (adj, adv) appreciable, perceptible, definite, visible; (adj) distinct, apparent, marked, differentiable, recognizable; (adv) observable, noticeable. ANTONYM: (adj) inseparable
- distract:** (adj, v) confuse, bewilder; (v) disorder, ail, disturb, deflect, craze, disquiet, molest, annoy, agitate. ANTONYMS: (v) center, explain, concentrate, clarify
- distracted:** (adj) demented, inattentive, abstracted, crazy, frenzied, distraught, preoccupied, distressed, confused; (adj, v) mad, disconcerted. ANTONYMS: (adj) attentive, alert, assured, calm, mellow
- distraction:** (adj, n) desperation, raving; (n) beguilement, pastime, diversion, confusion, entertainment, disturbance, daze, recreation; (adj) madness. ANTONYMS: (n) fascination, attentiveness, attention, noninterference, calmness, concentration
- distressed:** (adj) worried, distraught, anxious, sad, disturbed, downcast, hurt, distracted, wretched, shocked, troubled. ANTONYMS: (adj) composed, content, euphoric, happy, comforted, glad, joyful, collected, unconcerned, unaffected
- disturber:** (n) troubler
- ditcher:** (n) trench excavator, Diker, ditch digger
- ditty:** (n) ballad, canzonet, canticle, bravura, cantata, carol, tune, pastoral, recitative, recitativo, solfeggio
- diverging:** (adj) branching, divergingly, centrifugal, divaricate, oblique
- divert:** (adj, v) distract; (v) entertain, avert, delight, deflect, deviate, beguile, depart, disport, digress, sidetrack. ANTONYMS: (v) bore, irritate, maintain, set, upset, stay, displease, sadden
- dives:** (n) Lazarus, Croesus, dive, Timon of Athens, diving, dived, capitalist, Idas, millionaire, nabob, Plutus
- divest:** (v) bereave, dispossess, dismantle, denude, despoil, strip, disrobe, free, relieve, discharge, unclothe. ANTONYMS: (v) invest, clothe, cover, dress, provide, bequeath, harbor, add
- divested:** (adj) bereft, destitute, naked
- dividers:** (n) compass, compasses, pair of compasses
- divinity:** (n) God, theology, divineness, immortal, godship, godhead, spirit, demiurge, apologetics, demigod; (adj, n) the Deity. ANTONYM: (n) devil
- divulge:** (v) disclose, betray, communicate, declare, impart, reveal, leak, expose, break, tell, confess. ANTONYMS: (v) suppress, hide, withhold, deny
- dobbin:** (n) farm horse
- dobson:** (n) larva, hellgrammite, Corydalis cornutus, dobson fly, dobson ozone spectrophotometer, dobsonfly, dobson unit
- dogging:** (adj) dogs, persisting, continuous, uninterrupted
- dogwood:** (n) cornel, bunchberry, crackerberry, cornelian cherry, dogwood tree, common European dogwood, common white dogwood
- doleful:** (adj) mournful, sorrowful, sad, disconsolate, melancholy, miserable, piteous, dolorous, somber, woeful; (adj, v) dolesome. ANTONYMS: (adj) gleeful, happy, glad, cheery, elated, euphoric
- domesticated:** (adj) tame, vernacular, subdued, gentle, tamed, naturalized, submissive, depressed, crushed, cade, broken. ANTONYM: (adj) wild
- don't:** (adv) not; (n) taboo, prohibition
- doorsill:** (n) doorstep, threshold, sill, brink, door
- dormant:** (adj) inactive, torpid, inert, smoldering, suspended, inoperative, potential, sluggish, quiescent, latent, quiet. ANTONYMS: (adj) overt, extinct, dynamic, alive, awake
- dotted:** (adj) speckled, dappled, specked, spotted, dashed, stippled, scattered, spotty, dot, mottled, broken
- doubleness:** (n) bad faith
- doubly:** (adv) twice, twofold, two times, in two ways, dualistically
- dough:** (n) cash, money, batter, kale, lucre, pastry, pelf, shekels, gelt; (adj) clay, butter
- dove:** (n) turtledove, squab, emblem, pacifist, pacifist, poultry, dove, pigeon, Holy Spirit, culver, peacenic
- doxes:** (n) Columbiformes, order Columbiformes
- downy:** (adj) flossy, fuzzy, soft, hairy, fleecy, silken, nappy, furry, downlike; (v) flocculent, flaccid. ANTONYMS: (adj) coarse, hard
- drab:** (adj) dreary, gloomy, dingy, cheerless, somber, boring, dowdy, dark, colorless, dull, depressing. ANTONYMS: (adj) colorful, vivid,

- brilliant, chic, flashy, interesting, cheerful, distinctive, smart, strong
- draught:** (n, v) draft, sketch, design, potation, plan; (n) dose, air current, wind, gulp, outline; (v) blueprint
- draughts:** (n) solitaire, go bang, backgammon, misere chess, chess, dominos, board game
- dreary:** (adj) dreary, dingy, drab, disconsolate, distressing, sad, lamentable, bleak, cheerless, darkening, gloomy
- dreary:** (adj) depressing, drab, dull, cheerless, drear, miserable, gloomy, dark, dismal, stuffy, disconsolate. ANTONYMS: (adj) interesting, cheerful, sunny, brilliant, lively, light, exciting, clear, cheery, pleasant, exotic
- drenched:** (adj) saturated, soaked, soaking, damp, soppy, wet through, sodden, sopping, wringing wet, soaked to the skin, dripping wet
- drenching:** (adj, n) soaking; (n) wetting, dipsomaniac, sousing, dip, boozier, alcoholic
- dressmaker:** (n) needlewoman, sempstress, seamstress, garmentworker, shoemaker, garmentmaker, couturier, tailor, Ross, mantuamaker, designer
- drier:** (n) dryer, drying agent, kiln, clothes dryer, desiccant, core carrier, appliance, exciccator; (adj) dried
- driftwood:** (n) wood, refuse, debris
- dripping:** (adj) wet, damp, drenched, sodden, soaked, soggy; (adj, adv) sopping, soaking; (adj, v) reeking; (n) dribble, a drop. ANTONYM: (adj) lacking
- drone:** (n, v) hum, murmur; (v) whine, idler, purr; (n) dawdler, droning, laggard, sluggard, roll; (adv, n) bourdon
- droop:** (adj, v) decline; (v) dangle, wilt, hang, flag, sink, slump, loll, collapse; (n, v) sag, pine. ANTONYMS: (v) rise, bloom
- drooping:** (adj) flabby, pendulous, limp, flaccid, cernuous, flagging, languid, floppy, lax, tired; (n) droop. ANTONYMS: (adj) taut, firm
- dropsical:** (adj) edematous, anasaruous, ascitical, inflated; (v) turgid, tumid, plethoric, exaggerated, fat, hypertrophied, overgrown
- dröss:** (n) trash, rubbish, scoria, refuse, slag, waste, impurity, dregs, garbage, ofal, cinder
- drown:** (v) drench, submerge, overwhelm, choke, engulf, flood, swamp, inundate, suffocate, asphyxiate; (adj, n, v) sink. ANTONYMS: (v) float, swim, amplify, dry
- drowning:** (n) masking, demersion
- drowsiness:** (n) sleepiness, lethargy, dullness, doziness, laziness, somnolency, inertia, drowsie, lassitude, languor, sluggishness. ANTONYM: (n) alertness
- drowsy:** (adj, n) sleepy; (adj) lazy, comatose, somnolent, slow, lethargic, sluggish, dull, indolent, soporific, listless. ANTONYMS: (adj) energetic, awake, lively, vigorous, vivacious, refreshed
- drudgery:** (n) toil, work, grind, swink, slavery, travail, donkeywork, fagging, hammering; (adj, n) hard work; (n, v) sweat. ANTONYM: (adj) cramped
- drummer:** (n) bagman, traveling man, percussionist, trumpeter, tympanist, vendor, traveler, fiddler, harper, fifer, piper
- drunkard:** (n) alcoholic, drinker, boozier, dipsomaniac, rummy, inebriate, toper, sot, bibber, lush, imbibor
- drunkenness:** (n) alcoholism, inebriety, ebriety, drinking, drink, intoxication, crapulence, grogginess, insobriety, tipsiness, alcohol addiction
- dryness:** (n) drought, aridity, dehydration, aridness, thirst, desiccation, barrenness, monotony, status, drying, insensibility. ANTONYMS: (n) damp, humidity, wetness, moisture, succulence, exaggeration, juiciness
- ducking:** (n) dip, dousing, hunting, wetting, submersion, duckbilled platypus, duckbill, duck hunting, dive, complete attention; (v) owe
- dulness:** (n) dullness, matt, dreariness, dimness, bluntness, flatness, boringness, vapidity, jejunity, mat, tedium. ANTONYMS: (n) brightness, asperity
- dumps:** (n) doldrums, depression, gloom, melancholy, dismay, mood; (adj) melancholia, dismal, dudgeon, scowl, sulks
- durum:** (n) Triticum durum, hard wheat, durum wheat, corn, macaroni wheat
- dusky:** (adj) dark, cloudy, gloomy, black, swarthy, dull, murky, obscure, dingy, sooty, somber. ANTONYMS: (adj) light, bright, sunny, radiant, clear
- dwell:** (adj, v) inhabit; (v) reside, bide, live, stay, lodge, delay, occupy, continue, be, settle. ANTONYM: (v) wander
- dwelling:** (n) domicile, home, residence, house, place, accommodation, address, building, lodge, habitation; (adj, n) dwell
- dwelt:** (v) dwell, inhabit
- dyed:** (adj) colored, tinted, coloured, bleached, stained, painted, artificially coloured, biased, artificial, unreal, colorful
- dyspepsia:** (adj, n) indigestion; (n) upset stomach, symptom, pessimism, stomach upset
- earnest:** (adj, v) devout; (adj) eager, solemn, heartfelt, diligent, studious, sincere, intense, ardent, staid; (n) guarantee. ANTONYMS: (adj) flippant, halfhearted, uncertain, insincere, unimportant, nonchalant, lethargic, apathetic, unenthusiastic, indifferent, frivolous
- earnestly:** (adj, adv) seriously; (adv) eagerly, intently, zealously, solemnly, ardently, fervently, heartily, gravely, warmly, passionately. ANTONYMS: (adv) indifferently, insincerely, unconcernedly, jokingly
- earthenware:** (v) China, porcelain, pottery, ceramic ware; (adj) ceramic; (n) ceramics, delft, clay, stoneware, faience, majolica
- earthiness:** (n) offensiveness, uncouthness, vulgarity, terreity, crudity, rudeness, crudeness. ANTONYM: (n) decency
- earthly:** (adj, n) terrestrial; (adj) carnal, worldly, conceivable, human, geotic, secular, terrene, temporal, telluric, sublunary. ANTONYMS: (adj) spiritual, divine, ethereal, immortal, impossible, improbable, inconceivable, celestial
- earthly:** (adj) coarse, mundane, earthly, realistic, vulgar, worldly, gross, terrestrial, natural, terrene, rude. ANTONYMS: (adj) sophisticated, cultured, clean
- eastward:** (adj) eastbound, eastern; (adv) eastwards
- eats:** (n) grub, chuck, food, meat, meal, diet, nurture, eat, dinner, board, feed
- eaves:** (n) arch, balcony, cupola, dome, penthouse, eave, overhang, attic, loft, projection, roof space
- eclat:** (n) acclamation, celebrity, brilliance, elegance, grandness, vogue, magnificence; (v)

- commendation, praise, laud; (n, v) acclaim
- edifying:** (adj) enlightening, didactic, instructive, educational, advantageous, rewarding, benignant, improving, profitable, illuminating, helpful. ANTONYM: (adj) unedifying
- educate:** (v) instruct, civilize, train, cultivate, coach, bring up, drill, discipline, breed, rear, nurture
- e'er:** (adv) ever, forever
- effectual:** (adj, n) efficient, efficacious, able; (adj) forceful, telling, authoritative, operative, potent, adequate, impressive, powerful. ANTONYMS: (adj) ineffectual, incapable, weak, impotent, ineffective, unproductive, unsuccessful, useless
- effectually:** (adv) efficaciously, effectively, validly, adequately, potently, tellingly, strongly, decisively; (adj) nicely, fully, head and shoulders. ANTONYM: (adv) ineffectually
- effeminate:** (adj) womanish, delicate, epicene, sissy, emasculate, tender, ladylike, cissy, easy, voluptuous; (adj, v) feminate. ANTONYMS: (adj) macho, manly, masculine
- effete:** (adj) fruitless, barren, antiquated, feeble, decrepit, puny, sterile; (adj, v) spent, weak, wasted; (v) slack. ANTONYMS: (adj) lively, productive, prolific, tireless, vigorous, vital, alive
- egotism:** (n) vanity, ego, pride, conceit, narcissism, egocentricity, selfishness, arrogance, pridefulness, self-esteem, solipsism. ANTONYMS: (n) humility, selflessness
- ejaculation:** (n) cry, ejection, emission, interjection, discharge, vociferation, expelling, exclaiming, eruption, shout, emanation
- elaborateness:** (n) elaboration, showiness, complexity, refinement, ostentation, ornateness, baroque, amplification, complexity, baroque, involution
- elapsed:** (adj) gone, forgotten, lapsed, back, beyond, onwards, over and done
- elastic:** (adj) flexible, springy, soft, pliable, resilient, limber, pliant, yielding, ductile, buoyant; (n) rubber band. ANTONYMS: (adj) rigid, stiff, inflexible, inelastic, unadaptable, intolerant, firm, hard, unyielding
- elasticity:** (n) spring, tone, buoyancy, suppleness, springiness, flexibility, resiliency, resilience, pliability, tonicity; (adj) elastic force. ANTONYMS: (n) stiffness, inflexibility, rigidity
- electrifying:** (adj) exciting, vibrant, unexpected, stimulating, stirring, charming, striking, dramatic, electric, sensational, electric effects
- elemental:** (adj) ultimate, constituent, primary, elementary, essential, fundamental, cardinal, component, underlying, original, rudimentary. ANTONYM: (adj) secondary
- elevate:** (v) advance, lift, hoist, erect, exalt, boost, rear, cheer, promote, dignify, uphold. ANTONYMS: (v) demote, drop, downgrade, depress, decrease, reduce
- elevated:** (adj) exalted, towering, noble, lofty, grand, great, majestic, tall, elated, magnanimous; (adj, v) steep. ANTONYMS: (adj) base, lowly, decreased, humble, inferior, lessened, low, sunken, undignified, lowered
- elevating:** (adj) inspiring, exhilarating
- elevation:** (n) height, highness, exaltation, ascent, climb, hill, aggrandizement, raise, El, Alt, stature. ANTONYMS: (n) degradation, descent, levelness, depression, downgrading, demotion, drop, depth
- elicited:** (adj) evoked, elicit
- eloquence:** (n) style, fluency, oratory, rhetoric, articulateness, expression, volubility, persuasiveness, articulacy, facundity, way with words. ANTONYM: (n) inarticulateness
- eloquent:** (adj) glib, fluent, persuasive, expressive, meaningful, significant, graphic, vivid, speaking, forcible, moving. ANTONYMS: (adj) incoherent, innocent, straightforward, weak
- eloquently:** (adv) fluently, expressively, persuasively, significantly, meaningfully, clearly, glibly, tellingly, forcefully, evocatively, movingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) inarticulately, innocently
- elysian:** (adj) beatific, heavenly, paradisaical, paradisaic, Elysium, divine, paradisiacal, blissful, paradisial, inspired, supernal
- emasculated:** (adj) gelded, cut, lackadaisical, cut down, down,
- feeble, flaccid
- embankment:** (n) dam, bank, bulwark, weir, wall, jetty, rampart, mound, pier, pond, fortification
- embers:** (v) cinder, ash, scoriae; (n) fire, ashes
- embodiment:** (n) shape, epitome, incarnation, avatar, amalgamation, union, unification, incorporation, coalescence, cast; (adj) integration
- embraced:** (adj) popular
- embracing:** (n) embrace, hugging, kissing, taking on, implementation, espousal, clutches; (adj) twining, osculant, grasping, close
- embroidered:** (adj) ornate, inflated, exaggerated, bewrought, decorated
- emerald:** (adj) green, verdigris, verd antique, malachite, verdant, brilliant; (n) beryl, gem, viridity, greenness, chalcedony
- emit:** (adj, v) discharge; (v) shoot, belch, reek, give off, evolve, eject, shed, radiate, emanate; (n, v) give. ANTONYMS: (v) absorb, contain, repress, retain, suppress, block, trickle, withhold
- emphasizing:** (n) accenting, accentuation, accent, emphasise, stressing, emphasize, action
- emptiness:** (n) blankness, blank, void, vanity, vacuity, worthlessness, futility, space, inanity, inanition, hollowness. ANTONYMS: (n) richness, fullness, value, importance, clutter
- emulate:** (v) contend, compete, imitate, rival, contest, echo, reproduce, follow, ape, mimic; (adj) vie
- encircling:** (adj, prep) surrounding; (prep) around; (adj) comprehensive, encompassing, roundabout, circuitous, rotary, circumferential, inclusive; (v) encircle
- encumbered:** (adj) burdened, burdensome, weighed down, heavy, deep, clayey, cloggy. ANTONYM: (adj) unencumbered
- encumbrance:** (n) check, hindrance, load, burden, barrier, impediment, tie, obstacle, imposition, charge, onus
- endeavor:** (n, v) struggle, try, strain; (n) effort, trial, essay, shot, enterprise, work; (v) strive, aim. ANTONYMS: (n, v) neglect
- endeavoring:** (n) effort; (adj) aspiring
- endeavors:** (n) activities, deeds, events, Comings and Goings, undertakings, accomplishments, happenings

endowed: (adj) gifted, clever, cute, felicitous, competent, blessed, artistic, brilliant, ingenious, talented, qualified

endurance: (adj, n) sufferance; (n) stamina, tolerance, courage, permanence, continuance, energy, fortitude, tenacity, duration, toughness. ANTONYMS: (n) weakness, inconsistency, impatience, frailty, discontinuation, discontinuance, death

enduring: (adj) durable, abiding, lasting, permanent, continuing, constant, hardy, immortal, eternal, stable; (adv) enduringly. ANTONYMS: (adj) impatient, transient, fleeting, mortal, modern, insubstantial, inconstant, fickle, erratic, unstable

energetically: (adv) vigorously, strongly, actively, briskly, lustily, forcefully, lively, forcibly, powerfully, spiritedly, strenuously. ANTONYMS: (adv) idly, quietly, lifelessly, resignedly, indifferently, feebly, wearily, languorously, lazily, sluggishly, passively

enlighten: (v) advise, edify, educate, inform, clarify, apprise, instruct, illuminate, clear, notify; (adj, v) lighten. ANTONYMS: (v) puzzle, obfuscate, mystify, confound, cloud, brutalize, bewilder, muddle

enlightened: (adj) liberal, disillusioned, progressive, cultured, aware, informed, learned, lettered; (adj, v) wise; (n, v) savant; (v) shrewd. ANTONYMS: (adj) puzzled, unenlightened, uninformed, confounded, confused, ignorant, perplexed, wild, reactionary, traditional; (n) uninitiate

enlist: (v) engage, recruit, employ, enroll, gain, get, join up, hire, acquire, join, enter. ANTONYMS: (v) discharge, resign, quit, dodge, avoid, leave, fire

ennui: (n) fatigue, tedium, weariness, melancholy, monotony, tediousness, dissatisfaction, listlessness, apathy; (v) bore, pall. ANTONYMS: (n) variation, liveliness, enthusiasm, energy, interest

enormity: (n) magnitude, size, greatness, vileness, immensity, outrage, vastness, seriousness, crime, evil, indecency. ANTONYMS: (n) minuteness, veniality, unimportance, tininess, virtue, goodness, diminutiveness,

remissibility, smallness, mildness, insignificance

enriched: (adj) educated

enslave: (v) enthrall, captivate, subjugate, slave, tame, chain, confine, thrall, inthrall, restrain; (adj, v) lead captive. ANTONYMS: (v) free, release, emancipate

entangled: (adj) complicated, intricate, embroiled, complex, foul, confused, matted, tangled, inextricable, knotty; (v) entangle

enterprising: (adj) bold, energetic, active, aggressive, courageous, vigorous, ambitious, go-ahead, brave, pushing; (adj, n) daring. ANTONYMS: (adj) lethargic, unenterprising, passive, inactive, indolent, lazy, cautious, cowardly

entireness: (n) entirety, integrity, wholeness, totality, whole, perfection, entire, ensemble, integrality, oneness, total

envelop: (v) fold, enfold, encase, enclose, wrap, encircle, conceal, embrace, beset, hide; (n) envelope. ANTONYMS: (v) reveal, release, open, unwrap, expose

environ: (adv, v) encompass, surround, beset, compass; (v) besiege, enclose, circle, envelop, gird, circumvent, beleaguer

epaulet: (n) cockade, frog, chevron, swab, adornment, shoulder knot, colors, aigulet, service stripe

epidermis: (n) scarfskin, outer skin, skin, epithelium, epiderm, stratum, coat, mantle, periostacrum, pelt, carapace

epitaph: (n) memorial, lettering, inscription, commemoration, epitaphic, legend

epitome: (n) abstract, type, resume, compendium, model, digest, ideal, conspectus, synopsis, recapitulation; (adj, n) brief

equable: (adj) equal, temperate, stable, mild, balanced, peaceful, halcyon, placid, pacific, sedate, moderate. ANTONYMS: (adj) spasmodic, vacillating, variable, unequal, irregular, intemperate, fluctuating, inequable, jumpy, senseless

equipment: (n) carriage, chariot, brougham, coach, barouche, rig, field-equipage, buggy, cab, cabriolet, chaise

eradication: (n) destruction, annihilation, obliteration, abolition, extirpation, extermination, demolition, deletion, extinction,

excision; (n, v) removal.

ANTONYMS: (n) creation, protection

errand: (n) chore, mission, job, task, assignment, embassy, duty, charge, messenger, communication, work

errands: (n) everyday Jobs, farm duties

esoteric: (adj) cryptic, esoterics, abstruse, arcane, secret, mysterious, obscure, inner, dark, confidential, mystic. ANTONYMS: (adj) understandable, simple, public, plain, obvious, mainstream, familiar, known, accessible

esquimau: (n) Inuit

esquire: (n) gentleman, Mr, Esq, scutum, scute, scutage, escutcheon, scutcheon, margrave, vavasour; (v) escort

esse: (n) entity, ens, existence, subsistence, actuality

essentials: (n) basics, rudiments, details, facts, information, introduction, necessities, particulars, the whole story, brass tacks, specifics

esteem: (n) deference, admiration; (n, v) respect, value, consideration, account; (v) appreciate, deem, adore, admire, count. ANTONYMS: (v) scorn, hate, disdain, insult, despise, abominate, abhor, dislike, reject; (n) disesteem, disapproval

esteemed: (adj) dear, reputable, respected, honorable, noble, honored, prestigious, important, distinguished, August, respect.

ANTONYM: (adj) disreputable

estimating: (n) estimation

estimation: (n) deference, assessment, calculation, approximation, appraisal, attention; (n, v) esteem, consideration, regard, reputation, credit. ANTONYMS: (n) calculation, disbelief, doubt

estivate: (v) kip, sleep, slumber, estivation

eternity: (n) aeon, afterlife, forever, perpetuity, timelessness, endlessness, everlasting, endless time, everlastingness, everness, existence. ANTONYMS: (n) finiteness, impermanence

ether: (adj) air, elastic fluid, anaesthetic agent, steam, flatus, fume, reek, vapor; (n) divinyl ether, firmament, vinyl ether

ethereal: (adj) airy, celestial, unworldly, delicate, intangible, aeriform, spiritual, aery, vaporous, incorporeal, diaphanous.

- ANTONYMS: (adj) earthly, heavy, indelicate, worldly, tangible, thick, robust, concrete
- etiquette:** (n) decorum, rite, civility, protocol, label, form, convention, decency, formality, tag, custom
- evangelist:** (n) revivalist, gospeller, missionary, apostle, saint, sermonizer, evangelical, disciple, John, Luke, mark
- evaporate:** (v) disappear, dissolve, dissipate, dry, melt away, exhale, vaporize, concentrate, pass; (n) vapor; (adj, v) fade. ANTONYMS: (v) appear, wet, dampen, soak, drench
- evaporation:** (n) dehydration, disappearance, desiccation, vapor, vaporisation, vapour, vaporation, drying up, clouding, boiling, vaporizing. ANTONYM: (n) wetting
- eventful:** (adj) fateful, weighty, lively, important, momentous, memorable, notable, hectic, significant; (n) stirring; (v) full of incident. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, insignificant, ordinary, slow, empty
- eventide:** (n) eve, dusk, night, twilight, nightfall, eleventh hour, sunset, daytime, daylight, day, curfew
- evergreen:** (n) tracheophyte, evergreen plant, pet, favorite; (adj) immortal, unfading, sempervirent, indeciduous, amaranthine; (v) macrobiotic, longeval. ANTONYM: (adj) deciduous
- everlasting:** (adj) eternal, ceaseless, endless, constant, continual, perpetual, immortal, deathless, ageless, aeonian; (adj, n) lasting. ANTONYMS: (adj) finite, ephemeral, fleeting, mortal, ending, terminating, inconstant, fragile, perishable
- everlastingly:** (adv) perpetually, always, lastingly, continually, endlessly, unendingly, incessantly, permanently, constantly, undyingly; (adj, adv) forever
- evils:** (n) mala
- evitable:** (adj) avoidable, avertible, avertable
- exacting:** (adj) fastidious, austere, strict, trying, stern, difficult, hard, finicky, nice; (adj, v) exigent; (adj, n) exact. ANTONYMS: (adj) lenient, relaxed, tolerant, unexacting, unfastidious, basic, careless, relaxing
- exaggerate:** (v) boast, aggravate, amplify, dramatize, overdo, overdraw, brag, overstate, magnify, aggrandize, enhance. ANTONYMS: (v) minimize, alleviate, weaken
- exalted:** (adj) elevated, eminent, noble, high, August, elated, dignified, great, sublime, grand, big. ANTONYMS: (adj) belittled, condemned, criticized, debased, humble, humiliated, low, lowly, minor, ridiculed, base
- exceedingly:** (adj, adv) very, highly; (adv) too, exceptionally, overly, surpassingly, extraordinarily, greatly, awfully, terrifically, eminently. ANTONYMS: (adv) slightly, hardly, insufficiently, somewhat
- excepted:** (v) except; (adj) let off, excused
- excepting:** (conj, prep) but, bar; (n, prep) except for, exclusive of; (prep) aside from, besides, apart from, barring, excluding, with the exception of; (v) saving. ANTONYM: (prep) including
- excitable:** (adj) nervous, irritable, combustible, hasty, edgy, fiery, sensitive, volatile, passionate, warm, quick. ANTONYMS: (adj) unexcitable, calm, unflappable, easygoing, easy, tranquil, reliable, mild
- excite:** (v) arouse, enliven, disturb, agitate, awaken, incite, inspire, rouse, electrify; (n, v) energize; (adj, v) quicken. ANTONYMS: (v) calm, pacify, bore, soothe, stifle, tranquilize, placate, quiet, dampen
- exclaim:** (v) call out, call, shout, cry out, ejaculate, clamor, outcry, scream, shout out, speak, vociferate
- exclusiveness:** (n) clannishness, cliquishness, snobbishness, exclusivity, stylishness, sophistication, refinement, insularity, elegance, exclusivism
- excommunicate:** (v) curse, exclude, damn, proscribe, denounce, banish, fulminate, thunder against; (adj) blackball, exile, expatriate. ANTONYMS: (v) allow, include, welcome
- excrement:** (adj, n) faeces; (n) dirt, evacuation, excretion, dung, ordure, excreta, urine, body waste, droppings; (adj) feces
- excrementitious:** (adj) excremential
- excrements:** (n) dejecture, egesta, excreta
- excursion:** (n) expedition, jaunt, outing, digression, drive, tour, airing, voyage, deviation, stroll; (n, v) journey
- excused:** (adj) privileged, immune
- execute:** (v) do, achieve, complete, perform, accomplish, act, effect, carry out, enforce, make, fulfill. ANTONYMS: (v) abandon, ignore, disregard, Miss, forget, shirk, revive
- exertion:** (n) application, exercise, endeavor, attempt, struggle, trouble, diligence, strain, labor, pull, essay. ANTONYMS: (n) idleness, inactivity, inertia, relaxation, laziness, ease
- exhibiting:** (n) advertising; (adj) exhibitory, ostensive
- exhilarating:** (adj) exciting, stimulating, invigorating, thrilling, elating, moving, exhilarative, gladdening, brisk, glad, delighted. ANTONYMS: (adj) boring, dull, depressing, discouraging, dispiriting
- exogenous:** (adj) endogenous, exogenic, external, extogenous, secondary, exogenetic
- exorbitant:** (adj) unreasonable, immoderate, steep, unconscionable, inordinate, extravagant, outrageous, enormous, extortionate, extreme, high. ANTONYMS: (adj) reasonable, inexpensive, moderate, modest, sensible, fair
- exoteric:** (adj) external, bare, downright, exterior, extrinsic, undisguised, literal, naked
- expanse:** (n) breadth, expansion, space, region, compass, extent, orbit, latitude, acreage, dilation, length. ANTONYM: (n) closeness
- expediency:** (n) utility, convenience, advantage, fitness, advisability, pertinence, expedient, benefit, effectiveness, value, pertinency. ANTONYMS: (n) impracticality, inconvenience, inexpedience, unsuitability, uselessness
- expedient:** (adj) fit, advisable, becoming, desirable, adequate, apt, convenient, suitable; (n) contrivance, resource, artifice. ANTONYMS: (adj) inappropriate, inexpedient, impractical, futile, detrimental, inconvenient, foolish
- expeditious:** (adj) agile, brisk, swift, prompt, quick, hasty, fast, rapid, speedy, efficient, ready. ANTONYMS: (adj) ineffectual, sluggish, slothful, inefficient, leisurely
- expiatory:** (adj) propitiatory, expiatory, expiative, piacular, atrociously bad, cleansing, atoning,

- purgatorian, purgatory, apologetic, criminal
- exposing:** (n) exposure, announcement; (adj) revealing, opposed
- expulsion:** (n) exile, banishment, deportation, ejection, dismissal, extrusion, eviction, exclusion, transportation, exception, release. ANTONYMS: (n) inclusion, welcoming
- exterminated:** (adj) broken, extinct, destroyed completely, lost, wiped out, annihilated
- externally:** (adv) superficially, exteriorly, outside, outerly, without, foreignly, extrinsically, surface, extraneously, peripherally, outlyingly. ANTONYM: (adv) internally
- extinct:** (adj) dead, deceased, defunct, departed, obsolete, extinguished, exhausted, inanimate, out, quenched, gone. ANTONYMS: (adj) alive, living, extant, active, dormant, thriving, existing, live
- extinguish:** (v) destroy, exterminate, eradicate, douse, annihilate, consume, wipe out, end, suppress, quash; (adj, v) allay. ANTONYMS: (v) ignite, build, create, encourage, inflame, sustain, protect
- extinguished:** (adj) extinct, out, dead, quenched, allayed, destroyed; (n) defunctness, complete annihilation, experimental extinction, extermination, extinction
- extravagant:** (adj) wasteful, luxurious, prodigal, exaggerated, profligate, costly, expensive, lavish, immoderate, profuse, undue. ANTONYMS: (adj) restrained, frugal, parsimonious, plain, stingy, understated, thrifty, reasonable, moderate, cautious, tasteful
- extravagantly:** (adv) excessively, immoderately, inordinately, luxuriously, prodigally, wastefully, profligately, profusely, ostentatiously, improvidently, unrestrainedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) economically, stingily, reasonably, meagerly, cheaply, modestly, humbly
- extremity:** (n) end, member, boundary, bound, close, appendage, limit, limb, ending, fringe, conclusion. ANTONYMS: (n) trunk, average, minimum, head, leniency
- exuberance:** (adj, n) abundance; (n) copiousness, ebullience, happiness, life, affluence, spirit, excess, overflow, joy; (adj) plenty. ANTONYMS: (n) apathy, shortage, scarcity, listlessness, lethargy, depression, boredom, sadness, misery
- exude:** (v) ooze, excrete, secrete, sweat, exudate, discharge, show, transude, seep, release, transpire. ANTONYMS: (v) conceal, hide, absorb
- eyelashes:** (n) cilia
- eyry:** (n) eyrie, aerie, aery, den, cell, cave, habitation, hive, rookery, hiding place, sanctum sanctorum
- fake:** (n) legend, fiction, tale, story, fabrication, fairy tale, lie, myth, anecdote; (adj, n) apologue, parable. ANTONYMS: (n) fact, history
- factitious:** (adj) artificial, unnatural, fictitious, man-made, ostensible, bogus, unreal, synthetic, surreptitious, forced, false
- facilities:** (n) mother wit
- fade:** (adj, v) vanish, drop; (v) dissolve, decline, evaporate, discolor, droop, die, languish, expire; (n, v) wither. ANTONYMS: (v) increase, grow, flourish, enhance, surge, sharpen, brighten, color, wax, stay, rally
- faïn:** (adj) willing, prepared, ready, favorable, heart and soul, prone; (adv) gladly, lief, readily, willingly; (v) optative
- faithfully:** (adv) exactly, accurately, sincerely, staunchly, precisely, truly, authentically, dutifully, literally, steadfastly, truly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unfaithfully, approximately, falsely, insincerely, carelessly, inaccurately
- falconry:** (n) hawking, art, artistry
- fallow:** (adj) dormant, yellow, unbroken, uncultivated, citrine, aureate, idle, unplanted, unseeded; (n) tillage, tith. ANTONYMS: (adj) planted, fertile, cultivated, active, prolific, creative
- falsehood:** (n) fable, fabrication, deception, untruth, lie, fib, fiction, invention, dishonesty; (adj, n) deceit, falsity. ANTONYMS: (n) fact, honesty, reality
- falsely:** (adv) incorrectly, fraudulently, deceptively, dishonestly, wrongly, erroneously, misleadingly, deceitfully, unfaithfully, spuriously, fictitiously. ANTONYMS: (adv) honestly, truthfully, faithfully, authentically, correctly, naturally, rightly
- fancied:** (adj) unreal, chimerical, fictional, fanciful, fictitious, fabricated, preferred, assumed, illusory, imagined, ideal
- fanciful:** (adj) mythical, fantastic, capricious, unreal, arbitrary, romantic, ideal, chimerical, notional, visionary; (adj, v) fancy. ANTONYMS: (adj) prosaic, real, realistic, plausible, normal
- fancifully:** (adv) fantastically, fantastically, chimerically, unreal, imaginarily, freakishly, bizarrely, visionarily, ideally, notionally, fancily
- fancy-free:** (adj) freely, single, unmarried, vagabond
- far-off:** (adj) distant, far, faraway, outlying, extreme, inaccessible, last, long, obscure, unknown, wide
- farthest:** (adj) ultimate, extreme, farthestmost, utmost, uttermost, last, furthestmost, endmost, greatest, most distant; (adj, adv) remotest. ANTONYMS: (adv) closest, nearest
- fasten:** (adj, v) attach, fix, affix; (v) connect, bind, tie, tack, pin, stick, clasp, anchor. ANTONYMS: (v) detach, undo, unlock, loosen, release, open, disconnect, untie, separate, unscrow
- fastened:** (adj) tied, fast, buttoned, closed, tight, secure, pinned, binding, empight, steady, firm. ANTONYMS: (adj) unfastened, unbuttoned
- fasting:** (n) abstinence, white sheet, shrift, sackcloth and ashes, maceration, lustration, flagellation, watching one's weight, hunger strike, penance; (v) calorie counting
- fatalist:** (n) determinist, necessitarian, dark horse, destinist, pessimist, quitter, defeatist, predestinationist
- fatally:** (adv) lethally, fatefully, perniciously, disastrously, destructively, terminally, deadly, pestilently, killingly, calamitously; (adj, adv) dangerously
- fates:** (adj) book of fate, Parcae, sky; (n) fortune, the fates
- fatherland:** (n) native land, home, homeland, country, mother country, motherland, land, country of origin, native country, old country, cradle
- fathom:** (n, v) plumb; (v) penetrate, discern, bottom, understand, comprehend, know, make out, measure; (n) probe, gauge. ANTONYMS: (v) confuse, misunderstand, Miss
- fatigued:** (adj) tired, weary, beat, worn, tired out, jaded, spent, worn

- out, done in, fagged, run-down.
ANTONYMS: (adj) refreshed, alert, lively, energized, energetic
- fatness:** (n) adiposity, fleshiness, avoirdupois, heaviness, adiposeness, obesity, greasiness, stoutness, fattiness, size, corpulence.
ANTONYMS: (n) leanness, thinness
- fatted:** (adj) stalled
- fattened:** (adj) finished
- faux:** (adj) simulated, imitation, false, artificial, assumed, replica, pretend, unreal, delusive, deliberately deceptive, bogus. ANTONYM: (adj) genuine
- favor:** (n, v) countenance, aid, grace, support, benefit, boon; (adj, n) kindness; (n) advantage; (v) befriend, encourage, patronize.
ANTONYMS: (v) hinder, contradict, dislike, hurt, differ, thwart, reject, demean; (n) derogation, disapproval, unkindness
- favorable:** (adj) lucky, fortunate, propitious, prosperous, convenient, advantageous, encouraging, happy, helpful; (adj, v) friendly; (adj, n) kindly. ANTONYMS: (adj) adverse, negative, ominous, disapproving, inauspicious, detrimental, unfriendly, disagreeable, hindering, harmful, untimely
- favoréd:** (adj) advantaged, preferred, lucky, advantageous, pet, favorite, blessed, privileged, favorable; (adj, n) happy, prosperous. ANTONYMS: (adj) disliked, unpopular, Standard
- favoring:** (adj) affirmative, encouraging, auspicious, being prospered, beneficial, affirmatory; (n) convenient, contributing, beautiful, conducive, promotion
- feeble:** (adj) delicate, decrepit, ailing, helpless, powerless, poor, mild, lax, thin; (adj, v) faint, debilitated.
ANTONYMS: (adj) strong, vigorous, hearty, tough, effective, powerful, unrelenting, robust, potent, persuasive, able
- feeblest:** (adj) least
- feebly:** (adv) faintly, unenthusiastically, dimly, hopelessly, unproductively, unpersuasively, unconvincingly, uncertainly, reluctantly, powerlessly, insipidly.
ANTONYMS: (adv) robustly, confidently, domineeringly, vehemently, stubbornly, strongly, effectively, convincingly, competently, admirably, wholeheartedly
- feeder:** (n) eater, affluent, feed, filler, tributary, glutton, forehearth, devourer, diner; (v) commissary, caterer
- feeler:** (n) overture, advance, approach, barbel, sensitiveness, sensitivity, aerial, palpus, tentacle, hand; (v) zetetic philosophy
- feelers:** (n) feeler
- felling:** (n) harvesting
- fenced:** (adj) hedged in, provisional, guarded, bounded
- fencing:** (n) swordplay, enclosure, paling, evasion, barrier, railing, inclosure, weir; (v) prevarication, equivocation, fraud
- ferocity:** (n) violence, cruelty, ferociousness, fury, rage, truculence, atrocity, fierceness, wildness, vehemence, anger. ANTONYMS: (n) meekness, friendliness, serenity
- fertilizing:** (n) fertilization, farming
- ferule:** (n) switch, ferula, cudgel, truncheon, ferrule, ferular; (v) whip, flog, chastise
- festal:** (adj) convivial, gala, solemn, festival, cheery, joyous, jovial, merry, gay, ceremonious, happy
- festive:** (adj) convivial, festal, merry, cheery, joyous, jovial, gala, gay, blithe, solemn, joyful. ANTONYMS: (adj) depressed, gloomy, somber, dreary
- fetters:** (n) chains, captivity, bond, restraint, irons, handcuffs, iron, enduring; (v) confine, fee, embellish.
ANTONYM: (n) liberation
- fibrous:** (adj) tough, ropy, fibrose, filamentous, muscular, rubbery, nemaline, gossamer, sinewy, raw, brawny. ANTONYM: (adj) tender
- ficile:** (adj) pliable, elastic, ductile, susceptible, bendable, moldable
- fidélity:** (n) constancy, devotion, faithfulness, adherence, allegiance, loyalty, faith, dedication, exactness; (adj, n) honesty, truth.
ANTONYMS: (n) infidelity, unfaithfulness, disloyalty, inaccuracy, faithlessness, dishonesty, unreliability
- filth:** (n) grime, garbage, foulness, impurity, soil, blot, stain, nastiness, squalor, uncleanliness; (adj) impure.
ANTONYMS: (n) cleanliness, luxury, loveliness
- fineness:** (n) refinement, elegance, daintiness, thinness, choiceness, beauty, superiority, subtlety, slimmess, slenderness, narrowness.
ANTONYMS: (n) stoutness, thickness, vulgarity, inaccuracy,
- coarseness, width
- flins:** (n) flippers, flipper, cinque
- fireside:** (n) fireplace, home, family, habitation, dwelling, abode, domicile, country, dwelling house, fire, habitat
- firkin:** (n) barrel, keg, tub, kit, caldron, cag, vat, container, butt, drum, rundlet
- firmament:** (n) sphere, welkin, heaven, heavens, celestial sphere, expanse, arena, field, vault of heaven, domain, area
- first-rate:** (adj) excellent, stunning, capital, posh, tiptop, dandy, ace, superior, classic, fine, clinking
- fisherman:** (n) fisher, trawler, black cat, fisher cat, piscator, troller, Peterman; (v) sportsman, huntsman
- fishers:** (n) family Mustelidae, ferrets, Mustelidae
- fishes:** (n) amphibians, Craniata, Subphylum Vertebrata, Vertebrata, birds
- fixture:** (n) installation, device, fixing, attachment, competition, match, clamping plate, fixity, equipment, appliance; (adj) establishment
- flags:** (n) streamer, streamers, sidewalk, trottoir, pavement, walk, footpath, bunting; (adj) wood pavement, flagstone
- flakes:** (n) dust
- flannel:** (n) washcloth, cloth, face cloth, pants, trousers, flannelette, white, tweed, gabardine; (v) blanket, fur
- flap:** (v) flop, wave, beat, brandish, shake; (n, v) fuss, flutter, pother; (n) slap, disturbance, valve
- flapping:** (adj) loose, detached, baggy, streaming, flying, slack; (n) fluttering, flutter, flaps, dither, disturbance
- flatter:** (v) fawn, adulate, wheedle, cajole, soap, kowtow, blandish, grovel, butter up; (n, v) court; (n) caress. ANTONYMS: (v) insult, disparage, criticize, discourage
- flattered:** (adj) pleased
- flattering:** (adj) ingratiating, complimentary, courtly, obsequious, adulatory, fulsome, bland, candied, smooth, encouraging; (n) flattery.
ANTONYMS: (adj) assertive, critical, unflattering, unattractive, wounding, uncomplimentary, negative; (adv) partially
- flatulency:** (n) accelerator, accelerator pedal, gas
- flavor:** (n) relish, tang, smell, aroma, salt; (n, v) taste, flavour, smack; (v)

- spice, season, sauce. ANTONYMS: (n) staleness, blandness, emptiness
- flaxen:** (adj) flaxy, fair, blond, light, pale, golden, arenaceous, sandy, farinaceous; (n) blonde
- fleeting:** (adj) brief, momentary, ephemeral, passing, transient, short, fugitive, evanescent, transitory, temporal, short-lived. ANTONYMS: (adj) permanent, lasting, enduring, unforgettable, thorough, lengthy, long, slow
- fleshy:** (adj) corpulent, brawny, chubby, overweight, obese, heavy, stout, round, succulent; (adj, adv) plump; (adv) portly. ANTONYMS: (adj) slim, slender
- flickering:** (adj) sparkling, aflicker, desultory, capricious, glistening, shimmering, glittering; (n) twinkling, flicker, fluttering; (adv) flickeringly
- flit:** (n, v) dart; (v) flicker, fly, fleet, flutter, zip, flash, speed, flitter, run; (adj) stir
- flitting:** (adj) fleeting, fugitive, momentary, transient, ephemeral; (v) migration
- flooring:** (n) floorboard, floors, base, ground, bottom, floored, level, story, carpeting, bell deck, bridge decking
- floundering:** (adj) awkward, maladroit, purposeless
- flourishes:** (n) added extras, trappings, superfluties, trimmings, accompaniments, additions, embellishments
- flourishing:** (adj) thriving, palmy, healthy, successful, luxuriant, booming, verdant, lush, auspicious, favorable, rich. ANTONYMS: (adj) arid, declining, fading, poor, unhealthy
- flowering:** (adj) blooming, abloom, efflorescent, flourishing; (n) bloom, blossom, flower, anthesis, inflorescence, efflorescence, florescence
- flowery:** (adj, v) florid; (adj) bloomy, floral, blossomy, figurative, fancy, verbose, rhetorical, elaborate, ornamented; (v) gay. ANTONYM: (adj) concise
- fluctuating:** (adj) variable, unpredictable, unstable, erratic, inconstant, irresolute, mutable, unsteady, irregular, fickle; (v) fluctuate. ANTONYMS: (adj) constant, fixed
- fluctuation:** (n) vicissitude, wavering, deviation, wobble, swing, undulation, variance, oscillation, hesitation, vibration, modification. ANTONYM: (n) resolution
- flute:** (n) wineglass, furrow, groove, fluting, tooth gap, champagne flute, corrugation, plow, wood, woodwind; (v) channel
- flutter:** (adj, n, v) bustle, flurry; (n, v) beat, palpitate, flap, wave, waver, quiver; (v) flit, flitter; (n) excitement
- fluttering:** (adj) flying, palpitating, fluttering, flaring, aflare, waving; (n) flutter, flapping, flicker, flitting; (adv) flutteringly
- fluviatile:** (adj) fluviatic
- fodder:** (n) food, hay, stover, alfalfa, fare, chow; (v) provender, corn, nurture, ration, provision
- foggy:** (adj) hazy, misty, brumous, murky, blurred, bleary, fuzzy, opaque, thick, indefinite, nebulous. ANTONYMS: (adj) precise, sunny
- foist:** (n) cutter, corvette, clipper, yawl, hoy, ketch, lugger, smack; (v) inclose, introduce, inflict
- foliaceous:** (adj) foliated, leafy, foliar, foliose, foliaged
- folks:** (n) people, folk, tribe, relations, household, house, relatives, relative, kindred, lineage, kin
- follower:** (n) backer, devotee, fan, admirer, adherent, cohort, apostle, partisan, believer, attendant; (adj) lover. ANTONYMS: (n) detractor, rebel, superior, disbeliever, cynic, leader
- fondness:** (n) affection, attachment, love, taste, regard, appetite, tenderness, partiality, endearment, liking, relish. ANTONYMS: (n) aversion, indifference, neglect, antipathy, detachment, hatred
- foolishly:** (adv) idiotically, ridiculously, stupidly, indiscreetly, silly, insanely, injudiciously, preposterously, absurdly, senselessly; (adj, adv) madly. ANTONYMS: (adv) sensibly, solemnly, shrewdly, prudently, responsibly, judiciously, carefully, rationally
- foolishness:** (n) folly, fatuity, craziness, nonsense, stupidity, indiscretion, ineptitude, mistake, fatuousness, irrationality; (adj, n) silliness. ANTONYMS: (n) prudence, sense, sensibleness, understanding, forethought, responsibility
- footpad:** (n) Dick Turpin, padder, Macheath, bandit, sturdy beggar, pad, road agent, Claude Duval
- footpath:** (n) track, walk, path, trail, sidewalk, footway, walkway, trottoir, way, lane, pavement
- forbid:** (v) prohibit, ban, disallow, bar, obstruct, exclude, deny, avert, frustrate, to prohibit, enjoin. ANTONYMS: (v) allow, let, approve, authorize, stand
- forcibly:** (adv) forcefully, emphatically, powerfully, by force, mightily, under protest, cogently, hard, strongly, convincingly, clearly. ANTONYMS: (adv) voluntarily, weakly, gently
- fore:** (adv) ahead, before; (adj, adv) forward; (n) bow, head, forefront, stem; (adj, n) front; (adj) anterior, foremost, frontal. ANTONYMS: (adv) aft, behind, rear; (adj) back
- forefathers:** (n) patriarchs, forefather, ancestor, colony, lineage, family
- foreground:** (n) front, scene, panorama, window, vista; (v) bring out, emphasize, highlight, cozy up, cotton up, accentuate. ANTONYM: (v) background
- foreigner:** (adj, n) stranger; (n) outlander, outsider, unknown, barbarian, gringo, newcomer, immigrant, deportee, traveler; (adj) foreign. ANTONYMS: (n) inhabitant, domestic, citizen
- foreknowledge:** (n) precognition, prevision, clairvoyance, vision, prescience, ESP, forecast, sign, prenotation; (v) foreknow, presage
- forenoon:** (n) morning, morn, am, period, daybreak, break of the day, morning time, first light, dayspring, a, cockcrow
- foresee:** (v) expect, forecast, anticipate, envisage, preview, foreknow, prophesy, provide, foresaw, predict, see
- forester:** (n) ranger, arboriculturist, granger, sodbuster, husbandman, foster, foot, timberman, tree farmer, lumberjack, Forster
- forge:** (adj, v) falsify; (v) fake, devise, fabricate, fashion, contrive, coin, invent, construct, mould; (n, v) mint
- forgiving:** (adj) compassionate, lenient, tolerant, charitable, remissive, humane, kind, magnanimous, generous, merciful, mild. ANTONYMS: (adj) unforgiving, hardhearted, impatient, strict
- forked:** (adj) bifurcate, divided, branching, bifurcated, furcated, biramous, double, forked road, furcate, tined, forky
- forlorn:** (adj) hopeless, desolate,

- despairing, unhappy, miserable, deserted, disconsolate, downcast, cheerless, wretched, abject.
ANTONYMS: (adj) happy, hopeful, fine
- forsake:** (v) abandon, ditch, relinquish, abdicate, fail, leave, forgo, chuck, disclaim; (n, v) drop; (adj, v) quit. **ANTONYM:** (v) support
- forsaken:** (adj) deserted, abandoned, lonely, forlorn, derelict, desert, empty, solitary, friendless; (adj, v) jilted; (v) crossed in love.
ANTONYM: (adj) unforsaken
- forsaking:** (n) abandonment, desertion, apostasy, exposure, defection, bolt, renunciation, surrender, leaving, acquiescence, neglect
- forsooth:** (adv) really, actually, certainly, indeed, in truth, truly, by right; (adj) in fact, joking apart; (int) quotha
- forthwith:** (adv) directly, immediately, at once, now, instantly, straight, presently, straightaway, incontinently; (adj, adv) quickly; (adj) immediate
- fortitude:** (n) bravery, endurance, grit, pluck, backbone, determination, tenacity, firmness, strength; (adj, n) guts, spunk.
ANTONYMS: (n) cowardice, frailty, impatience
- founding:** (n) establishment, foundation, creation, institution, beginning, casting, installation, foot, start, initiation, origination.
ANTONYM: (n) demise
- fountainhead:** (n) source, well, head, wellspring, beginning, root, spring, headspring, origin, spring head, source or origin
- fowl:** (n) poultry, bird, domestic fowl, chick, cochin, birds, partlet, poult, hen, fowls, rooster
- fowls:** (n) poultry
- foxes:** (n) dogs, Canidae, family Canidae, Vulpes, genus Vulpes
- fragrance:** (n, v) aroma, perfume, scent, smell; (n) bouquet, odor, essence, odour, redolence, sweetness; (adj) fragrant.
ANTONYMS: (n) stink, stench
- fragrant:** (adj) spicy, odorous, balmy, sweet, odorant, scented, redolent, savory, fragrance, odoriferous, scent. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) smelly, putrid, malodorous, odorless
- frankincense:** (n) incense, mastic, gum, gum olibanum, thus, musk
- frankness:** (n) honesty, truth, forthrightness, candidness, freedom, sincerity, candour, plainness, bluntness, outspokenness, ingenuousness. **ANTONYMS:** (n) cunning, tact, delicacy, deceit, conformity, reticence, indirectness, evasiveness
- freeborn:** (adj) freer, ingenuous, free
- freeman:** (n) freedman, freedwoman, freewoman
- freer:** (adj) unconfined
- frequent:** (n) patron, regular, customer, habitue, attendant, guest, client, resorter
- fresco:** (n) mural, wall painting, painting; (v) distemper, water glass, tempera, paint, gouache, color; (adj) frigidity, inclemency
- fresher:** (n) fresh, lowerclassman, underclassman, neophyte, fledgeling, entrant, fledgling
- freshet:** (n, v) fresh; (v) deluge; (n) spate, stream, inundation, landflood, flock, deal, batch, flash flood
- freshness:** (adj) coolness; (n) impertinence, gall, greenness, impudence, insolence, newness, viridity, originality, crust, crispness. **ANTONYMS:** (n) oldness, clutter, humidity, mustiness
- fretted:** (adj) latticed, haggard, magged, latticelike, reticulated, reticular, interlaced. **ANTONYM:** (adj) unfretted
- fried:** (adj) fry, grilled, inebriated, daft, deranged, done, intoxicated
- friendliness:** (n) friendship, geniality, amiability, affability, amicability, affection, hospitality, cordiality, brotherhood, amicableness, accessibility. **ANTONYMS:** (n) cruelty, aloofness, nastiness, hostility, aggression, resistance, resentment, frostiness, formality, contention, belligerence
- fringed:** (adj) fibrillated, bounded, feathered, bushy, decorated, fimbriate, fimbriate, lacinate, befringed, rough, lacinated
- frisk:** (v) caper, cavort, frolic, skip, bound, search; (n, v) play, romp, leap, Fisk; (n) prance
- frivolous:** (adj) empty, foolish, dizzy, petty, idle, light, flighty, unimportant, flippant, trivial, superficial. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) important, solemn, worthwhile, vital, weighty, staid, significant, sensible, responsible, crucial, heavy
- frizzled:** (adj) kinky
- frock:** (n) dress, gown, clothing, attire, robe, kirtle, habit, clothes, coat, chemise, caftan
- frogs:** (n) adornment, point frogs, class Amphibia, caecilians, batrachian, amphibia, anuran
- fronting:** (n) facing; (adj) apparent, evident, exposed, obvious; (prep) against, toward
- frosty:** (adj, v) icy, glacial; (adj) frigid, freezing, wintry, arctic, chill, frozen, chilly, bleak, cool. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) friendly, pleasant, hot, torrid, tropical, balmy, approachable
- frugal:** (adj) thrifty, abstemious, sparing, austere, prudent, careful, provident, moderate, parsimonious; (adj, v) chary; (v) scant.
ANTONYMS: (adj) extravagant, luxurious, wasteful, hedonistic, abundant, lavish
- fruitful:** (adj) fertile, copious, profitable, abundant, plentiful, rich, fecund, good, fat, productive, lucrative. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) unproductive, barren, infertile, unfruitful, unprofitable, sterile, fruitless, destructive
- fugitive:** (adj) ephemeral, fleeting, momentary, elusive, caducous; (n) escapee, absconder, deserter, emigrant, criminal; (v) fugacious
- full-blooded:** (adj) thoroughbred, flushed, ruddy, pedigree
- fumes:** (n) gas, exhaust, exhaust fumes, smokes, smog, vapor, exhalation, steam, smoke, toxic waste, contamination
- fungi:** (n) bacteria, fungus, kingdom fungi, Thallophyta, fungus kingdom
- fungus:** (n) mushroom, blastomycete, ergot, earthstar, earthnut, candida, growth, bolete, earthball, basidiomycete, ascomycete
- furnace:** (n) forge, heater, blast furnace, fireplace, hearth, stove, oven, kiln, electric furnace, cupola, crematorium
- furnish:** (v) afford, provide, contribute, render, offer, accommodate, supply, outfit, yield, decorate; (n, v) give. **ANTONYM:** (v) divest
- furring:** (n) scaling, doubling, strip, symptom, fur, furring
- furrow:** (n, v) fold, crinkle, crease, groove, line, chamfer, rut; (n) channel, cut, ditch, trough.
ANTONYMS: (n) ridge; (v) smooth
- futurity:** (n) hereafter, futurition, timing, millennium, offing, future tense, afterlife, time to come; (v) Int

- he womb of time. ANTONYMS: (n) past, pastness
- gabardine:** (n) gaberdine, flannel, doublet, CHUDDER, camisole, barbe, pants, material, textile, trousers, vest
- gainer:** (n) diving, weight gainer, dive
- gala:** (n) fete, celebration, party, festivity, carnival, feast, holiday; (adj) festive, gay, merry, festal
- gale:** (n) blast, blow, tempest, storm, squall, hurricane, gust, wind, thunderstorm, blizzard, fresh gale. ANTONYM: (n) breeze
- gallows:** (n) gibbet, gallows, gallows-bits, hanging, noose, scaffold, halter, tree, rope, gallowstree, bough
- gaming:** (n) play, game, diversion, speculation, wager, frolic, bet, gamble, recreation, vice, betting
- ganges:** (n) Ganges river
- garb:** (n, v) dress, apparel, array, garment; (n) attire, clothing, costume, frock, outfit, clothes; (v) clothe
- garret:** (n) cockloft, loft, attic, house top, storey, level, upper story, story, dome, noggin, classical Greek
- gasping:** (adj) panting, winded, blown, out of breath, thirsty, pury; (v) spavined, touched in the wind
- gauging:** (n) measurement, estimate, discharge measurement
- gaunt:** (adj) lean, thin, cadaverous, desolate, bleak, dreary, meager, bony, angular, lanky, sullen. ANTONYMS: (adj) fresh, rounded, obese
- gauntlet:** (n) mitt, sleeve, wristband, gantlet, mitten, gloves; (v) corner stone, armored vest, buffer, mask, call to arms
- gazette:** (n) magazine, journal, newspaper, gazetteer, organ, public press, list, the press, tract, catalogue; (v) publish
- geese:** (n) ducks, goose, game birds, order Anseriformes, wildfowl, birds, Anatidae, Anseriformes, family Anatidae
- gelatinous:** (adj) jellylike, gluey, glutinous, viscous, gelatinlike, mucilaginous, albuminous, gooey, heavy, adhesive, liquid
- gems:** (n) jewels, Gemes, jewellery, trinkets, ornaments, charms
- generative:** (adj) productive, procreative, fruitful, prolific, reproductive, sexual, virile, generate, rich, spermatic, active. ANTONYM: (adj) consumptive
- genial:** (adj) cheerful, bright, affable, cordial, amiable, nice, friendly, convivial, warm, agreeable, suave. ANTONYMS: (adj) disagreeable, hostile, mean, discourteous, frosty, gloomy, reserved, unapproachable, abominable
- gentleness:** (adj, n) kindness, courtesy, benignity, compassion; (n) kindness, lenity, mildness, sweetness, softness, benevolence, mercy. ANTONYMS: (n) severity, harshness, fierceness, cruelty, ferocity, brusqueness, abruptness, rage, callousness, sharpness, roughness
- genus:** (adj, n) description, kind, character; (n) sort, genera, variety, breed, gender, kidney, type, order
- geologist:** (n) geophysicist, geological scientist, rock hound, geologist, geognost, holmes
- germ:** (n) beginning, bacterium, bud, sprout, kernel, microbe, embryo, egg, bacillus, root, seed
- germs:** (n) bacteria, germ, infection, microbes, microorganisms
- gewgaws:** (n) gay ornaments, fallals, frippery
- ghastly:** (adj) awful, fearful, cadaverous, dreadful, grisly, gruesome, macabre, hideous, appalling, atrocious; (adv) gruesomely. ANTONYMS: (adj) wonderful, lovely, attractive, delightful
- gilded:** (adj, v) gilt; (adj) rich, gold, golden, deluxe, gilden, fortunate, garish, advantageous, aurated, luxurious
- gilding:** (n) embellishment, ormolu, plating, beautification, cosmetics, decoration, enamel, adornment, prettification, coat, gold plating
- gingerbread:** (adj) bedizened, extra, fancy; (v) flimsy, unsubstantial, insubstantial; (n) ornament, trim, embellishment, frill, garnish
- giraffe:** (n) Giraffa Camelopardalis, okapi; (adj) giant, grenadier
- giraffes:** (n) antelopes, bison, camels, cattle, chevrotains, family Giraffidae, Ruminantia, suborder Ruminantia, Giraffidae
- gird:** (adv, v) encircle, environ; (v) begird, circle, girt, jest; (n) jeer, scoff, deride; (n, v) fortify, brace
- girdling:** (n) cincture
- girth:** (n) width, belt, circumference, fatness, bellyband; (n, v) cinch; (v) begird, girdle, gird, encircle, enclose
- gizzard:** (n) gastric mill, craw, crop, pocket, pouch, ventricle, breadbasket, paunch, ventriculus, maw, venter
- gladly:** (adv, v) happily; (adv) gleefully, contentedly, cheerfully, fain, joyfully, jovially, cheerily, delightedly, gladsomely, readily. ANTONYMS: (adv) reluctantly, unwillingly, sadly, resentfully, miserably
- glassy:** (adj, v) glossy; (adj) clear, glazed, smooth, flat, crystalline, dead, dull, hyaline, transparent; (v) glabrous. ANTONYMS: (adj) alert, bumpy, dull, expressive, murky, rough
- glaucous:** (adj) olive, opaque, pruinose
- gleam:** (n, v) glance, beam, blaze, shine, glimmer, glow, flash, flicker, sparkle, glitter; (v) twinkle
- gleaming:** (adj) brilliant, shiny, radiant, glossy, lustrous, glowing, beaming, resplendent; (n) gleam, glimmer; (adj, adv) a gleam. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, dirty, rough
- gleaning:** (n) farming, excretion, selection, crop
- glee:** (n) delight, cheerfulness, mirth, fun, gaiety, hilarity, joy, rejoicing, frolic, jubilation, happiness. ANTONYMS: (n) sadness, gloom, sorrow, despondency, displeasure, misery, boredom
- glide:** (adj, n, v) slide; (n, v) coast, slip; (v) float, run, fly, flow, drift, lapse, slink, skid. ANTONYMS: (v) lurch, hurtle, flounder, sink
- gliding:** (adj) sliding, flying, slipping, labent, elusory; (n) sailing, soaring, flight, glissando; (v) slither; (adv) glidingly
- glimmer:** (adj, n, v) flicker, twinkle; (n, v) gleam, shimmer, flash, sparkle, beam, glow, shine; (v) blink; (n) gleaming
- glistening:** (adj) shining, glossy, shiny, glisten, brilliant, beaming, sleek, lustrous, sparkling, reflecting light, gleaming. ANTONYM: (adj) dull
- globule:** (n) bead, drip, droplet, blob, glob, orb, pellet; (v) ball; (adj) spherule, grain; (adj, n) dash
- glorify:** (n, v) exalt, dignify, adore, honor; (v) extol, bless, eulogize, commend, laud, praise, canonize. ANTONYMS: (v) profane, mock, dishonor, condemn, humiliate
- glutton:** (n) wolverine, gormandizer, devourer, feeder, trencherman,

- cormorant, gourmand, eater, Gulo Gulo, mustelid; (adj) voracious. ANTONYM: (n) Dieter
- gluttonous:** (adj) insatiable, greedy, ravenous, avid, hoggish, edacious, swinish, grasping, covetous, avaricious, glutton. ANTONYM: (adj) abstemious
- gnarled:** (adj) knotty, knotted, gnarly, asperous, crisp, deformed, crabbed, roughhewn, wrinkled, unsmooth, unpolished. ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, unknotted, straight
- gnaw:** (v) chew, fret, crunch, corrode, nibble, eat, erode, to bite, munch, masticate; (n, v) chafe
- gnawed:** (v) gnaw, eroded
- gnawing:** (v) corroding, biting; (n) arrosion
- goaded:** (adj) provoked, forced, motivated, involuntary, aggravated, compulsive, determined, involuntary
- gobble:** (v) devour, gulp, consume, engorge, stuff, guzzle, gorge, swallow, eat, cram; (n) cry
- godlike:** (adj) celestial, heavenly, seraphic, holy, angelic, godly, divine worship, deified, elysian, foreboding, divine songs
- goodspeed:** (n) goodbye, good day, success; (int) bon voyage
- goldenrod:** (n) Asteraceae, aster family, masking paper, family Compositae, solidago, family Asteraceae, dandelion, daisy, compositae, genus solidago
- gong:** (n) bell, carillon, chime, cymbal, medal, Alexander Melville Bell, handbell, English painter, doorbell, bell shape, Alexander Graham Bell
- goody:** (n) dainty, tidbit, gammer, titbit, kickshaw, gelatin, dowager, ambrosia, Donna Belle, treat, confectionery
- goose:** (n) goof, fathead, cuckoo, barnacle, fool, jackass, brunt, brant, goosecap; (n, v) spur; (v) serpent
- gorge:** (v) glut, devour, cram, fill, gobble, satiate, stuff; (n) abyss, cleft, esophagus, chasm. ANTONYMS: (v) nibble, fast; (n) hill
- gossamer:** (adj) thin, sheer, filmy, diaphanous, delicate, fine, cobwebby, gauzy, down; (adj, n) cobweb; (n) gauze. ANTONYMS: (adj) opaque, robust, thick, heavy
- graceful:** (adj) beautiful, delicate, amiable, easy, fine, charming, fair, airy, becoming, lovely, lithe. ANTONYMS: (adj) inelegant,
- stocky, awkward, vigorous, jerky, ugly, stilted, heavy, coarse, strenuous
- gracefully:** (adv) prettily, graciously, neatly, delicately, smoothly, charmingly, refinedly, lithely, easily, daintily, nicely. ANTONYMS: (adv) awkwardly, ungraciously, clumsily, gracelessly, vigorously, unpleasantly, unkindly, heavily
- gracefulness:** (n) grace, agility, neatness, prettiness, refinement, delicacy, carriage, legerity, lightness, nimbleness; (adj) readiness. ANTONYM: (n) inelegance
- grading:** (n) classification, sorting, leveling, marking, sizing, blending, progressive interconnection, separation, order, screening, ordering
- graduated:** (adj) gradational, gradatory, equal, measured, proportional, regressive, calibrated; (n) graduate
- granary:** (n) garner, warehouse, storage, grange, store, storehouse, cornloft, depot, farm, lathe, entrepot
- grandeur:** (n) dignity, splendor, magnitude, brilliance, glory, pomp, elegance, majesty, magnificence, grandness; (adj, n) solemnity. ANTONYMS: (n) modesty, simplicity
- grandly:** (adj) splendidly, gorgeously, magnificently, regally, majestically, beautifully, stately, grandiosely, illustriously, superbly, greatly. ANTONYMS: (adv) simply, humbly
- grape:** (n) grapes, grapevine, vine, raisin, table grape, muscadine, fox grape, edible fruit, common grape vine, bullace grape
- grapes:** (v) clam, chupatty, compote, damper, fish, frumenty, chowder; (n) vintage
- graphically:** (adv) pictorially, picturesquely, diagrammatically, visually, clearly, lively, tellingly, strikingly, precisely, graphically, expressively
- grappling:** (n) wrestling, braving, coping with, facing, face, confronting, grappler, try, grapplement, struggle, attempt
- grasping:** (adj) avaricious, covetous, acquisitive, greedy, avid, voracious, rapacious, grabby, mercenary, stingy; (n) seizing. ANTONYMS: (adj) generous, altruistic
- grassy:** (adj) verdant, gramineous, weedy, herby, woody, fertile,
- blossoming, abundant, leafy, lush, flourishing. ANTONYMS: (adj) grassless, urban, withering
- grate:** (v) grind, creak, scrape, abrade, gall, gnash, fret, rub, aggravate, provoke; (n) lattice
- gratification:** (adj, n) delight; (n, v) content; (n) enjoyment, pleasure, satisfaction, fruition, complacency, joy, luxury, treat, fulfillment. ANTONYMS: (n) dissatisfaction, disenchantment, dismay, discontent, anxiety
- grating:** (adj) hoarse, strident, harsh, discordant, gravelly, raspy, gruff, raucous; (n, v) lattice; (n) grate, grid. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasing, soothing, smooth, harmonious
- gratuitous:** (adj) complimentary, unnecessary, needless, superfluous, for nothing, gratis, unwarranted, costless, free of charge, unfounded; (adj, v) voluntary. ANTONYMS: (adj) necessary, paid, provoked, justified
- gratuitously:** (adv) needlessly, spontaneously, complementarily, freely, unnecessarily, groundlessly, unwarrantedly, pointlessly, wantonly, voluntarily, superfluously
- gravelly:** (adj) grating, gritty, gravel, pebbly, shingly, rough, hoarse, raspy, rasping, gruff, harsh. ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, velvety
- gravely:** (adv) seriously, soberly, severely, solemnly, badly, staidly, momentarily, heavily, earnestly, weightily, grievously. ANTONYMS: (adv) lightheartedly, mildly, slightly; (adj) soft
- graveyard:** (n) burial ground, churchyard, necropolis, burying ground, burial site, site, burial place, radioactive cemetery, memorial park, morgue
- gravitate:** (v) tend, slip, slide, descend, cumber, drift; (adj) load, press, weigh. ANTONYM: (v) rise
- greasy:** (adj) fatty, dirty, oily, tallowy, slick, sebaceous, unclean, unctuous, slippery, adipose, oleaginous. ANTONYM: (adj) lean
- greatcoat:** (n) coat, topcoat, capote, chesterfield, surcoat, Ulster
- greatness:** (n) excellence, dimension, dignity, bulk, size, enormousness, bigness, enormity, grandness, magnitude, fame. ANTONYMS: (n) obscurity, austerity, commonness, mildness, moderation, simplicity
- grecian:** (adj) Hellenic, Achaian,

- classical; (n) cheat
- greedily:** (adv) covetously, avidly, voraciously, ravenously, rapaciously, acquisitively, gluttonously, hungrily, graspingly, eagerly, enviously. ANTONYM: (adv) sparingly
- greenish:** (adj) green, virescent, viridescent, fleecy, envious, covetous, chromatic, porraceous
- greenness:** (n) green, freshness, viridity, verdure, greenery, verdancy, emerald, chartreuse, richness, immaturity, profuseness. ANTONYMS: (n) ripeness, experience
- gregariousness:** (n) camaraderie. ANTONYM: (n) shyness
- grenadiers:** (n) Macrouridae
- grievance:** (n) injustice, wrong, grudge, affliction, protest, objection, disaffection, discontentment, dissatisfaction; (adj) annoyance; (adj, n) distress. ANTONYMS: (n) justice, praise
- grieve:** (n, v) distress, aggrieve, afflict, sorrow, annoy; (v) trouble, lament, deplore, bemoan, fret, bewail. ANTONYMS: (v) rejoice, celebrate, encourage
- grieved:** (adj) sore, sad, sorry, sorrowful, upset, woeful, pained, affected, brokenhearted
- grind:** (n, v) labor, toil, comminute, drudge; (v) grate, crunch, abrade, chew, scrape, mash; (n) mill. ANTONYMS: (v) blunt, smooth
- grist:** (n) cereal, fuel, plenty, raft, considerable, dose, profit, gain, avail, interest, abundance
- groceries:** (n) foodstuff, provisions, chow, victuals, grocery, compensation, earnings, essential, fare, fundamental, heart
- grocery:** (n) foodstuff, marketplace, grocery store, preserve, supermarket, julep, jam, mart, food market, confiture, consumer goods
- groove:** (n, v) channel, rut, chamfer, score, crease; (v) flute; (n) ditch, cut, track, custom, notch. ANTONYMS: (n) bump, ridge
- groping:** (adj) fumbling, gropingly, investigative, uncertain, blind, probing, tentative, uncertain, unsure, hesitant, exploratory
- grotesque:** (adj) fantastic, bizarre, funny, antic, absurd, droll, strange, baroque, weird, ugly, hideous. ANTONYMS: (adj) lovely, normal, commonplace, attractive
- groundnut:** (n) goober, monkey nut, earthnut, goober pea, Indian potato, *Apios americana*, tuber, vine, *conopodium denudatum*, dwarf ginseng, giant sunflower
- grovelling:** (adj) groveling, base, abject, menial, vulgar, slavish, servile, obsequious, low, wormlike, earthbred
- growl:** (adj, n, v) snarl; (n, v) roar, bark, howl, yap, moan, thunder; (v) gnarl, mutter, complain, croak
- grub:** (n, v) drudge; (v) dig, feed, delve, eat, scour; (n) food, eats, chuck, maggot, chow. ANTONYM: (v) plant
- grubbing:** (adj) studious
- gruel:** (n) mess, congee, loblolly, paste, waste, porridge, mush, pap, skilly, wet feed
- guile:** (n) fraud, cunning, craft, duplicity, deception, trickery, deceitfulness, wiliness, craftiness, artifice, slyness. ANTONYMS: (n) honesty, straightforwardness, candor, frankness
- guise:** (n) form, dress, aspect, costume, disguise, fashion, pretense, camouflage, attire, figure, color
- gull:** (n, v) fool, cheat, deceive; (v) beguile, bamboozle, cod, befool, take in, kid; (n) chump, cully
- gunny:** (n) burlap, bagging, gunny-cloth, gunney, gunny-bags, sacking, hessian sack
- guttural:** (adj) hoarse, throaty, gruff, croaking, husky, harsh, velar, raucous, grum; (n) dental; (v) nasal. ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, smooth, high
- habitation:** (adj, n) abode; (n) domicile, residence, house, home, habitat, lodging, place, occupancy, inhabitation, inhabitancy. ANTONYM: (n) vacancy
- habitually:** (adv) usually, ordinarily, normally, generally, regularly, frequently, commonly, routinely, conventionally, wantonly, commonplacely. ANTONYM: (adv) unusually, seldom, erratically, exceptionally, occasionally
- hacking:** (n) cut, drudge
- haddock:** (n) gadoid fish, gadoid, finnan haddock, finnan haddie
- half-witted:** (adj) imbecile, idiotic, foolish, weak-minded, simple, half-baked, dull, retarded, dense
- halo:** (n) halation, aura, glory, ring, circle, corona, nimbus, hoop, aureola, band, anchor ring
- halves:** (n) semi, share
- hammered:** (adj) drunk
- hammering:** (n) beating, pounding, pound, fagging, drudgery, needle hammer, defeat, knock, failure, British pound, Ezra Loomin Pound. ANTONYM: (n) victory
- handsomely:** (adv) liberally, prettily, magnanimously, bonnily, largely, lovely, charmingly, finely, generously, good-lookingly, smartly. ANTONYM: (adv) poorly
- harass:** (n, v) distress, annoy; (v) plague, fret, beset, tease, pester, disturb; (adj, v) molest, worry, tire. ANTONYMS: (v) defend, delight, encourage, praise, comfort
- harassed:** (adj) annoyed, pestered, irritated, bothered, annoy, jittery, worried, troubled, beleaguered, obsessed, harried. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, carefree
- harbor:** (n) dock, asylum, wharf; (n, v) cover, port, harbour, shelter; (v) shield, contain, cherish, conceal. ANTONYM: (v) relieve
- harborless:** (v) guardless, fenceless
- hard-favored:** (adj) ugly
- hard-hearted:** (adj) remorseless, ruthless, unkind, obdurate, pitiless, heartless, merciless, unaffected, unconcerned, uninterested, cold-blooded
- hardiness:** (n) strength, tolerance, sturdiness, vigor, toughness, durability, bravery, mettle, audacity, nerve, spirit. ANTONYMS: (n) defeatism, flimsiness
- hardness:** (n) austerity, asperity, callousness, difficulty, rigor, consistency, stiffness, cruelty, arduousness, tightness, insensibility. ANTONYMS: (n) ease, limpness, malleability
- hard-working:** (adj) studious, industrious, painstaking, active, dedicated, tireless
- harem:** (n) hareem, quarters, zenana, serail
- hares:** (n) *Lagomorpha*
- hark:** (v) harken, hear, hearken, heed, listen in; (n) look here, look you, look
- harlequin:** (n) clown, jester, mime, mountebank, charlatan, acrobat, punch; (adj) Proteus, Ariel, Camilla, chameleon
- harmonious:** (adj) congenial, musical, consonant, amicable, peaceful, gentle, consistent, compatible, friendly, harmonical, calm. ANTONYMS: (adj) discordant, dissonant, harsh, hostile, bitter, incompatible, inharmonious,

- miserable, disagreeable, disruptive, unbalanced
- harmonized:** (adj) harmonical, consonant, harmonic, harmonious, concordant, identical, coordinated, uniform, synchronized, standardized, in harmony. ANTONYM: (adj) heterogeneous
- harp:** (n) lyre, harmonica, harper, lute, mouth harp; (v) dwell, ingeminate, iterate, restate, reiterate, retell
- harrowing:** (adj) agonizing, excruciating, painful, distressing, torturous, disturbing, tormenting, traumatic, frightful, terrible; (v) rending. ANTONYMS: (adj) heartening, pleasing, safe
- harshly:** (adv) roughly, severely, sternly, sharply, cruelly, hoarsely, strictly, pitilessly, rigorously, rigidly; (adj, adv) piercingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) softly, harmoniously, quietly, gently, elaborately, leniently, smoothly, tolerantly, cheerfully, loosely, pleasantly
- harvesting:** (n) gathering, gather, harvest home, crop, reap, plucking, harvests, ingathering, reaping, farming, harvest time
- haste:** (n, v) hurry, dash, dispatch, rush; (n) celerity, expedition, rapidity, speed, bustle, hastiness, quickness. ANTONYMS: (n) delay, patience, forethought, caution
- hasten:** (adj, n, v) speed, quicken; (v) expedite, advance, hurry, hie, dash, rush; (n, v) further, forward, dispatch. ANTONYMS: (v) linger, retard, amble
- hasty:** (adj) fast, abrupt, cursory, fleet, sudden, rash, impetuous, careless, speedy, hurried, quick. ANTONYMS: (adj) deliberate, considered, leisurely, sensible, gradual, thorough, cautious, careful, roundabout, prudent, patient
- hatched:** (adj) crosshatched, born, ruled
- hatching:** (n) hatchure, hatch, crosshatch, parturition, incubation, shading, birthing; (adj) brood, brooding, contemplative, broody
- haughty:** (adj) supercilious, arrogant, assuming, contemptuous, proud, lordly, cavalier, vain, contumelious, grand; (n) boastful. ANTONYMS: (adj) modest, meek, subservient, unassuming, considerate, deferential
- haunt:** (n, v) resort, ghost; (n) den, hangout, home; (v) pursue, follow, stalk, afflict, persecute; (adj) harass
- haunted:** (adj) ghostly, ghostlike, phantom, taken up, preoccupied, possessed, unearthly, magical, mad, infatuated, concerned
- hawk:** (v) peddle, cough, expectorate, sell, vend, hunt, huckster; (n) eagle, goshawk, harrier, buzzard
- hawks:** (n) Falconiformes, caracaras, order Falconiformes, harriers
- hay:** (n) harvest home, harvesting, making of hay, haying time
- haze:** (n) fog, cloud, confusion, vapor, blur, daze, film, cloudiness, turbidity; (n, v) mist; (v) dim. ANTONYMS: (n) clarity, brightness
- hazy:** (adj) fuzzy, cloudy, vague, blurred, foggy, nebulous, misty, indistinct, blurry, faint, dull. ANTONYMS: (adj) bright, distinct, precise, sunny, thick, detailed, definite, strong
- headlong:** (adj, adv) headfirst; (adv) directly, hastily, precipitately; (adj) rash, hurried, desperate, precipitous, impetuous, sudden, precipitate. ANTONYMS: (adj) cautiously, considered; (adv) carefully
- headway:** (n) advancement, way, advance, headroom, forward movement, speed, progress, head, clearance, development; (v) flood. ANTONYMS: (n) deterioration, regression
- heaps:** (adj, n) lots, much; (n) masses, oodles, piles, stacks, many, tons, plenty, lot, accumulation. ANTONYM: (adj) inadequate
- hearer:** (n) audience, listener, eavesdropper, observer, perceiver, earwitness, attendant, attendee, attender, audient, beholder
- hearth:** (n) fire, oven, fireside, stove, chimney, focus, furnace, dwelling, kiln, home, abode
- heartily:** (adv) cordially, sincerely, enthusiastically, warmly, strongly, earnestly, vigorously, ardently, soundly, devoutly, eagerly. ANTONYMS: (adv) feebly, languorously
- heartly:** (adj) heartfelt, healthy, genial, sturdy, cheering, fervent, wholehearted, lusty, enthusiastic, convivial; (adj, n) well. ANTONYMS: (adj) unhealthy, frail, old, weak, sluggish, unwholesome, meager
- heathen:** (adj, n) gentile, ethnic; (n) infidel, idolater, paynim, heretic; (adj) heathenish, irreligious, gjaour, godless, barbaric
- heathenish:** (adj) pagan, gothic, paganish, savage, doggerel, tramontane, barbarous, gentile, brutal, ethnic, ferocious
- heave:** (n, v) cast, fling, raise, gasp, toss, lift; (v) chuck, haul, elevate, pitch, billow. ANTONYMS: (v) push, drop
- heavenly:** (adj) celestial, blissful, ethereal, delightful, angelic, blessed, elysian, holy, unearthly, godlike, sacred. ANTONYMS: (adj) worldly, miserable, infernal, hellish, unappealing, dreadful, turbulent
- heaving:** (v) tremor, twitter; (adj) swelling, full, full up, jammed; (n) murmur, forcing out, groan, grumble, mutter. ANTONYM: (adj) deserted
- hebe:** (adj) the Graces, houri, Hyperion, peri, narcissus, Venus; (n) Adonis, Apollo, Cupid
- hebrews:** (n) epistle to the Hebrews
- heedless:** (adj) careless, reckless, inattentive, neglectful, negligent, thoughtless, rash, regardless, unwary, indifferent; (adj, v) wanton. ANTONYMS: (adj) heedful, attentive, mindful, conscientious, prudent, careful, cautious
- heedlessly:** (adv) inattentively, thoughtlessly, negligently, recklessly, neglectfully, unthinkingly, hastily, rashly, inadvertently, incautiously, imprudently. ANTONYM: (adv) carefully
- heedlessness:** (n) neglect, rashness, carelessness, inattention, inadvertence, recklessness, indifference, inattentiveness, foolhardiness, disregard, temerity. ANTONYMS: (n) mindfulness, caution
- helm:** (n) wheel, haft, handle, tiller, shank, rudder, steering wheel, shaft, hilt, haln; (v) helmet
- helve:** (n) handle, grip, handgrip, helm, hold, helmet, director
- hemlock:** (n) hemlock spruce, poison hemlock, California fern, Nebraska fern, conium maculatum, eastern hemlock, wood, nightshade, herbane, Tsuga, poison parsley
- hemp:** (n) cannabis, dope, ganja, grass, flax, halter, rope, abaca, gage; (adj) marijuana, pot
- henceforth:** (adv) hence, in future, after this; (adj) following
- herb:** (n) plant, wort, herbage,

- amaranth, cottonweed, agueweed, drypis, dittany, dill, digitalis, dayflower
- herculean:** (adj) cyclopean, prodigious, formidable, powerful, brawny, laborious, difficult, hard, giant, gigantic; (v) paestric
- hercules:** (adj, n) atlas; (n) atlantes, Caryatides, Samson, Alcides, giant, Goliath, Herakles, Cyclops, Persides; (adj) superman
- herdsman:** (n) herder, drover, shepherd, goatherd, cad, gillie, herdman, pastoral, herd, cowherd, stockman
- hereabouts:** (adv) hereabout, thereabouts
- herein:** (adv) here, therein
- hermit:** (n) anchorite, ascetic, solitary, anchoret, eremite, monk, troglodyte, solitaire, loner, caveman, cave man
- heroism:** (n) bravery, courage, valor, daring, boldness, chivalry, valiancy, valour, valiance, courageousness; (adj, n) prowess. ANTONYMS: (n) cowardliness, fearfulness
- herons:** (n) Ardeidae, bitterns, egrets, family Ardeidae
- hesperides:** (n) Atlantides
- hewn:** (adj) downed
- hickories:** (n) walnut family, Juglandaceae
- hickory:** (n) mockernut hickory, hickory tree, pignut, shellbark, shagbark, mockernut, club, brown hickory, black hickory, big shellbark, bitter pignut
- hideous:** (adj) dreadful, frightful, fearful, ghastly, horrid, ugly, repulsive, lurid, horrible, grisly, grim. ANTONYMS: (adj) lovely, pleasant, beautiful, wonderful
- hieroglyphic:** (adj) hieroglyphical, illegible; (v) arrowhead, ogham, runes, cuneiform character, uncial writing; (n) writing, orthography, ideograph, hieratic script
- hilarious:** (adj) gay, convivial, humorous, funny, happy, jovial, blithe, merry, jaunty, festive, laughable. ANTONYMS: (adj) sad, tragic
- hilltop:** (n) brow, peak, summit, top, pinnacle, hill, acme, height, zenith, apex; (adj) outdoor
- hinder:** (v) impede, resist, check, hamper, obstruct, curb, handicap, delay; (n, v) bar; (adj) posterior, hind. ANTONYMS: (v) help, facilitate, assist, prompt, encourage, promote, allow, support, accelerate
- hindered:** (adj) obstructed, blocked, delayed, stalled, slowed down, slow, in an inferior position, in a weak position, impeded, thwarted, frustrated
- hindoo:** (n) Brahman, Vaishnava, Kshatriya, Hindustani, gentoo, Brahmin, chela; (adj) Hindi
- hindrance:** (n, v) difficulty, obstacle, block, check, delay; (n) deterrent, barrier, obstruction, impediment, inconvenience, disturbance. ANTONYMS: (n) advantage, contribution, assistance, success, boost, incentive, strength
- hippocrates:** (n) Galen
- hiring:** (n) employee, pensionary, hackney, puppet, hack, pensioner, servant, labor, soldier of fortune, tool; (adj) venal
- hiring:** (n) employment, engagement, staffing, booking
- hirundo:** (n) genus *Hirundo*
- hissing:** (adj) sibilant, sibilous, sibilatory; (n) whistling, heckling, scoffing, sibilance, taunts, sibilation, white noise; (v) fizzle. ANTONYM: (n) applause
- hither:** (adv) here, whither, hitherward, thither
- hive:** (adj) swarm, herd; (v) store, SE nicher; (n) concourse, hiding place, cave, cell, den, aerie, eyry
- hives:** (n) urticaria, rash, efflorescence, eruption, urtication, skin complaint
- hoarse:** (adj) gruff, husky, raucous, grating, strident, guttural, rough, throaty; (v) coarse; (adj, v) hollow, sepulchral. ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, mellow, velvety, high
- hoary:** (adj) ancient, hoar, old, white, grey, elderly, musty, dull, canescent, antique, archaic
- hobble:** (n, v) limp, hick, fetter; (v) hamper, hopple, handcuff, bridle, manacle, hinder; (adv) toddle; (adj) scrape
- hogs:** (n) Suidae, boars, family Suidae, stock
- hogshead:** (n) cask, barrel, vat
- holiness:** (n) sanctity, godliness, piety, religion, righteousness, goodness, devotion, divinity, faithfulness, halidom; (adj, n) religiousness. ANTONYMS: (n) wickedness, unholiness
- hollander:** (n) Netherlander, grinding machine
- hollowed:** (adj) concave
- homage:** (n) allegiance, obeisance, fealty, accolade, honor, loyalty, worship, veneration, deference, devotion, compliment
- homer:** (n) homing pigeon, poet, Winslow homer, bingle, referee, cor, kor, basking shark, base hit, triumph
- homesick:** (adj) nostalgic, longing, wistful, unhappy, lonesome
- homestead:** (n, v) farm; (n) home, abode, farmhouse, farmstead, dwelling, habitation, estate, demesne, homestall, house
- homeward:** (adj) oriented, orientated
- hominy:** (v) hardtack, hoecake, corn, edible corn
- honeycomb:** (n) beehive, honeycomb cracking, chaser, Combe, currycomb; (v) perforate, penetrate, vary, riddle; (adj) honeycombed, alveolate
- honeycombed:** (adj) pitted, cavitated, faveolate, alveolate, cellular, cavernous; (v) follicular, cribriform, infundibular, riddled
- honk:** (v) blare, toot, tootle, hoot, puke, gag, heave, cronk, claxon, blow; (n, v) blast
- honor:** (n, v) respect, reputation, glory, fame, reward; (n) award, accolade, reverence; (v) celebrate; (adj, n, v) worship, grace. ANTONYMS: (n, v) dishonor, disgrace; (n) shame, humiliation, wickedness, contempt, insult; (v) break, ignore, disrespect, discredit
- honorable:** (adj) good, estimable, exalted, respectable, fair, decent, reputable, ethical, honor; (adj, v) great, noble. ANTONYMS: (adj) shameful, disgraceful, corrupt, degenerate, immoral, humiliating, dishonest, unethical, decadent, bad, deceitful
- honored:** (adj) esteemed, reputable, respected, honoured, privileged, glorious, distinguished, honorable, worshipful, exalted, revered. ANTONYMS: (adj) disadvantaged, disreputable
- honored:** (n) formality
- hooked:** (adj) bent, curved, aquiline, addicted, infatuated, obsessed, enamored, dependent, dependant, engrossed, uncinat. ANTONYM: (adj) unenthusiastic
- hooks:** (n) maulers, meat hooks
- horizontally:** (adv) evenly, flatly, planely, straightly, frigidly, dully, barwise, smoothly, recumbently, prostrately; (adj) crosswise
- hornbeam:** (n) tree, hardbeam
- horned:** (adj) cornuted, somm, horny, sharp, cuckolded, cornigerous, bearing horns, having horns.

- ANTONYM: (adj) hornless
- horrid:** (adj) grisly, ghastly, ugly, gruesome, grim, fearful, dreadful, direful, dire, horrible, fearsome.
- ANTONYMS: (adj) lovely, nice, appealing, attractive, kind
- horrors:** (adj) pessimism, vapors, spleen, migrains; (n) delirium tremens
- horseman:** (n) cavalier, rider, jockey, horse fancier, horseback rider, trooper, trainer, knight, cavalryman, animal fancier, postilion
- hospitable:** (adj) affable, receptive, gracious, cordial, generous, amiable, convivial, genial, pleasant, warm, to enjoy having guests. ANTONYMS: (adj) unwelcoming, inhospitable, sinister, hostile
- hound:** (v) bloodhound, chase, hunt, follow, badger, course, bait, pursue; (n) greyhound, blackguard, cad. ANTONYM: (v) soothe
- hounding:** (n) maltreatment, hunt, harassment, bullying
- hourly:** (adv) always, by the hour, daily, often, constantly, continually, frequently; (adj) horary, continual, ephemeral; (n) an hour
- housekeeping:** (n) housewifery, household, domestic science
- hovering:** (adj) suspended, poised, impending, flying, high
- howl:** (n, v) cry, roar, scream, bark, shout, yell, bay, yelp; (v) bawl, growl, yawl. ANTONYM: (v) laugh
- huckleberry:** (n) bilberry, dangleberry, whortleberry, shrub, blueberry bush
- humane:** (adj, n) gentle, compassionate, beneficent, gracious; (adj) clement, kind, charitable, merciful, good, tender, benignant. ANTONYMS: (adj) inhumane, foul, harsh, selfish
- humanely:** (adv) kindly, benevolently, humanitarianly, mercifully, benignly, sympathetically, compassionately, beneficently, considerably, philanthropically, nicely. ANTONYM: (adv) cruelly
- humbly:** (adv) lowly, meanly, modestly, submissively, low, shyly, lowly, naturally, regretfully, remorsefully, repentantly. ANTONYMS: (adv) conceitedly, haughtily, pompously, ostentatiously, unrepentantly, affluently, brashly, pretentiously
- humility:** (n) diffidence, modesty, submission, shyness, meekness, lowliness, timidity, trait, humiliation, resignation; (adj) veneration. ANTONYMS: (n) haughtiness, affectation, conceit, arrogance
- humming:** (adj) droning, zippy, reeking, bustling, grunting, stinking; (n) buzzing, vocalizing, sound, murmur, growling
- hummingbirds:** (n) trochilidae
- hummock:** (adj, n) knoll; (n) hillock, mound, barrow, kopje, hammock, ledge, spur, hump, heap, cumulus
- humor:** (n, v) caprice, freak, humor; (n) temper, mood, disposition, wit; (v) indulge, gratify; (adj, n) spirit, frame of mind. ANTONYMS: (n) seriousness, gravity, solemnity; (v) displease
- humorous:** (adj) comical, funny, comic, droll, playful, hilarious, jocose, farcical, jocular; (adj, n) facetious, witty. ANTONYMS: (adj) serious, tragic, humorless, dull
- hunted:** (adj) coursed, afraid, wanted, required, sought, sought after; (n) victim
- husbandman:** (n, v) cultivator; (n) agriculturist, granger, countryman, planter, sodbuster, apiarist, apiculturist, arboriculturist, dairyman; (v) tiller
- husbandry:** (n) cultivation, farming, economy, frugality, culture, conservation, thrift, tillage, dairying, horticulture, gardening
- hush:** (adj, n, v) calm, silence, quiet, still, lull; (n) peace; (v) shut up, gag, quieten, muffle; (adj, v) soothe. ANTONYMS: (n) noise, turmoil; (v) Louden
- hushed:** (adj) calm, silent, still, subdued, placid, muffled, noiseless, soft, soundless, tranquil, gentle. ANTONYM: (adj) noisy
- hustling:** (n) jostlement, haste, crowding; (adj) enterprising
- hybrid:** (adj) crossbred, mongrel, amphibious, epicene, amorphous, heterogeneous; (v) composite; (n) cross, mixture, mule, loanblend
- hyperborean:** (adj) northern, hyperboreal, cold, antipodean
- hypocrisy:** (n, v) insincerity; (n) cant, dissimulation, falsity, deception, falseness, sanctimony, deceit, lip service; (v) double dealing; (adj) hypocritical. ANTONYMS: (n) sincerity, honesty
- idiotic:** (adj) absurd, foolish, fatuous, imbecile, crazy, stupid, ridiculous, mindless, silly, unwise, daft.
- ANTONYMS: (adj) wise, genius, clever
- idleness:** (n) lethargy, laziness, torpor, inactivity, idling, unemployment, sloth, inaction, inertia, faineance, idlesse.
- ANTONYMS: (n) energy, activity, bustle, liveliness, responsibility
- idly:** (adj, adv) foolishly; (adv) vainly, vaguely, listlessly, forgetfully, distractedly; (adj) thoughtlessly.
- ANTONYM: (adv) energetically
- ignoble:** (adj) contemptible, abject, base, dishonorable, disgraceful, beggarly, mean, humble, degraded, despicable, caddish. ANTONYMS: (adj) honorable, glorious
- illiterate:** (adj) uneducated, rude, unschooled, unlearned, untaught, empty, green, letterless, uninstructed, unread; (n) analphabetic. ANTONYMS: (adj) educated, economical
- illusive:** (adj) deceptive, false, delusive, imaginary, fallacious, unreal, seeming, ostensible, apparent, fanciful, fantastic
- illusory:** (adj) deceptive, unreal, imaginary, fantastic, delusive, fictitious, fanciful, deceitful, insubstantial, visionary, fallacious. ANTONYMS: (adj) real, honest, genuine
- illustrious:** (adj, n) glorious, celebrated, excellent, grand; (adj) famous, bright, eminent, famed, distinguished, brilliant, well-known. ANTONYMS: (adj) unknown, obscure, ordinary, undistinguished, lowly
- ill-will:** (n) enmity
- imaginable:** (adj) conceivable, possible, thinkable, plausible, earthly, believable, credible, feasible, immediate, likely, near. ANTONYMS: (adj) unimaginable, implausible
- imaging:** (n) imagery, evocation, imagination, radioscapy, chimera, dream, dreaming, envisioning, image transfer, imaginativeness, mental imagery
- imagining:** (n) conception, daydream, fantasy, opinion; (v) imagine; (adj) imaginant
- imbricated:** (v) ironclad, loricated; (adj) unsmooth
- imbrute:** (v) emburate
- imitate:** (n, v) duplicate; (v) forge, ape, emulate, follow, feign, counterfeit, mimic, mock, assume, act

imitated: (adj) mimical
immeasurable: (adj) endless, immense, infinite, huge, enormous, illimitable, unmeasurable, incalculable, inestimable, innumerable, interminable. ANTONYMS: (adj) limited, minute, finite, shallow, slight, negligible, tiny, few, minor, small
immersed: (adj) submerged, engrossed, deep, underwater, sunk, dipped, covered, engaged, profound, rapt, riveted. ANTONYMS: (adj) detached, superficial, bored
immigrant: (adj, n) alien, foreigner, stranger, newcomer; (n) emigrant, settler, colonist, pioneer, migrator; (adj) foreign, *novus homo*. ANTONYMS: (n) native, emigrant
immoral: (adj) evil, bad, depraved, indecent, dissolute, corrupt, criminal, unprincipled, dirty, unfair, lewd. ANTONYMS: (adj) moral, decent, honest, ethical, principled, good, restrained, amoral, right, righteous, pure
immortal: (adj) eternal, enduring, undying, endless, monumental; (adj, v) deathless, imperishable, celebrated; (n) deity, God, divinity. ANTONYMS: (adj) obscure, earthly, forgettable, perishable, temporary
immortality: (n) sempiternity, perpetuity, *athanasia*, glory, *aye*, fame, everness, immortal, permanency, deathlessness, undying. ANTONYM: (n) mortality
impart: (v) give, convey, disclose, communicate, announce, grant, reveal, hand, bestow, divulge, confer. ANTONYMS: (v) withhold, withdraw
impartial: (adj) just, equitable, disinterested, unprejudiced, unbiased, dispassionate, even-handed, candid, even, evenhanded, detached. ANTONYMS: (adj) partial, partisan, prejudiced, subjective, unfair, unjust
impartially: (adv) justly, dispassionately, neutrally, evenly, disinterestedly, objectively, unbiasedly, unprejudicedly, indifferently, evenhandedly, rightly. ANTONYM: (adv) unfairly
impelled: (adj) prompted, provoked, determined, compulsive, encouraged, goaded, motivated, bound
imperfect: (adj) faulty, deficient, defective, unfinished, incomplete,

poor, flawed, partial, inadequate, broken, fallible. ANTONYMS: (adj) perfect, whole, unblemished, adequate, complete, sound, boundless, capable, flawless
imperfection: (adj, n) frailty; (n) fault, blemish, defect, deficiency, flaw, weakness, disadvantage, vice, foible, shortcoming. ANTONYMS: (n) perfection, strength
imperishable: (adj) immortal, eternal, abiding, deathless, enduring, permanent, perpetual, perennial, incorruptible; (adj, v) undying, indestructible. ANTONYMS: (adj) temporary, fragile
impertinent: (adj) fresh, pert, saucy, forward, audacious, brash, brazen, extraneous, discourteous, disrespectful, flippant. ANTONYMS: (adj) respectful, polite, courteous
impervious: (adj) impenetrable, inaccessible, callous, impassable, imperviable, invulnerable, waterproof, tight, resistant, insensitive, *pachydermatous*. ANTONYMS: (adj) vulnerable, pervious, susceptible, affected, penetrable, receptive, scared, sensitive
impetuous: (adj) boisterous, hasty, fiery, headlong, heady, hot, brash, foolhardy, dashing, fierce; (adj, v) impulsive. ANTONYMS: (adj) considered, careful, slow, sensible, patient
implements: (n) equipment, apparatus, gear, tackle, rigging, outfit, hardware, trappings
importing: (n) importation, mercantilism, commercialism, commerce
impoverished: (adj) indigent, broke, needy, poor, penniless, miserable, impecunious, bankrupt, barren, broken, strapped. ANTONYMS: (adj) rich, enriched, solvent
impressible: (adj) impressionable, sensitive, soft, delicate, sensible, adhesive, easily affected, fine, gentle, courteous, easy
impressively: (adv) strikingly, splendidly, grandly, magnificently, majestically, movingly, massively, heroically, commandingly, remarkably, arrestingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) weakly, execrably, slightly, simply
improperly: (adv) wrongly, unbecomingly, badly, inappropriately, indecorously,

indecently, faultily, unseemly, incongruously, illicitly, illegitimately. ANTONYMS: (adv) suitably, morally, fittingly, correctly, justifiably, perfectly, well, lawfully, honestly, acceptably, decently
impropriety: (n) barbarism, obscenity, indecorum, error, rudeness, indelicacy, incorrectness, solecism, wrongness; (adj) immorality, inaptitude. ANTONYMS: (n) decency, correctness
improvable: (adj) curable
improvidence: (n) waste, profligacy, carelessness, prodigality, dissipation, imprudence, lavishness, wastefulness, incoaction, inculture, shortsightedness. ANTONYM: (n) Providence
impudent: (adj, n) bold, daring; (adj) disrespectful, audacious, impertinent, brassy, barefaced, brazen, insolent, brash, cheeky. ANTONYMS: (adj) polite, cowardly
impunity: (n) impune, come off, freedom, immunity, permission, forgiveness. ANTONYM: (n) liability
impure: (adj) defiled, dirty, unclean, squalid, sordid, filthy, bastard, foul, immoral, profane, contaminated. ANTONYMS: (adj) unmixed, clean
impurity: (n) impureness, pollution, filth, dirtiness, admixture, defilement, dirt, dross, adulteration, foulness, corruption. ANTONYM: (n) cleanliness
inaccessible: (adj) impervious, remote, impenetrable, distant, unapproachable, unattainable, untouchable, unobtainable, unaccessible, impossible, aloof. ANTONYMS: (adj) available, nearby, attainable, approachable, achievable
inadequacy: (n) imperfection, defect, inability, failure, shortage, incompetence, fault, deficit, inadequate, dearth, disproportion. ANTONYMS: (n) adequacy, sufficiency, efficiency, abundance, virtue, superiority, perfection, fruitfulness, competence, capability
inanimate: (adj) defunct, dull, breathless, inorganic, inactive, lifeless, exanimate, deceased, extinct, unconscious, spiritless. ANTONYMS: (adj) living, animate, spirited
inaudible: (adj) indistinct, imperceptible, inarticulate,

- noiseless, quiet, faint, out of hearing, muffled, silent, unheard, low.
ANTONYMS: (adj) audible, obvious
- incapacitated:** (adj) powerless, unfit, handicapped, helpless, incompetent, out of action, impotent, unable, weak, under disability, prostrate
- incased:** (adj) cased, sheathed
- incense:** (v) enrage, anger, provoke, irritate, infuriate, aggravate, rile, cense, inflame; (n) fragrance, aroma.
ANTONYMS: (v) please, pacify
- incessant:** (adj) endless, continual, everlasting, eternal, constant, continuous, perpetual, unremitting, interminable, persistent; (adj, v) frequent. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) intermittent, occasional, sporadic, broken, finite
- incessantly:** (adv) constantly, endlessly, continually, perpetually, continuously, unceasingly, eternally, persistently, unremittingly, unendingly, steadily. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) sporadically, briefly
- incidental:** (adj) fortuitous, accidental, contingent, adventitious, collateral, chance, occasional, incident, attendant, concomitant, episodic. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) basic, direct, intended, significant
- incline:** (v) cant, dispose, bend; (n, v) slope, bias, dip, tilt; (n) ascent, gradient, grade, inclination.
ANTONYMS: (v) indispose, level; (n) hollow, descent
- inconceivable:** (adj, v) unbelievable, hard to believe; (adj) impossible, implausible, incomprehensible, unimaginable, unthinkable, improbable, unintelligible, inscrutable, fabulous. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) conceivable, believable, likely, understandable, credible
- inconsiderable:** (adj) inconsequential, immaterial, small, petty, slight, negligible, trivial, fractional, minute, imperceptible, slender. **ANTONYM:** (adj) major
- inconsistency:** (n) disagreement, contradiction, incompatibility, incoherence, incongruity, discordance, disparity, variance, repugnance, contradictoriness; (adj, n) frivolity. **ANTONYMS:** (n) steadiness, equality, constancy, concord, parity, predictability, reliability
- inconsolable:** (adj) disconsolate, desolate, forlorn, desperate, despairing, dejected, heartbroken, sad, wretched, comfortless; (adj, v) unconsolable. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) hopeful, euphoric, happy
- inconsolably:** (adv) hopelessly, unhappily, terribly, mournfully, in despair, despondently, sadly, desperately, extremely, desolately, at a loss. **ANTONYM:** (adv) hopefully
- inconvenience:** (n, v) trouble, incommode; (v) discommode, disoblige, annoy, disturb, disquiet; (n) disadvantage, difficulty, nuisance, unsuitableness.
ANTONYMS: (n) expediency, advantage; (v) help, please
- inconvenient:** (adj) inopportune, awkward, disadvantageous, bothersome, improper, unfavorable, troublesome, hard, inapt, untoward, unfortunate. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) convenient, suitable, opportune, timely, advantageous
- incredulity:** (n) doubt, unbelief, skepticism, incredulousness, distrust, wonder, surprise, suspicion, suspiciousness, mistrust, scepticism. **ANTONYMS:** (n) faith, understanding, belief
- incur:** (n, v) contract; (v) catch, get, incite, begin, cause, encounter, experience, obtain, suffer, receive
- incurable:** (adj) incorrigible, immedicable, cureless, inveterate, irremediable, irrecoverable, terminal, irremediable, irreparable, remediless, chronic. **ANTONYM:** (adj) mild
- indefinite:** (adj, v) ambiguous, vague; (adj) uncertain, boundless, hazy, equivocal, unlimited, doubtful, dubious, imprecise, indecisive.
ANTONYMS: (adj) definite, limited, fixed, constrained, specific, distinct, known, precise, clear, exact
- indentation:** (n) pit, depression, hollow, impression, indent, dip, notch, impress, concavity; (n, v) nick; (adj) concave. **ANTONYMS:** (n) lump, bump
- indented:** (adj) concave, hollow, serrated, jagged, crenelated, crenelate, crenellated, crenellate, embattled, notched; (n) fancier
- indescribable:** (adj) indefinable, ineffable, unutterable, vague, beyond expression, nameless, inexpressible, nondescript, terrible, intangible, termless. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) explainable, conceivable, concrete
- indescribably:** (adv) unspeakably, incredibly, inconceivably, beyond words, unbelievably, unutterably, unthinkably
- indestructible:** (adj) immortal, eternal, everlasting, undestroyable, undying, durable, perdurable, permanent, indelible, incorruptible, lasting. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) fragile, destructible, vulnerable, ephemeral, soft, perishable, temporary
- indeterminable:** (adj) insolvable, irresolvable, indefinite, indeterminate, unascertainable, incalculable. **ANTONYM:** (adj) determinable
- indeterminate:** (adj) inconclusive, indefinite, equivocal, vague, neutral, indistinct, obscure, undetermined, indecisive, inexact, adventitious. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) quantifiable, definite, determinate, specific, exact, certain, strong
- indifferently:** (adv) carelessly, coldly, nonchalantly, listlessly, unconcernedly, uninterestedly, neutrally, middlingly, casually, unbiassedly, disinterestedly.
ANTONYMS: (adv) passionately, obsessively, carefully, eagerly, energetically, warmly, anxiously, enthusiastically, sympathetically
- indigence:** (n) need, poverty, beggary, penury, pauperism, neediness, misery, impoverishment, necessity; (n, v) destitution, want. **ANTONYMS:** (n) luxury, wealth
- indistinct:** (adj) indefinite, inarticulate, faint, dull, fuzzy, indeterminate, hazy, neutral; (adj, n) confused, cloudy, dark.
ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, slight, separate, certain, precise, audible, strong, definite
- indistinctly:** (adv) vaguely, dimly, hazily, mistily, inarticulately, shadowily, obscurely, unclearly, fuzzily, confusedly, ambiguously.
ANTONYMS: (adv) precisely, audibly, coherently, distinctly
- individualize:** (v) individualise, individuate, distinguish, designate, specify, discern, recognize, separate, tell, severally, realize
- indolence:** (n) laziness, inaction, lethargy, inertia, inactivity, listlessness, slowness, torpor, sluggishness, apathy; (adj, n) sloth. **ANTONYMS:** (n) energy, nimbleness, activity, bustle, liveliness, vigor
- inducement:** (n) enticement, attraction, cause, incitement, impulse, temptation, bait, impetus,

- occasion, motive, goad.
ANTONYMS: (n) disincentive, deterrent
- indulge:** (n, v) gratify, humor; (v) coddle, cosset, baby, pamper, spoil, satisfy, please, mollify, coddle, cocker.
ANTONYMS: (v) frustrate, deprive, stifle, neglect, deny, displease, fast
- indulged:** (adj) pet, privileged, cherished, admired
- indulging:** (n) pampering, excess, indulgence, orgy, folly, foolery, gratification
- industrious:** (adj) diligent, assiduous, indefatigable, busy, energetic, hardworking, laborious, tireless, earnest, keen, enterprising.
ANTONYMS: (adj) indolent, idle, destructive, weary, careless
- industriously:** (adv) diligently, painstakingly, busily, sedulously, tirelessly, untiringly, eagerly, studiously, laboriously, carefully, conscientiously. ANTONYMS: (adv) wearily, carelessly
- indweller:** (n) inhabitant, denizen, occupant, tenant, resident
- ineffable:** (adj) indescribable, unspeakable, unutterable, indefinable, inexpressible, beyond expression, unimaginable, beyond words, unpronounceable, dreadful, untellable
- ineffectual:** (adj) ineffective, futile, useless, feeble, abortive, powerless, idle, weak, unable, void, vain.
ANTONYMS: (adj) strong, effectual, effective, useful, viable, competent, invulnerable, helpful, decisive
- ineffectually:** (adv) uselessly, futilely, inefficiently, fruitlessly, vainly, inefficaciously, abortively, pointlessly, bootlessly, incompetently, ineptly.
ANTONYMS: (adv) competently, fruitfully, well, usefully, successfully, efficiently, admirably, convincingly
- inefficiency:** (n) futility, inability, incompetence, inefficacy, uselessness, fruitlessness, penetration, disability, failure, ineptitude, impotence.
ANTONYMS: (n) efficiency, competence, effectiveness
- inert:** (adj) idle, dead, sluggish, dull, indolent, inactive, lifeless, dormant, flat, inanimate, passive.
ANTONYMS: (adj) active, animate, proactive, keen, live, alive, mobile
- inexhaustible:** (adj) indefatigable, immeasurable, unending, infinite, boundless, illimitable, unlimited, incalculable, unexhaustible, unapproachable, unfathomable.
ANTONYMS: (adj) limited, unproductive
- inexpedient:** (adj) inadvisable, inapt, disadvantageous, infelicitous, inconvenient, incongruous, unfitting, unfit, undesirable, improper, imprudent
- inexpressible:** (adj, v) indescribable; (adj) ineffable, unspeakable, unutterable, indefinable, incommunicable, nameless, untold, beyond description, unexpressible, undefinable. ANTONYM: (adj) definite
- infancy:** (n) babyhood, cradle, beginning, birth, genesis, minority, early childhood, youth, nonage, adolescence, early days.
ANTONYM: (n) maturity
- infanta:** (n) empress, margravine, duchess, queen, princess, sultana
- infer:** (v) deduce, guess, derive, conclude, construe, imagine, conjecture, gather, deduct; (adj, v) understand, imply
- infernal:** (adj) devilish, fiendish, diabolical, demonic, damned, cursed, blasted, unholy, wicked; (adj, v) diabolic, satanic
- inferred:** (adj) subtle, tacit, assumed, incidental, latent, unsaid, unspoken, understood, contingent, implied, derivative. ANTONYM: (adj) explicit
- infest:** (v) overrun, disturb, pester, beset, annoy, invade, harry, overwhelm, occupy, molest, harass
- infinitesimal:** (adj) microscopic, tiny, insignificant, little, evanescent, atomic, minuscule, inappreciable, negligible, fractional, imperceptible.
ANTONYMS: (adj) gigantic, enormous, huge, immeasurable
- infinity:** (n) infinite, immensity, infiniteness, infinitude, boundlessness, immutability, glory, greatness, holiness, forever, perpetuity. ANTONYM: (n) limitedness
- infirm:** (adj, n, v) feeble; (adj, v) faint, weak, sickly, debilitated; (adj) impotent, fragile, decrepit, ill, delicate, shaky. ANTONYMS: (adj) whole, well, hearty
- inflamm:** (v) burn, fire, enkindle, incite, kindle, ignite, incense, arouse, heat, agitate; (adj, v) irritate.
ANTONYMS: (v) dampen, blanch, inhibit, improve
- inflexible:** (adj) rigid, fixed, uncompromising, immovable, rigorous, unbending, inexorable, dogged; (adj, n) hard, firm, harsh.
ANTONYMS: (adj) compliant, irresolute, adaptable, accommodating, stretchy, compromising, bendy, weak, lithe, pliable, soft
- influx:** (n) afflux, concourse, incursion, invasion, flow, introduction, affluence, inpouring, intrusion, irruption, arrival.
ANTONYM: (n) departure
- informant:** (n) betrayer, sneak, informer, squealer, deponent, author, attestant, communicator, fink; (v) mouthpiece, teller
- informing:** (n) briefing, disclosure, appraisal, warning, revelation, rattling, presentation, introduction; (v) inform; (adj) intelligencing, giving information
- ingenuity:** (adj, n) ability; (n) adroitness, ingeniousness, cunning, imagination, acumen, resource, originality, skill, wit, inventiveness.
ANTONYM: (n) ineptness
- inhabit:** (v) reside, abide, occupy, lodge, settle, people, live, indwell, be, exist; (n) habit. ANTONYMS: (v) desert, vacate
- inhabitant:** (n) denizen, resident, occupant, citizen, tenant, occupier, population, native, liver, indweller; (v) habitant. ANTONYM: (n) stranger
- inhaling:** (adj) inhale, breathing, inhalant
- inherit:** (v) heir, come into, get, to inherit, own, receive, come in for, to succeed, follow, descend, accede
- inhospitable:** (adj) unsociable, cold, hostile, unfriendly, cool, harsh, barren, austere, frosty, stark, bleak.
ANTONYMS: (adj) hospitable, welcoming, sheltered, lush, mild
- inhospitality:** (n) unsociability, frostiness, aloofness, coldness, coolness, dreariness, gloominess, surliness, unfriendliness, desolation.
ANTONYM: (n) friendliness
- inhumane:** (adj) brutal, inhuman, ferocious, merciless, barbarous, unkind, truculent, savage, remorseless, pitiless, unmerciful.
ANTONYM: (adj) caring
- injure:** (n, v) damage, harm, impair; (v) contuse, disfigure, maim, bruise, blemish, wound, insult; (adj, v) abuse. ANTONYMS: (v) heal, enable, repair, protect, help

- inlet:** (n) bay, cove, gulf, entry, entrance, arm, gateway, loch, armlet, intake, recess
- innate:** (adj) inherent, congenital, inbred, indigenous, instinctive, natural, intrinsic, constitutional, essential, ingrained; (adj, v) born. ANTONYMS: (adj) learned, conditioned, acquired, trained, spiritual
- innumerable:** (adj) countless, numberless, incalculable, multitudinous, infinite, innumerable, unnumbered, uncounted, myriad, immeasurable, untold. ANTONYM: (adj) finite
- inoffensive:** (adj, n) harmless, innocent; (adj) innocuous, innoxious, safe, unoffending, euphemistic, hurtless, pleasant, gentle, tame. ANTONYMS: (adj) rude, unsavory, unpleasant, harmful, dysphemistic, malicious, exciting
- inorganic:** (adj) lifeless, mineral, dead, unorganized, inorganical, inorganicized. ANTONYM: (adj) organic
- inquire:** (v) demand, ask, explore, enquire, inspect, research, consult, pry, request, wonder; (n, v) question. ANTONYM: (v) answer
- inquisitive:** (adj) inquiring, speculative, nosy, prying, questioning, nosey, meddling, investigative, meddlesome, quizzical, overcurious. ANTONYMS: (adj) apathetic, uninterested
- inquisitively:** (adv) pryingly, nosily, inquiringly, questioningly, meddlesomely, speculatively, searchingly, meddlingly, interestedly, interrogatively, eagerly
- insane:** (adj) foolish, daft, demented, mad, delirious, lunatic, fool, moonstruck, frantic, idiotic, nutty. ANTONYM: (adj) sensible
- insanity:** (adj, n) craziness, derangement, frenzy, aberration; (n) delirium, dementia, mania, folly, lunacy, idiocy; (adj) madness. ANTONYMS: (n) sanity, sense
- inscribed:** (adj) etched, incised, graven, written, carved, carven
- insectivorous:** (adj) carnivorous. ANTONYMS: (adj) carnivorous, herbivorous
- insensibility:** (n) callousness, hardness, indifference, dullness, stupidity, stupor, impassiveness, coma, physical insensibility, impassivity, trance
- insensible:** (adj) imperceptible, numb, unconscious, callous, dull, unaware, apathetic, impassive, indiscernible, comatose, impassible. ANTONYMS: (adj) sensible, conscious, sensitive, awake, alive, compassionate, concerned, aware
- insensibly:** (adv) imperceptibly, apathetically, numbly, motionlessly, inertly
- inseparable:** (adj) indissoluble, inextricable, inherent, indiscernible, built-in, indispensable, infrangible, innate, unseparable; (v) severable, unseparated. ANTONYMS: (adj) separable, dividable, isolatable
- insignificant:** (adj) inconsequential, inconsiderable, humble, poor, immaterial, trivial, unimportant, light, infinitesimal, indifferent, small. ANTONYMS: (adj) significant, enormous, major, important, huge, substantial, considerable, great, colossal, valuable, influential
- insolvent:** (adj) broke, destitute, impoverished, penniless, ruined, poor, impecunious; (n) failure, man of straw, lame duck; (adj, n) nonsolvent. ANTONYM: (adj) rich
- inspecting:** (n) inspection; (v) inspect; (adj) curious, inspective
- inspire:** (adj, v) cheer, enliven, exhilarate; (v) encourage, excite, inhale, incite, affect, infuse, hearten, actuate. ANTONYMS: (v) extinguish, disenchant, douse, knock, dampen, calm, dishearten
- inspiring:** (adj) rousing, provocative, inspire, inspirational, inspiringly, heartening, encourage, entertaining, exhilarating, hopeful, imposing. ANTONYMS: (adj) ridiculous, uninspiring, banal, boring, dull, unimpressive
- instantaneous:** (adj) immediate, prompt, sudden, precipitate, momentary, abrupt, precipitous, precipitant, swift, momentaneous, quick. ANTONYMS: (adj) gradual, delayed, considered
- instantaneously:** (adv) directly, instantly, at once, forthwith, suddenly, promptly, abruptly, momentarily, outright, right away, in a flash. ANTONYM: (adv) eventually
- instilling:** (n) inculcation, ingraining, indoctrination
- insufficiency:** (n) imperfection, deficit, deficiency, shortage, absence, failure, lack, inadequateness, inability, scarcity, dearth. ANTONYMS: (n) adequacy, abundance, sufficiency, surplus, excess
- insular:** (adj) parochial, secluded, blinkered, discrete, isolated, narrow, adrift, detached, lonely, seagirt, circumscribed. ANTONYMS: (adj) tolerant, broadminded
- insulated:** (adj) cloistered
- insurrection:** (n) mutiny, uprising, revolt, outbreak, rising, disturbance, sedition, commotion, revolution, riot; (n, v) rebellion
- intangible:** (adj) immaterial, incorporeal, ethereal, indefinite, spiritual, elusive, imperceptible, insubstantial, airy, undefinable; (n) intangible asset. ANTONYMS: (adj) concrete, palpable, touchable, actual
- integument:** (n) film, coat, mantle, tegument, covering, skin, sheath, envelope, hull, cuticle, husk
- intellect:** (n) mind, intelligence, understanding, reason, brains, head, intellectual, apprehension, psyche, genius, brainpower. ANTONYM: (n) stupidity
- intelligently:** (adv) rationally, intelligently, spiritually, cerebrally, intellectually, learnedly, academically, mildly, ideally, culturedly, smartly
- intemperate:** (adj) inordinate, immoderate, dissipated, unbridled, extreme, disorderly, inclement, unruly, wild, undue, violent. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, temperate, moderate
- intentionally:** (adv) deliberately, advisedly, consciously, purposely, on purpose, knowingly, willfully, studiously, expressly, purposefully, intendedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) accidentally, innocently
- interlace:** (v) entwine, tangle, braid, enlace, lace, twine, entangle, plait, interlock, intersect, interweave. ANTONYMS: (v) unpick, untwine, undo
- intermittent:** (adj) intermittent
- internecine:** (adj) deadly, lethal, bloody, fatal, pernicious, internecine, harmful, internal, internecinal, malignant, mutually ruinous
- interruption:** (n) disruption, intermission, halt, pause, suspension, discontinuance, hiatus; (n, v) break, hindrance, impediment; (v) interrupt. ANTONYMS: (n)

- permanence, help, respect
intersect: (v) cut, divide, meet, bisect, intersection, traverse, interlace, intertwist, intertwine, interweave, see
intersected: (adj) decussated
intervening: (adj) middle, interstitial, intervene, interposed, intermediate colors, mediate, mesne; (adj, v) intercurrent, interjacent; (v) intervenient; (n) middler.
 ANTONYM: (adj) permanent
interwoven: (adj) interlinking, interlacing, interlocking, complex, interwove, twine, contextual, entangled, inseparable, knotted, related
intimation: (n) hint, inkling, implication, insinuation, suggestion, clue, allusion, indication, cue, notice, innuendo
intoxicated: (adj) drunken, drunk, inebriate, tipsy, elated, stimulated, intoxicate, infatuated, fuddled, loaded, plastered. ANTONYM: (adj) sober
intoxicating: (adj) intoxicant, strong, alcoholic, effective, exciting, impetuous, inebriant, inebrious, powerful, provocative, forcible. ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, weak
intoxication: (n) inebriation, inebriety, poisoning, tipsiness, fascination, grogginess, ecstacy, daze, excitement, euphoria, wine
intruder: (n) trespasser, interloper, encroacher, raider, invader, aggressor, go between, gatecrasher, stalker, boarder; (adj, n) stranger
invading: (adj) invade, incursive, attacking, impertinent, abhorrent, abusive, aggressive, assailant, disgusting, disagreeable, distasteful
invective: (n, v) abuse, insult, contumely, vituperation; (n) diatribe, denunciation, tirade, curse, reproach, ignominy; (adj) abusive
invent: (v) devise, form, create, excogitate, concoct, imagine, contrive; (n, v) forge, fabricate, design, coin
inventor: (n) architect, artificer, discoverer, founder, originator, deviser, prime mover, author, builder, contriver, designer
invert: (v) change, transpose, capsize, overturn, alter, turn, upset, subvert, annul, revoke; (adj) turn the tables
inveterate: (adj) incorrigible, confirmed, chronic, ingrained, old, irredeemable; (adj, v) fixed; (v) rooted, ingrafted, hackneyed; (n) ineffaceable
invidious: (adj) obnoxious, hateful, discriminatory, offensive, outrageous, jealous, abominable, odious, loathsome, covetous; (adj, v) spiteful. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasant, desirable
inviolable: (adj) sacrosanct, infrangible, hallowed, invulnerable, inviolate, inalienable, impenetrable, absolute, impregnable; (v) imprescriptible, unimpeachable. ANTONYMS: (adj) acceptable, breakable
invoke: (v) entreat, evoke, appeal, conjure, pray, beseech, appeal to, summon, cite, arouse, name. ANTONYMS: (v) ignore, waive
involutary: (adj) instinctive, unconscious, unintentional, forced, mechanical, unthinking, reluctant, unwilling, compulsory, inadvertent, accidental. ANTONYMS: (adj) voluntary, intentional, intended, willing
inwardly: (adv) inside, interiorly, innerly, within, secretly, intrinsically, intimately, privately, spiritually, incomingly; (adj) inwards
irishman: (n) mick, paddy, Teague, Irelander, Mickey, Scotchman, Canadian, aboriginal, Cambrian, Scot, Caledonian
irksome: (adj, v) wearisome, tiresome; (adj) boring, dull, annoying, tedious, trying, burdensome, bothersome, irritating, prosaic. ANTONYMS: (adj) delightful, pleasant, refreshing, soothing
irons: (n) fetters, iron, chain, shackles, fetter, manacles, gyve, bond, bonds, pinion, handcuffs
irrecoverable: (adj) incurable, irreparable, remediless, irreclaimable, irremediable, unrecoverable, forgotten, desperate, lost, irrevocable, irreversible
irregularity: (n) abnormality, anomaly, eccentricity, inequality, deviation, aberration, constipation, exception, unevenness, variation; (adj, n) deformity. ANTONYMS: (n) symmetry, normality, regularity, dependability, equality, frequency, evenness, consistency, predictability, smoothness
irrepressible: (adj) uncontrollable, uncontainable, unmanageable, wanton, inextinguishable, rampant, effervescent; (v) ungovernable, volcanic, stanchless, simmering. ANTONYM: (adj) orderly
irretrievably: (adv) permanently, for all time, irremediably, forever, irrecoverably, once and for all, irrevocably, irreversibly
irreverent: (adj, v) profane; (adj) blasphemous, disrespectful, irreligious, impertinent, impudent, pert, saucy, aweless, godless, irreverend. ANTONYMS: (adj) pious, reverent, deferential, mature, devout, approving, respectful
irruption: (n) inroad, incursion, outbreak, attack, intrusion, raid, influx, foray, irrupted, eruption, onset
islander: (n) dweller, denizen, cannibal, inhabitant
islet: (n) island, ait, reef, holm, atoll, eyot, breaker, coral reef, coral Island, wight
isthmus: (adj) strait, neck, wasp, waist, middle constriction, stricture; (n) bridge, oasis, strip of land, neck of land, kissing point
itch: (n) urge, desire, impulse, scabies; (v) irritate, prickle, tingle, scratch, chafe; (adj) itchy; (n, v) wish. ANTONYMS: (n) aversion, disinclination
itching: (n) pruritus, prickle, sting, cupidity, cutaneous sensation, shiver; (adj) itchy, prurient, anxious, creepy, enterprising
iteration: (n) iterance, reiteration, run, succession, frequency, repeating, recurrence, rehearsal, backbone, stereotypy, grit
jackknife: (n) penknife, pocketknife, jackknife procedure, diving
jailer: (n) prison guard, guard, keeper, screw, turnkey, warder, jailor, custos, custodian, goaler, lawman
jammed: (adj) packed, congested, full, overcrowded, fixed, wedged, crammed, stuffed, blocked, clogged; (adj, v) stuck. ANTONYMS: (adj) free, loose
jarring: (adj, n) harsh, dissonant, inconsistent; (adj) rough, inharmonious, strident, grating, jolting, raucous, cacophonous, bumpy. ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, usual
jerk: (n, v) jump, yank, shake, twitch, jar, tug, bump, heave, pull; (v) fling, flip. ANTONYM: (v) ease
jest: (n) gag, gibe, quip, game; (n, v) jape; (v) banter, jeer, deride, gird, sneer, clown

jesting: (adj) jocular, jocose, facetious, humorous, playful; (n) banter, humor, comedy, pleasantry, fun, joke. ANTONYM: (n) tragedy

jingle: (n, v) ring, chime, ding, clank; (v) clang, clink, tinkle, rattle, sound, peal; (n) chink. ANTONYM: (n) silence

jove: (n) Jovian, Jovianist, thunderer

jowl: (n) cheek, jaw, lower jaw, mandible, chin, os, wing, mandibula, submaxilla, lower jawbone; (v) joul

juniper: (n) shrub, dwarf juniper, bush, juniper bush, juniper berry, raetam, retama raetam, retem, savin, Genista raetam

jupiter: (n) Jove, blazon, deity, father, Zeus, solar system, thunderer

keel: (n) foot, hoof, carina, root, fin keel; (v) careen, cool, pitch, tumble, droop, flag

keenly: (adv) eagerly, zealously, piercingly, acutely, cuttingly, ardently, strongly, lively, penetratingly, fervently, avidly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unenthusiastically, apathetically, faintly, reluctantly, patiently, passively, halfheartedly

kernel: (n) gist, heart, essence, center, inwardness, quintessence, grain, marrow, substance, content, nucleus

kicks: (n) elation, thrill, excitement, fulfillment, gratification, pleasure

kindled: (adj) enkindled, lighted, lit, burning

kindred: (adj) cognate, akin, similar, allied, related; (n) kin, consanguinity, relation, folk, folks, kin group

kingly: (adj, adv) stately; (adj) August, noble, regal, imperial, sovereign, majestic, royal; (adv) royally, majestically, regally

kittens: (n) dust, fuzz

knead: (v) rub down, rub, form, fashion, shape, massage, work, mould, set, sculpture; (adj) mash

kneeling: (n) homage, kowtow, kneeling, prostration, genuflexion, genuflection, curtsy, courtesy, obeisance

knob: (n) button, swelling, hump, knop, protuberance, grip, nub, lump, node, bump; (adj, n) bulb

labium: (n) lip, labia, labia majora, labia minor

labor: (n, v) toil, endeavor, drudgery, travail, struggle, confinement, childbirth, delivery, grind; (n) effort,

exertion. ANTONYMS: (n, v) rest; (v) relax, ignore; (n) management, leisure, death, relaxation

labored: (adj) elaborate, strained, laborious, heavy, arduous, hard, artificial, laboured, awkward, unnatural, studied. ANTONYM: (adj) easy

laborer: (n) hand, labourer, operative, drudge, labor, employee, manual laborer, peon, navy, docker, day laborer

laboring: (adj) working, labouring, toiling, drudging, labors, work, elaborate, employed, busy

laborious: (adj) hard, arduous, backbreaking, heavy, industrious, diligent, grueling, assiduous, exhausting, formidable, tough. ANTONYMS: (adj) simple,

effortless, undemanding, light, brisk

laboriously: (adv) painstakingly, toilsomely, though, onerously, arduously, strenuously, heavily, painfully, stiffly, diligently, hard. ANTONYMS: (adv) briskly, easily

labyrinth: (n) inner ear, tangle, confusion, complication, internal ear, web, unit, system; (adj, n) network; (v) eel, labyrinthian

lading: (n, v) load, burden, weight; (n) freight, consignment, shipment, loading, shipping, freightage, product, wares

lain: (adj) artless, unsophisticated, unaffected, naive, untutored, simple, pure, natural, native, inartificial

lampreys: (n) Petromyzontidae

lance: (n) pike, javelin, shaft, lancet, assegai, fishgig, fizgig; (v) dart, impale, open, gore

lapse: (n, v) decline, drop, mistake; (adj, n, v) fall; (v) expire, elapse, collapse, go by; (n) oversight, error, fault. ANTONYMS: (v) behave, start, rise, renew, improve

lapsing: (n) backsliding, lapse, atavism, relapse, relapsing, reversion, reverting, recidivism, failure

lard: (n) grease, suet, tallow, oil; (v) embellish, embroider, glorify, magnify, amplify, aggrandize, blow up

larder: (n) storeroom, pantry, food, victuals, viands, provisions, provender, stowage, stillroom, commissariat, spence

lark: (n) joke, fun, trick, prank, antic, caper, game; (n, v) romp, frolic, gambol; (v) rollick

larva: (n) grub, caterpillar, chrysalis, tadpole, Alca, Larve, jointworm, cercaria, chicken, dobson, caseworm

larynx: (n) voice box, tonsils, windpipe, spiracle, gullet, gorge, vocal cords, cartilaginous structure

latch: (v) bar, fasten, grab; (n, v) bolt; (adj, n, v) lock; (n) hasp, clasp, door latch, hook; (adj) link, yoke

lateral: (adj) sidelong, collateral, peripheral, accidental, indirect, incidental, parallel, being without; (adv) sideward, laterally, sideway. ANTONYM: (adj) logical

lath: (n) fillet, spline, batten, plank, list, ribbon, strip, rod, flat timber, spill; (v) frame

latitude: (n) freedom, scope, breadth, room, expanse, range, compass, climate, clime, space, reach. ANTONYM: (n) constraint

latterly: (adv) lately, lastly, late, subsequently, finally, of late, newly, ultimately, secondly, freshly, afterward. ANTONYM: (adv) initially

lavishly: (adv) profusely, profligately, prodigally, copiously, generously, richly, wastefully, abundantly, luxuriously, plentifully, amply. ANTONYMS: (adv) meagerly, frugally, cheaply, scantily

lawfully: (adv) justly, legally, rightfully, licitly, statutorily, fairly, validly, de jure, officially, rightly, truly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unlawfully, illegitimately

lawgiver: (n) lawmaker, politician, statemonger, statist, leader, nomothete, promulgator, strategist, statesman, draconian, Draco

laxly: (adv) loosely, relaxedly, leniently, weakly, remissly, permissively, softly, vaguely, baggily, sloppily, neglectfully

laden: (adj) heavy, gray, sluggish, grey, inert, torpid, grave, languid, drab, burdensome, livid. ANTONYM: (adj) bright

leaping: (n) jump, bounce, bound, leap, spring, saltation, bouncing; (v) jumping; (adj, v) bounding; (adj) springing; (adv) leapingly

leaven: (n) barm, yeast, leavening, element; (v) lift, raise, temper, elevate; (adj) denaturalize, denature, distain

leavening: (n) leaven, yeast, barm, matter, substance, imponderable, baking powder

lecturing: (n) instruction, talk

ledger: (n) book, account book,

- daybook, account, book of account, leger, books, calendar, diary, ephemeris, crossbar
- leek:** (n) vegetable, veggie, onion, genus *Allium*, green onion, chive, *Allium*, alliaceous plant
- legible:** (adj) readable, distinct, fair, plain, clean, definite, explicit, understandable, direct, cloudless, light. ANTONYM: (adj) unreadable
- legislate:** (v) establish, constitute, authorise, fade, give, extend, expire, exit, glide by, fleet, excrete
- legislator:** (n) lawgiver, representative, congressman, deputy, filibuster, frontbencher, backbencher, crossbencher, statist, statemonger, parliamentarian
- legitimately:** (adv) lawfully, authentically, justly, rightfully, licitly, properly, truly, authentically, validly, genuinely; (adj, adv) really. ANTONYMS: (adv) illegally, illegitimately, informally, unreasonably, falsely
- lengthen:** (adj, v) elongate; (v) enlarge, prolong, draw, draw out, increase, expand, stretch, protract, continue, drag out. ANTONYMS: (v) clip, curtail
- lengthwise:** (adv) along, longwise, endlong, longways, longitudinally, endways, endwise, in company, across time; (adj) linear, longitudinal. ANTONYM: (adj) crosswise
- lenticular:** (adj, v) lentiform; (adj) biconvex, phacoid, bulging, convex
- lepus:** (n) genus *Lepus*, hare
- lethargy:** (n) drowsiness, indifference, apathy, inactivity, fatigue, inertia, stupor, laziness, sluggishness, idleness, languor. ANTONYMS: (n) verve, vitality, liveliness, nimbleness, animation, alertness, vigor, activity, wakefulness, interest, speediness
- lettuce:** (n) celtuce, folding money, cabbage, dough, cos, leaf lettuce, boodle, bread, kale, iceberg lettuce, Chicago
- levelling:** (n) equalization, grading, flow, equalisation, evening
- levity:** (n) flightiness, frivolity, flippancy, buoyancy, lightness, giddiness, inconstancy, frivolousness, humorousness, jocosity; (n, v) fickleness. ANTONYMS: (n) gravity, seriousness
- lexington:** (n) agreement, accord, capital of new Hampshire, concordance, Lexington and Concord, concord
- liber:** (n) bast, phloem, xylem
- liberality:** (n, v) charity, almsgiving; (adj, n) bounty; (n) largesse, munificence, benevolence, beneficence, generosity, tolerance; (adj) largesse, gift. ANTONYM: (n) illiberality
- liberalizing:** (adj) cultural
- liberally:** (adv) freely, bountifully, abundantly, munificently, profusely, copiously, bounteously, magnanimously, plentifully, largely, richly. ANTONYMS: (adv) parsimoniously, carefully, stingily, meagerly, ungenerously
- license:** (n, v) permit, allow, licence; (n) allowance, freedom, permission, liberty, authority, authorization, certificate; (v) certify. ANTONYMS: (v) decertify; (n) restriction
- lichen:** (n) crotal, crotle, crotal, basidiolichen, mold, moss, arctic moss, conferva, beard lichen, beard moss, crotles
- lichens:** (n) fungi, Thallophyta
- lick:** (n, v) lap; (v) clobber, thrash, drub, beat, bat, defeat; (n) biff, jab, speed, dash
- lids:** (n) lid
- lifelong:** (adj) perpetual, livelong, undying, eternal, enduring, continuing, chronic, inveterate, perennial, ongoing, old. ANTONYM: (adj) ephemeral
- lighted:** (adj) illuminated, lit, light, ablaze, bright, ignited, burn, burning, ignite, kindled, lighten
- light-headed:** (adj) dizzy, flighty, skittish, queer, faint, lightheaded
- like-minded:** (adj) unanimous, sympathetic, congenial, concurrent, amicable, compatible
- lilac:** (adj) lavender, mauve, purple, violet, puce, chromatic; (n) shrub, heliotrope, ash, common lilac, family Oleaceae
- limpid:** (adj) transparent, bright, diaphanous, crystal clear, crystalline, perspicuous, pellucid, lucid, liquid, hyaline, glassy. ANTONYM: (adj) opaque
- lingering:** (adj) long, chronic, extended, dilatory, protracted, prolonged, residual, lengthy, inactive, dull; (n) delay. ANTONYM: (adj) quick
- lingua:** (n) clapper, glossa, taste bud, natural language, applause, knife
- lintel:** (n) header, rafter, joist, Travis, mantel, summer, trave, transom, coping, corner stone, cope
- liquor:** (n) fluid, broth, alcohol, booze, brew, brandy, arrack, spirits, schnapps; (n, v) drink; (adj, n) liquid
- literal:** (adj) exact, bare, verbal, accurate, genuine, faithful, actual, plain, true; (n) misprint, erratum. ANTONYMS: (adj) figurative, symbolic, loose, imprecise, metaphorical, broad, approximate, false
- livelihood:** (n) subsistence, existence, job, maintenance, support, living, sustenance, bread, keep, bread and butter, career
- livery:** (adj) liverish, bilious; (n) clothing, accouterment, uniform, complexion, legal transfer, color, hue, dye, bailment
- loaf:** (adj, v) lounge; (v) hang around, loiter, loll, linger, laze, mess about, be idle; (adj, n) block; (adj) lump, poke. ANTONYM: (v) work
- loafer:** (n) dawdler, idler, bum, layabout, lounge, loon, shirker, slacker, tramp, dallier, blackguard
- lobe:** (n) lobule, Ventral lobe, Olfactory lobe, mesolobe, division, flap, projection, branch, wing, lobular, loma
- lobed:** (adj) lobated, compounder, compound, having lobes
- locust:** (n) courbaril, cicada, wood, carob, clammy locust, Colorado beetle, black locust, acridid, honey locust, locust tree; (v) losel
- lodging:** (n) abode, apartment, accommodation, housing, hostel, residence, quarter, home, lodgement, address, hospice
- lofty:** (adj, v) high, elevated; (adj) exalted, eminent, arrogant, grand, tall, haughty, great, distinguished, majestic. ANTONYMS: (adj) short, lowly, base, modest, deferential, humble
- logarithmic:** (adj) logarithmical, logarithmical, exponential, logarithmical, logometric, totitive, fluxional, numeric, proportional, differential, integral
- loins:** (n) waist, body part, haunch, lends, pubic region, area, pubes
- loiter:** (v) dawdle, dally, tarry, hang around, prowl; (adj, v) loaf, delay, lounge, hesitate; (adv, v) lag; (n, v) saunter. ANTONYMS: (v) leave, lead
- loitering:** (n) delay, dalliance; (adj) slow, dilatory, delaying, inactive, truant, trifling, tardy; (v) loiter; (adv) loiteringly

lonesome: (adj) lone, desolate, forlorn, dreary, dismal, solitary, secluded, gloomy, unfrequented; (adj, n) isolated, alone. ANTONYM: (n) foe

long-suffering: (n) long-sufferance, patience, endurance; (adj) forbearing, tolerant, enduring, persevering, passive, meek, resigned, stoic

long-winded: (adj) interminable, wordy, garrulous, loquacious, redundant, talkative, verbose, diffuse, long, ponderous, gabby

looker: (n) spectator, watcher, viewer, knockout, dish, woman, beaut, bystander, browser, observer, beholder

loon: (n) idler, lout, bum, gaffer, birdbrain, diver, dunce, oaf, rube, runnion, underling

loquacious: (adj) talkative, chatty, gabby, wordy, verbose, talky, glib, voluble, linguacious, expansive, gossipy. ANTONYMS: (adj) taciturn, reticent

lore: (n) erudition, folklore, letters, literature, tradition, science, acquired knowledge, knowledge, wide information, lesson, legend

lotus: (n) Nymphaea lotus, Indian lotus, Egyptian water lily, Nelumbo nucifera, water lily, white lotus, sacred lotus, genus lotus, white lily, Annunciation lily, Liliium candidum

louisiana: (n) lah, lanthanum, Pelican State

lowing: (adj) mugient

lucid: (adj) clear, transparent, limpid, coherent, distinct, evident, explicit, crystalline, light, diaphanous, bright. ANTONYMS: (adj) opaque, unintelligible, muddled, unclear, irrational, confusing, illogical, ambiguous, confused, vague, incoherent

ludicrous: (adj) absurd, ridiculous, farcical, foolish, laughable, comical, grotesque, derisory, droll, preposterous, jocular. ANTONYMS: (adj) sane, impressive

lull: (n, v) calm, quiet, hush, rest, pause; (adj, v) assuage, pacify, tranquilize; (v) allay, still; (n) peace. ANTONYMS: (v) waken; (n) activity, intensification

lumber: (n) timber, wood; (adj, n) jumble, rubbish; (v) log, trail; (adv, v) plod; (adj) junk, litter, huddle, disarray

lumbering: (adj) heavy, clumsy, ungainly, ponderous, maladroit,

gruelling, hulking, accented, all thumbs, unwieldy; (n) logging.

ANTONYMS: (adj) nimble, adroit, agile, graceful, elegant, dainty

lumpish: (adj) gawky, crass, lubberly, sluggish, inert, hulking, heavy, cumbersome, clumsy, dull; (v) massive

luncheon: (n) meal, tiffin, dejeuner, dinner, repast, party; (v) nunchion

lurk: (v) ambuscade, skulk, prowl, waylay, lie in wait, conceal, lurch, loiter, creep, wait, sneak

lustily: (adv) stoutly, energetically, robustly, powerfully, vigorously, mightily, halely, strappingly, potently, sturdily, heartily

lusty: (adj) energetic, stout, lustful, corpulent, potent, virile, vigorous, hearty, sturdy, bouncing, dynamic. ANTONYM: (adj) feeble

luxuriance: (n) exuberance, copiousness, abundance, lushness, affluence, wealth, luxury, excess, luxuriance, rampancy; (adj) fecundity

luxuriant: (adj, n) lush; (adj) abundant, lavish, exuberant, dense, thick, fertile, flourishing, fecund, opulent, profuse. ANTONYMS: (adj) barren, meager, unhealthy, arid, withering, sparse, shabby, unadorned

luxuriantly: (adv) abundantly, opulently, plentifully, richly, profusely, generously, bountifully, thickly, riotously, exuberantly, copiously

luxuriously: (adv) richly, sumptuously, extravagantly, opulently, magnificently, voluptuously, lushly, lavishly, palatially, sensually, gorgeously. ANTONYMS: (adv) meagerly, cheaply, simply

luxuriousness: (n) sumptuousness, opulence, sybaritism, extravagance, grandeur, lavishness, lewdness, lushness, effeminacy, splendor, sensuality. ANTONYMS: (n) shabbiness, bareness

lyceum: (n) gymnasium, lycee, highschool, high, seminary, university, school, grammar school, Alma mater, middle school, college

lyre: (n) lira, archlute, lute

madras: (n) Tamil Nadu, formerly madras

maggot: (n) larva, crotchet, conceit, freak, chimera, quirk, fad, capriccio; (adj, n) worm; (adj) mite, emmet

magnanimity: (adj, n) generosity,

liberality; (n) largesse, greatness, charity, munificence, tolerance, nobleness, nobility, kindness, largess. ANTONYM: (n) pettiness

magnetism: (n) attraction, charisma, charm, allure, magnetics, appeal, glamour, magic, magnet, pull; (adj) gravity. ANTONYMS: (n) repulsiveness, ugliness

magnificence: (adj, n) splendor, brilliancy, gorgeousness; (n) glory, pomp, brilliance, grandness, greatness, dignity, majesty, loftiness. ANTONYMS: (n) paucity, modesty, shabbiness, poverty, austerity, unattractiveness

magnificently: (adv) beautifully, grandly, superbly, gloriously, majestically, gorgeously, sumptuously, marvelously, wonderfully, fantastically, showily. ANTONYMS: (adv) poorly, modestly, badly, abysmally, simply, meagerly, incompetently

magnified: (adj) enlarged, inflated, enlarge, hyperbolic, hypertrophied, increased, overblown, overstated, puffed up, made larger

maiden: (n) maid, girl, demoiselle, damosel, wench, fille, lass, miss; (adj) first, initiatory, unmarried

maine: (n) pine tree state

main-spring: (n) motive, spring, primum mobile, reason, ground, inducement, coil, grounds, incitement, keystone, fountain

make-believe: (adj, n) fake, dream; (n) feint, pretence, pretension, pretense, pretending, affectation;

(adj) sham, pretended, assumed

malaria: (n) fever, sewer gas, swamp fever, ague, paludism, malarial, disease, miasm, blackwater fever, mephitic, azote

mameluke: (n) mama

mammoth: (adj) gigantic, jumbo, huge, colossal, immense, enormous, monstrous, gargantuan, vast, great; (adj, n) monster. ANTONYMS: (adj) tiny, small

manfy: (adj) shabby, seedy, scruffy, scabby, squalid, paltry; (v) contaminated, tainted, peccant, vitiated, poisoned

manhood: (n) majority, maturity, valor, resolution, personality, humanity, integrity, bravery; (adj) manliness, ripe age, maturity full age

maniac: (n) madman, bedlamite, madcap, freak, fanatic, nut, looney, bigot, madwoman; (adj) loco,

- maniacal
maniacal: (adj) demented, lunatic, manic, mad, delirious, crazy, frenzied, insane, violent, homicidal, demonic
- manifestation:** (n) appearance, indication, exhibition, expression, display, demonstration, sign, incarnation, advent, show, revelation
- manifestly:** (adv) evidently, plainly, clearly, patently, obviously, openly, overtly, markedly, conspicuously, distinctly, transparently.
 ANTONYMS: (adv) furtively, unnecessarily, vaguely, covertly
- manilla:** (adj, n) Manila; (n) Manila paper, manilla paper, capital of the Philippines
- manly:** (adj) manlike, masculine, manful, virile, brave, gallant; (adv) manfully, boldly, hardily, virilely; (adj, adv) stately. ANTONYMS: (adj) weak, unmanly, cowardly; (adv) unmanfully
- mantelpiece:** (n) chimneypiece, mantelpiece, shelf, chimneybreast, blanket, cape, sill, clavy, curtain, drape, drapery
- manure:** (n) compost, fertiliser, fertilizer; (n, v) muck, soil; (v) fertilize, cultivate, plough, weed, plow; (adj) guano
- manus:** (n) left, handwriting, fist, ability, paw, claw, right, act, mitt, management, left hand
- maple:** (n) box elder, full moon maple, moosewood, hedge maple, great maple, dwarf maple, goosefoot maple, field maple
- maples:** (n) maple
- marbles:** (n) wit, sanity, mind, reason, jackstones, jacks, cuds
- marching:** (n) walking, mar, drill; (adj) ongoing, moving
- marmots:** (n) hamsters, family Scuriidae, etc, agoutis, beavers, chipmunks, suborder Sciuromorpha, Sciuromorpha, Scuriidae, flying squirrels, ground squirrels
- marrow:** (adj, n) gist, pith, quintessence; (n) substance, heart, kernel, core, content, center, backbone; (adj) quiddity
- marrowy:** (adj) pithy, compact
- marten:** (n) sable, fisher, musteline, mustelid, pekan, marten cat, black cat, beech marten, fisher cat
- masonry:** (n) brickwork, stonework, construction, bricklaying, structure, trade, dry masonry, craft, freemasons collectively
- masquerade:** (n, v) disguise, pose, revel; (n) camouflage, masque, fancy dress, pretense, fake, cover; (v) impersonate, pretend
- massachusetts:** (n) Bay State, Massachusetts bay colony, Massachuset, mammy, mamma, ma, am, mama
- mastered:** (adj) down pat, low, downhearted, perfecter, dispirited, depressed, declining, downcast, down in the mouth, cut down, beaten
- master's:** (n) postgraduate degree
- matchless:** (adj) inimitable, peerless, consummate, unique, unmatched, unrivaled, unequaled, unparalleled, superlative, unbeatable, unsurpassed. ANTONYMS: (adj) common, vulnerable, abysmal, mediocre, worst
- materially:** (adv) physically, substantially, corporeally, significantly, really, essentially, corporally, vitally, solidly, momentarily, fundamentally
- matted:** (adj) entangled, tangled, knotted, flat, matt, matte, knotty, fixed, kinky, twisted; (v) crossed. ANTONYMS: (adj) tidy, straight, free
- maturer:** (adj) overripe, ripe, ripened
- maturing:** (adj) growing, budding, green, payable; (n) maturation, maturement, development, growth, ripening, firing range, biological process
- mausoleum:** (n) grave, vault, crypt, sepulcher, tomb, catacomb, monument, mausole, burial chamber, narrow house, shrine
- mavis:** (n) bulbul, thrush, song thrush
- mayflower:** (n) trailing arbutus
- meagre:** (adj) exiguous, paltry, necessitous, miserable, marginal, meagerly, gaunt, emaciated, inadequate, deficient, beggarly.
- meander:** (adj) ample
- meandering:** (adj) circuitous, indirect, zigzag, tortuous, winding, serpentine, sinuous, roundabout, snaky, windy; (v) twirl. ANTONYMS: (adj) straight; (n) directness
- meaneast:** (adj) last, least
- meanly:** (adv) poorly, nastily, averagely, humbly, ungenerously, tightly, rudely, stingily, parsimoniously, scurvily, mediocrelly. ANTONYMS: (adv) generously, sympathetically, compassionately, genially,
- respectfully, pleasantly, affluently
- meanness:** (n) parsimony, closeness, pettiness, avarice, selfishness, baseness, stinginess, niggardliness, miserliness, nastiness; (adj, n) degeneracy. ANTONYMS: (n) generosity, extravagance, decency
- meddling:** (adj) busy, inquisitive, curious, meddlesome, intrusive, officious, nosy, dabbling, impertinent, busybodied; (adj, n) prying
- mediocrity:** (n) indifference, medium, balance, averageness, mean, person, somebody, someone, soul, ordinariness; (adj, n) moderation. ANTONYMS: (n) excellence
- meditations:** (n) contemplation, consideration, cogitation
- meekness:** (n) humbleness, modesty, submission, obedience, compliance, gentleness, tameness, submissiveness, docility, lowliness, tractability. ANTONYMS: (n) arrogance, ferocity, wildness
- melancholy:** (adj, v) dreary; (adj, n) gloom, melancholic; (adj) depressed, dejected, dismal, gloomy, doleful; (n, v) low spirits; (n) gloominess, depression. ANTONYMS: (n) happiness, cheerfulness, hopefulness, optimism; (adj) happy, bright, cheery, satisfied
- melodious:** (adj) harmonious, musical, sweet, tuneful, mellow, dulcet, soft, gentle, full, canorous, mellifluous. ANTONYMS: (adj) harsh, unmelodious, inharmonious, tuneless, grating, loud
- melodiousness:** (n) melody, tunefulness, euphony
- melted:** (adj) molten, fluid, liquified, dissolved, liquefied, baked, fluent, touched, limpid, sorry, flowing
- melting:** (n) thawing, fusion, melt, dissolution, warming, thaw, liquefaction, fusion range; (adj) liquescent, pathetic; (adj, n) dissolving
- menagerie:** (n) zoo, vivarium, menage, manage, installation, facility, collection, assemblage, aggregation, accumulation, menagery
- mending:** (n) fix, repair, fixing, maintenance, restoration, reparation, improvement, darning, mend, amendment, correction
- mercenary:** (adj, n) hireling; (adj, v) sordid; (adj) mercantile, materialistic, covetous, commercial, greedy, venal, avaricious, selfish; (v)

- illiberal. ANTONYMS: (adj) altruistic, philanthropic
- merchandise:** (v) market, deal; (n) freight, cargo, product, commodity, goods, consignment, wares; (adj) commodities, ware
- mercurial:** (adj) changeable, erratic, fickle, quick, flighty, agile, inconstant, changeful, quicksilver, fidgety; (v) mobile. ANTONYM: (adj) steady
- meridian:** (n) culmination, line of longitude, zenith, peak, top, apex, acme, pinnacle, climax, clime; (v) glassy
- merlin:** (n) marline, pigeon hawk
- metallurgy:** (n) metallography
- metamorphose:** (v) alter, change, convert, transfigure, turn, transmute, transmogrify, translate, become, reverse, ring the changes
- metaphors:** (n) images, descriptions
- metaphysical:** (adj) theoretical, supernatural, mental, immaterial, mystical, nooscopic, abstract, metaphysical, subjective, unworldly, theological. ANTONYM: (adj) empirical
- methinks:** (adv) meseems
- methuselah:** (n) Nestor, boss, bellarmine, gaffer, common wormwood, graybeard, artemisia absinthium, codger, mossback, old man, patriarch
- mexican:** (n) wetback
- microcosm:** (adj) Elzevir edition, epitome; (n) example, world
- middling:** (adj) indifferent, average, mediocre, medium, intermediate, common, passable, standard; (adv) fairly, passably; (adj, adv) clean. ANTONYMS: (adj) excellent; (adv) unreasonably
- midsummer:** (n) summer, solstice, June solstice, June
- migrate:** (v) emigrate, transmigrate, move, commigrate, flit, move away, wander, travel, transport, roam, moving
- migrating:** (adj) transient
- mildewy:** (adj) moldy, mouldy
- mildness:** (adj, n) gentleness, kindness, benignity, compassion, goodness; (n) lenity, mercy, meekness, leniency, lenience, tenderness. ANTONYMS: (n) roughness, pungency
- militia:** (n) trainband, Sabaoth, soldiery, standing army, territorial, the army, troops, troops of the line, reserves, regulars, military unit
- milkweed:** (n) chiggerflower, Sonchus oleraceus, Asclepias, blood flower, butterfly weed, genus Asclepias, horsetail milkweed, milk thistle, swallowwort
- milky:** (adj) milk, cloudy, lacteal, white, muddy, pearly, milklike, opalescent, lacteous, tender, mild
- millet:** (n) broomcorn millet, grain, hog millet, Panicum miliaceum, kurakkan, miliary, cereal grass, food grain, coracan, corakan, stem of maize
- minced:** (adj) ground, crushed, broken up
- minded:** (prep) inclined; (adj, prep) disposed; (adj) willing, apt, ready, prone, orientated, favorable, oriented, prepared, partial
- minding:** (adj) intent
- mingle:** (v) compound, combine, merge, amalgamate, intermix, mix, commingle, associate, confuse, join, intermingle. ANTONYM: (v) part
- mingled:** (adj) miscellaneous, complex, indiscriminate, heterogeneous, medley, confused, eclectic, motley, different; (v) blended, blent
- mink:** (n) musteline, mustelid, mink coat, coat, fur, fur coat, vison; (adj) lovely, pretty, desirable, irresistible
- minks:** (n) Mustelidae, martens, ferrets, badgers, fishers
- miraculously:** (adv) astoundingly, marvelously, strangely, remarkably, stupendously, supernaturally, astonishingly, staggeringly, wondrously, startlingly, phenomenally
- mirage:** (n, v) illusion; (n) delusion, fancy, vision, fantasy, phantom, misconception; (v) distortion, anamorphosis, false light, phasma. ANTONYM: (n) reality
- mirth:** (adj, n) merriment, jollity; (n) amusement, happiness, delight, joy, hilarity, cheerfulness, festivity, gladness, exhilaration. ANTONYMS: (n) gloom, sadness, misery
- misanthrope:** (n) misanthropist, cynic, pessimist, skeptic, misogynist, misanthropos, Timon, grump, man hater, hermit, egotist
- miscalculated:** (adj) wrong
- mischievous:** (adj, n) evil, hurt, harm; (n) damage, ill, detriment, disadvantage, devilry, caper, devilment, maleficence. ANTONYMS: (n) obedience, beneficence, help
- mischievous:** (adj) bad, injurious, detrimental, naughty, deleterious, impish, harmful, playful, maleficent, arch; (adj, v) hurtful. ANTONYMS: (adj) harmless, serious
- misconception:** (n) misapprehension, error, mistake, fallacy, delusion, illusion, mirage, fantasy, fancy, misinterpretation, paralogism. ANTONYMS: (n) concept, fact
- misfortune:** (n) accident, hardship, misadventure, disaster, calamity, mischance, catastrophe, mishap, bad luck, misery, affliction. ANTONYMS: (n) joy, bonus, opportunity, privilege, success, happiness
- misgiving:** (adj, n) apprehension, care; (n) fear, dread, distrust, doubt, hesitation, mistrust, suspicion, uncertainty, scruple. ANTONYMS: (n) confidence, certainty, trust
- mishap:** (n) adversity, misfortune, casualty, mischance, misery, calamity, misadventure, disaster, ill, bad luck, catastrophe
- misled:** (adj) fooled, undirected, false, bewildered, confused, erroneous, mistaken, misleading, misdirected, led astray, incorrect
- missionary:** (n) missionary, evangelist, revivalist, propagandist, teacher, preacher, envoy, munshi, religionist, minister, messenger
- mississippi:** (n) Mississippi river, Master of Science, manuscript, Magnolia State, disseminated sclerosis, disseminated multiple sclerosis, Ms
- missouri:** (adj) Iowa, Kansas, Midwestern, Minnesota, Illinois; (n) Missouri river, Mo, show me state
- misty:** (adj) hazy, foggy, cloudy, brumous, dim, indistinct, nebulous, fuzzy, dark, dull, blurred. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, distinct
- mittens:** (n) glove, gloves
- moaning:** (n, v) lamentation; (adj) groaning, whining, funereal, inarticulate, dirgeful; (n) complaining, mourning
- moans:** (adj) moaning
- mocking:** (adj) derivative, ironic, jeering, mock, quizzical, sarcastic, taunting, derisory, teasing, sardonic, sneering. ANTONYMS: (adj) respectful, approving, complimentary, sympathetic; (n) praise
- mockingbird:** (n) oscine, flouter, jeerer
- molasses:** (n) syrup, honey, sirup, cure, manna, melasses, molosses,

- theriaca, sugar
- moles:** (n) suborder Lipotyphla, order Insectivora, Talpidae, hedgehogs, family Talpidae, Lipotyphla
- molest:** (v) harass, assail, assault, plague, bother, harry, attack, annoy, haunt, beset, chevy. ANTONYM: (v) defend
- molested:** (adj) assaulted, disordered, abused, badly treated, battered, harmed, injured, maltreated, neglected, physically abused, raped
- molten:** (adj) liquified, melted, liquefied, fluid; (v) sodden
- momentary:** (adj) brief, fugitive, transient, short, instantaneous, ephemeral, passing, momentaneous, temporary, impermanent, temporal. ANTONYMS: (adj) lasting, lengthy, long
- momus:** (n) Momos
- monotonous:** (adj) dull, flat, boring, dreary, tedious, insipid, monotone, monotonic; (adj, v) dry, uninteresting, stupid. ANTONYMS: (adj) exciting, varied, stimulating, lively, exotic, enthralling, brilliant, flexible
- monstrous:** (adj) huge, atrocious, heinous, monster, immense, gigantic, grievous, ugly, flagitious, dreadful; (adj, v) grotesque. ANTONYMS: (adj) tiny, minute, beautiful, good, small, lovely, attractive
- moose:** (n) European elk, coyote, caribou, Alces Alces, sambar, musk ox, deer, cervid
- morrow:** (n) morning, future, mean solar day, day
- morsel:** (n, v) bite, mouthful; (n) crumb, chew, particle, fragment, taste, piece, nibble; (adj, v) gobbet, mite
- mortals:** (n) people
- mortification:** (n) chagrin, embarrassment, shame, gangrene, disappointment, disgrace, corruption, necrosis, degradation; (adj, n) vexation; (adj) grievance
- mosquito:** (n) fly, crocodile, alacran, alligator, mosquitoes, midge, octopus, mugger, dipterous insect, dipteron, dipteran
- mossy:** (adj) floral, mosslike, moldy, hoary, musty, covered, musciform, stodgy, hoar, chromatic, canescent
- note:** (adj, n) molecule, speck, atom, corpuscle, particle, dot; (n) grain, jot, iota, must; (adj) dust
- moth:** (n) gelechiid, bombycid, geometrid, helminth, lasiocampid, lymantriid, arctiid, moth and rust, moths, worm-eaten, lasiocampid moth
- motionless:** (adj) inactive, inert, immobile, stationary, fixed, unmoving, quiescent, dead, torpid; (adj, adv) calm, at rest. ANTONYMS: (adj) mobile, active, alive, flowing
- mottled:** (adj) motley, speckled, multicolored, spotted, variegated, piebald, marbled, mixed, pinto, blotchy, flecked. ANTONYMS: (adj) monochrome, unblemished, limited
- motto:** (n) catchword, adage, epigraph, maxim, slogan, device, proverb, saw, saying, shibboleth, aphorism
- mouldering:** (adj) moldering, becoming rotten, rotten, rotting
- moult:** (n) moulting, molting, ecdysis; (v) cast, drop, exuviate, throw, shed, desquamate, cast off, shake off
- moulting:** (n) moult, ecdysis, molting, molt, shedding; (adj) pulled
- mountainous:** (adj) colossal, gargantuan, huge, hilly, giant, alpine, enormous, large, rugged, gigantic, cragged. ANTONYMS: (adj) flat, tiny
- mounts:** (adj) mounted
- mourning:** (n) lament, lamentation, bereavement, gloom, woe, memorial, sorrowfulness, sadness, sorrow; (adj) grieving; (v) lamenting
- movable:** (adj) portable, transferable, mercurial, adjustable, ambulatory, changeable, transportable, moveable, flexible, active; (v) shifting. ANTONYMS: (adj) immovable, unchangeable
- mower:** (n) lawn mower, band mower, garden tool, hand mower, knife mower, motor mower, scytheman, lawn tool
- muck:** (n) dirt, filth, dung, gook, droppings, sludge, ooze; (n, v) manure, mire, soil, mud. ANTONYM: (n) cleanliness
- muckheap:** (n) midden, dunghill, eitchen midden, heap, kitchen midden, muckhill, mound
- muddied:** (adj) dingy, dirty, quaggy, foul, drear, grimy, mirky, marshy, lousy, infected, impure
- muff:** (n, v) blunder, mollycoddle, slip; (v) bungle, botch, miss, flub, muck up, bobble, fail, spoil
- muffled:** (adj) hushed, muted, hollow, inarticulate, faint, soft, subdued, low, quiet; (v) allusive, covert. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, distinct, audible, slight
- muggy:** (adj) moist, damp, close, humid, wet, airless, stuffy, oppressive, hot, clammy, soggy. ANTONYMS: (adj) airy, dry
- mullein:** (n) great mullein, herb, flannel mullein, herbaceous plant, moth mullein, torch, common mullein, velvet plant, mullen
- multiplied:** (adj) many, multitudinous, teeming, peopled, populous, studded, thick, increased, frequent; (v) absorb, acquisition
- munitions:** (n) ordnance, arms, weapons, military stores, armaments, artillery, guns, gun, military supplies, ordnance stores, defense
- murmur:** (n, v) grumble, mumble, hum, whisper, mutter, whine, babble, drone; (v) complain, bubble, breathe
- musé:** (v) meditate, ponder, deliberate, consider, cogitate, reflect, brood, ruminate, speculate, think, mull. ANTONYM: (v) wander
- mushroom:** (n) fungus, upstart, agaric, parvenu, morel, bourgeois gentilhomme; (v) spread, burgeon, proliferate, flourish, thrive. ANTONYMS: (n) toadstool; (v) dwindle, plummet, disappear, decline
- musings:** (adj) contemplative, meditative, thoughtful, pensive; (n) meditation, consideration, reflection, rumination, reverie, thought, cogitation
- musket:** (n) fusil, blunderbuss, gun, rifle
- muskrat:** (n) mint, Marrubium, horehound, champak, pelt, olibanum, rodent, spirit of Myrcia, NAPHA water, ondatra, gnawer
- muskrats:** (n) genus ondatra
- musquash:** (n) mussacus, rodent, gnawing animal, gnawer, ondatra
- mussels:** (n) Bivalvia, clams, class Bivalvia, class Lamellibranchia, class Pelecypoda, Lamellibranchia
- mussulman:** (n) Mohammedan, Muslim
- musty:** (adj) fusty, rancid, stale, moldy, rank, bad, obsolete, antiquated, stuffy, threadbare, trite. ANTONYMS: (adj) airy, modern
- muttering:** (n) grumbling, mutter, murmuring, grumble, murmuration, murmur vowel, complaint, heart murmur, cardiac murmur; (adj)

- mumbling, faint
muzzle: (n) mouth, gunpoint, nose, lip, gullet, nozzle, bit; (v) muffle, silence, hush, curb
myriad: (adj) innumerable, countless, multitudinous, numerous, numberless, infinite, untold, many; (adj, n) legion, scads; (n) ten thousand
mythological: (adj) mythologic, fabulous, legendary, fabled, fancied, imaginary, unreal, barely credible, heroic, supernatural; (adj, v) mythic
mythology: (n) legend, tradition, religion, folklore, cultural anthropology, collection, classical mythology, assemblage, aggregation, accumulation, lore
nailed: (adj) fixed, tight, stationary, stable, secure, decided, firm, immobile
nakedly: (adv) barely, uncoveredly, openly, unclothedly, manifestly, plainly, rawly, simply, baldly, merely, undisguisedly
nakedness: (n) nudity, altogether, baldness, nude, nudeness, undress, birthday suit, openness, status, emptiness, frankness
nameless: (adj) unknown, unnamed, unidentified, unsung, undistinguished, unspecified, inexpressible, strange, indescribable, obscure, unspeakable. ANTONYM: (adj) famous
nape: (n) nucha, scruff, occiput, rear, back end, backside, chine
napkin: (n) diaper, cloth, handkerchief, serviette, table napkin, nappy, dinner napkin, duster, malkin, maukin; (v) sudary
napping: (adj) asleep, unthinking, unready, snoozing, slumbering, sleeping, off guard, off your guard, off his guard, off her guard, careless. ANTONYM: (adj) awake
narrowest: (n) minimum
narrowness: (n) thinness, width, intolerance, illiberality, tightness, smallness, pettiness, sheerness, slimness, meanness, skinniness. ANTONYMS: (n) wideness, stoutness, thickness, width, coarseness, inaccuracy
nasal: (n) Nasalis, os, continuant, continuant consonant; (adj) adenoidal, cadaverous, haggard, emaciated, gaunt; (v) inarticulate, guttural
natives: (n) nation, populace, community, citizens, public
naturalist: (n) natural scientist, naturalistic, Steller, life scientist, ecologist, environmentalist, faunist
naturalized: (adj) established, vernacular, accomplished, constituted, conventional, domesticated, exotic, foreign, planted, firm, effected
naught: (n) cipher, nothing, null, aught, nix, nought, zip, cypher, nada; (adj, n, pron) nil; (n, pron) zilch
nearness: (n) closeness, contiguity, vicinity, familiarity, adjacency, proximity, propinquity, presence, immediacy, neighborhood, nearby. ANTONYMS: (n) distance, farness, remoteness
nebuchadnezzar: (n) Nebuchadnezzar II, Nebuchadrezzar, Nebuchadrezzar II
necessaries: (n) necessary, necessities of life, necessity, must
necessities: (n) supplies, necessity, essential, wants, support, subsistence, requirement, bread
needlessly: (adv) uselessly, redundantly, unnecessarily, gratuitously, superfluously, unwantedly, to no avail, meaninglessly, groundlessly, excessively, without need
needy: (adj) indigent, poor, impoverished, necessitous, underprivileged, penniless, impecunious, deficient, miserable, deprived, poverty-stricken. ANTONYMS: (adj) rich, affluent, independent, solvent, privileged, satisfied
negro: (n) black, darky, blackamoor, nigger, Negroid, black person, darkie, coon, moke, lightlessness; (adj) dark
neigh: (n, v) whicker, nicker; (v) exult, crow, crow over, triumph, utter, hinny, let loose, let out, wigher
neighbor: (v) abut, adjoin, populate, touch; (n) acquaintance, neighborhood, national; (adj) neighborly, neighbouring, neighboring, adjacent. ANTONYM: (n) foreigner
neighborhood: (n) vicinity, district, area, community, locality, place, quarter, environs, section; (adj) neighboring, local
neighboring: (adj, adv) adjacent, near; (adj) adjoining, nearby, contiguous, neighbor, abutting, next, neighborly, nigh, next to. ANTONYMS: (adj) distant, remote, far, national
neighborliness: (n) neighbourliness, amity, goodwill, kindness
neighbors: (n) neighbourhood
neptune: (n) Nereid, triton, Poseidon, naiad, solar system
neva: (n) Neva river
nevada: (n) battle born state, NV, sagebrush state
nibble: (n, v) bite, nip, taste; (v) eat, munch, chew, browse, pick, gnaw, crunch, champ. ANTONYMS: (v) gobble, overeat, gulp, gorge
nibbling: (n) rate cutting, feeding, eating
niger: (n) ramtil, Niger river, republic of the Niger, Republic of Niger
nightfall: (n) dusk, evening, twilight, sunset, gloaming, evenfall, dark, muntide, sundown, darkness, fall. ANTONYMS: (n) daybreak, sunrise
nighthawk: (n) nightbird, goatsucker, mosquito hawk, bullbat, nightjar, caprimulgid, philanderer, night bird, boozier, darning needle; (adj) dissolute
nightly: (adv) every night, by night; (n) night; (adj) nocturnal. ANTONYM: (adj) daily
nilometer: (n) meter, Niloscope
nimbly: (adv) adroitly, alertly, lightly, energetically, cleverly, hastily, deftly, rapidly, readily; (adj) dexterously; (adj, adv) neatly. ANTONYMS: (adv) lethargically, heavily, awkwardly
nimrod: (v) sportsman
nipping: (adj) bitter, keen, barbed, frosty, crisp, cutting, inclement, fresh, pinching, snappy, raw
nobleman: (n) patrician, aristocrat, lord, peer, marquis, nobility, grandee, baron, duke, armiger, burgrave
nobleness: (n) dignity, generosity, magnanimity, nobility, greatness, grandeur, stateliness, civil honors, goodness, glory, glorify
nobles: (n) landed gentry, upper class
nocturnal: (adj) nightly, vespertine, nighttime, nocturnals, overnight, night, autumnal. ANTONYM: (adj) daytime
noiseless: (adj) quiet, silent, soundless, hushed, voiceless, mute, stealthy, dumb, soft, calm, tranquil. ANTONYM: (adj) heavy
nomenclature: (n) language, classification, appellation, denomination, linguistic communication, linguistic process, locution, lyric, markup language; (v)

- name
- nook:** (n) angle, niche, recess, hole, coign, bay, compartment, oriel, cove, refuge, haven
- noonday:** (n) noontide, noon, high noon, hour, twelve noon, afternoon; (v) tide; (adj) meridional
- northeast:** (adj) northeasterly, New York; (n) NE, geographic region, neon, Nebraska, geographical area, geographic area, cornhusker state, compass point, geographical region
- northerly:** (adj, adv, n) north; (adj, n) northern; (adv) northwards, northward, in the north, septentrionally, to the north, northerly; (adj) boreal
- northwest:** (adj) northwestern, Idaho; (n) nW, geographic region, geographical area, geographical region, geographic area, compass point
- norwegian:** (adj, n) Scandinavian; (n) Norseman, North Germanic, north Germanic language, Northman, Nordic; (adj) norwegian
- nostrils:** (n) naris, nose
- notabilities:** (n) notables
- notch:** (n, v) mark, dent, hack, nick, score, notch, hollow, scratch; (n) gap, incision; (v) indent. ANTONYM: (v) fill
- notched:** (adj) serrated, jaggy, serrate, toothed, erose, rough, uneven, indented, ragged, apprenticed, indented. ANTONYM: (adj) smooth
- nourish:** (v) foster, keep, bring up, nurture, sustain, aliment, cherish, feed, maintain, cultivate; (n, v) cradle. ANTONYMS: (v) starve, sap
- nourished:** (adj) fostered
- nuclei:** (n) nucleuses
- numb:** (adj) benumbed, dead, asleep, torpid, insensible, deadened, callous, impassive; (adj, v) dull; (v) numb, deaden. ANTONYMS: (adj) responsive, conscious; (v) sensitize
- numbed:** (adj) deadened, benumbed, stupefied, insensate, stiff, made torpid, insensitive, dulled, dead, blunted, cold
- numbness:** (n) dullness, anesthesia, stupor, torpor, apathy, symptom, torpidity, lethargy, deadness, indifference, anaesthesia. ANTONYMS: (n) sensation, feeling
- nutshell:** (n) summary; (v) summarize, sum up, abridge, digest, simplify, shorten, reduce, distill, concentrate, abbreviate
- oaks:** (n) beech family, Castanopsis, Nothofagus, Lithocarpus, genus Quercus, Genera Castanea, family Fagaceae, Fagus, Fagaceae, chestnuts
- oakum:** (n) tape, twist, whipcord, wire, yarn, cord, thread, cotton, string, sewing silk, packthread
- oats:** (n) Avena, grain, millet, cereal, cereal grass, common oats, genus Avena, Haver, holder, maize, buckwheat
- obedient:** (adj) submissive, compliant, good, conformable, tame, acquiescent, dutiful, meek, biddable, amenable, subservient. ANTONYMS: (adj) defiant, assertive, rebellious, crooked, intractable, naughty, wild, resistant
- obediently:** (adv) dutifully, yieldingly, compliantly, meekly, acquiescently, respectfully, tamely, subserviently, passively, loyally, devotedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) defiantly, assertively, wildly
- obelisk:** (n) dagger, monument, monolith, pinnacle, minaret, graphic symbol; (adj, n) column, pillar; (adj) spire, steeple, turret
- obliterate:** (v) annihilate, extinguish, eradicate, expunge, efface, wipe out, kill, destroy, cancel, blot out; (adj, v) abolish. ANTONYMS: (v) create, build, protect, engrave, insert
- oblong:** (adj) oval, elliptical, rectangular, rounded; (v) longitudinal; (n) block, quadrangle
- obscurity:** (n) gloom, darkness, shade, dimness, obscureness, night, oblivion, haze, ambiguity, shadow, cloudiness. ANTONYMS: (n) clarity, fame, light, simplicity, prominence, celebrity, brightness
- obsequious:** (adj) servile, flattering, submissive, cringing, sycophantic, ingratiating, humble, toadying, supple, subservient; (adj, v) deferential. ANTONYMS: (adj) domineering, assertive, disrespectful
- observance:** (n) ceremony, commemoration, observation, rite, fulfillment, obedience, manner, compliance, discharge, conformity, custom. ANTONYMS: (n) breaking, disobedience, disregard, nonobservance, inattention, omission
- observatory:** (n) observation tower, lookout station, structure, tower, outlook, observation post, lookout cupola, edifice, lookout man, construction, building
- obsoletely:** (adv) antiquatedly, anciently, antiquely, outmodedly, superannuatedly, outdatedly, old-fashionedly, stately, archaically, datedly, passly
- obstinacy:** (n) stubbornness, firmness, bullheadedness, determination, contumacy, mulishness, impenitence, resolve, resoluteness, impenitency, pertinacity. ANTONYMS: (n) cooperation, compliance
- obstinately:** (adv) obdurately, mulishly, persistently, perversely, doggedly, refractorily, unyieldingly, willfully, pigheadedly, waywardly, firmly. ANTONYM: (adv) helpfully
- obtrude:** (v) impose, force, encroach, inflict, protrude, stick out, infringe, meddle, visit, barge, push
- occupant:** (n) tenant, inhabitant, dweller, denizen, occupier, inmate, holder, citizen, householder, dalesman, coaster
- occupies:** (v) acquisition, Addison, engross, absorb, etymology, Milman, misery, multiplied, attainment
- odor:** (n) aroma, scent, odour, bouquet, flavour, perfume, flavor, savor, stink; (n, v) smell, stench
- odorous:** (adj) fragrant, odoriferous, aromatic, balmy, scented, sweet, redolent, perfumed, odorant, malodorous, fragrance. ANTONYM: (adj) smelly
- odyssey:** (n) journey, epic, epic poem, epos, journeying
- o'er:** (adv) on, upon, across
- offend:** (v) irritate, affront, insult, contravene, injure, disgust, infringe, displease, abuse, wound, anger. ANTONYMS: (v) please, delight, praise, attract
- ohio:** (n) Buckeye State, Ohio river
- olympus:** (n) Olimbos
- omit:** (adv, v) neglect, disregard; (adj, v) miss, skip, jump, preterm; (v) delete, forget, exclude, except, leave. ANTONYMS: (v) add, remember
- omnipresent:** (adj) pervasive, universal, worldwide, supreme, persistent, omnipotent, invincible, invasive, almighty, divine; (adj, adv) everywhere
- oozing:** (n) ooze, leakage, exudation, seepage, sweating, extravasation, distillation, flow, leak, discharge; (adj) seeping
- opaque:** (adj) dense, muddy, obscure, cloudy, hazy, murky, thick, unintelligible, milky, misty, vague.

- ANTONYM: (adj) transparent
- operative**: (adj) effective, functional, working, in force, active, running, practical; (n) worker, spy, mechanic; (adj, n) efficient. ANTONYMS: (adj) inactive, invalid, medical, decorative
- oppressed**: (adj) laden, persecuted, broken, burdened, drawn, gloomy, aggrieved, downcast, heavy, ladened, loaded
- oracle**: (n) prophet, divination, vaticinator, diviner, revelation, seer, sibyl, Solomon, soothsayer, vision, authority
- oracular**: (adj) prophetic, ambiguous, mystic, cryptic, prophetic, sibylline, mysterious, delphic, obscure, opinionated, dogmatic
- orator**: (n) elocutionist, speechmaker, speaker, lecturer, Cicero, speechifier, demagog, demagogue, eulogist; (v) oratrix, oratress
- organizing**: (v) organise; (n) organization, adjustment, regulation
- originality**: (n) novelty, imagination, ingenuity, initiative, freshness, newness, invention, creativity, heterodoxy, innovation; (adj, n) individuality. ANTONYMS: (n) normality, unoriginality
- oriole**: (n) cacique, bobolink, old world oriole, blackbird, cazique, meadowlark, lark, American oriole, oscine, northern oriole, American songbird
- orleans**: (n) siege of Orleans
- ornament**: (n) decoration, adornment, embellishment, decor; (v) beautify, decorate, deck, embellish, adorn; (n, v) garnish, dress. ANTONYM: (v) strip
- ornamental**: (adj) fancy, florid, cosmetic, extravagant, elaborate, showy, enhancing, delicate, beautifying; (n) decoration, adornment. ANTONYMS: (adj) plain, unadorned
- ornamented**: (adj) embellished, beautified, fancy, flowery, ornate, adorned, bedecked, decked, festooned, feathered, florid
- ornaments**: (n) stuff, trim, ornamentation, equipments, dress, disposition, custom, curios, condition, clothing, gaudery
- ornithology**: (n) vermeology, zoology, paleontology, oryctology, ophiology, entomology, helminthology, ichthyology, malacology, mastology, herpetology
- orphan**: (n) waif, caterpillar, nymph, nymph, cocoon, Aurelia, tyke, staddle, youngster, shaver; (adj) orphaned
- orpheus**: (n) Terpsichore, Euterpe, Apollo
- oscillation**: (n) beat, tremor, vibration, sway, swing, pulse, libration, variation, vacillation, fluctuation, quiver
- otter**: (n) fur, mustelid, musteline, musteline mammal, paternoster
- oust**: (v) eject, dismiss, depose, discharge, exclude, expel, kick out, dispossess, discard, boot out, overthrow. ANTONYMS: (v) restore, appoint
- outdoors**: (adv) out of doors, al fresco, out, without; (n) open air, open, nature, clear, country; (adj) outdoor. ANTONYM: (adv) inside
- outgrow**: (v) overgrow, surpass, surmount, outstrip, outmatch, outgo, become overgrown, grow over, exceed, develop, outdo
- outlandish**: (adj) foreign, bizarre, eccentric, freakish, odd, exotic, alien, quaint, singular, extraneous, freaky. ANTONYMS: (adj) normal, commonplace, sensible, familiar, tasteful
- outlive**: (v) survive, live, endure, overlive, live through, make it, overbide, overcome, remain, supervive, subsist
- outlying**: (adj) faraway, remote, far, outer, isolated, outdoor, outward, exterior, peripheral, outstanding, secluded. ANTONYMS: (adj) central, metropolitan, nearby, neighboring
- outmost**: (adj, adv) farthest; (adj) furthest, outer, uttermost, furthestmost, extreme, external, exterior, remotest
- out-of-the-way**: (adj) strange, singular, remote, devious, secluded, outlying, distant, obscure, unusual, peculiar, far
- outwardly**: (adv) exteriorly, superficially, apparently, outside, seemingly, without, ostensibly, evidently, extrinsically, outerly, outwardly. ANTONYMS: (adv) internally, underneath
- outweigh**: (v) preponderate, overshadow, overbalance, counterbalance, outstrip, predominate, exceed, prevail, surpass, outmatch; (adj) outdo
- outwit**: (v) circumvent, outsmart, outfox, deceive, overreach, trick, frustrate, outmanoeuvre, baffle, bamboozle, cheat
- overcast**: (adj) dark, cloudy, dim, dull, gloomy, heavy, muddy, dismal; (n, v) cloud; (adj, v) obscure; (v) darken. ANTONYMS: (adj) sunny, clear
- overflow**: (n, v) flood, deluge; (n) inundation, excess, flooding, torrent, outpouring; (v) inundate, flow, drown, submerge. ANTONYMS: (n) lack, drought
- overflowing**: (adj) full, copious, exuberant, flooding, bountiful, generous, brimming, profuse; (n, v) flood, inundation, deluge. ANTONYMS: (adj) sparse, scarce
- overgrown**: (adj) excessive, exorbitant, inordinate, extravagant, monstrous, covered, exaggerated, dropsical, lush; (v) turgid, tumid
- overhang**: (v) beetle, jut, project, protrude, hang, overlap, impend, jut out; (n) projection, prominence, eaves
- overhanging**: (adj, v) projecting; (v) beetling; (adj) covering, imminent, impending, pendent, obumbrant, hanging over, overspreading, depending, hanging
- overlapping**: (n) lapping, imbrication, lap, repetition, duplication, covering, garbling; (adj) obvoluted, contorted, convolute, related
- overrun**: (n, v) overflow; (v) invade, flood, occupy, infest, deluge, inundate, overwhelm, devastate, brim over; (n) excess. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, tidy; (v) make
- oversee**: (v) manage, inspect, control, direct, monitor, run, head, administer, supervise, regulate, guide
- overseer**: (n) superintendent, foreman, manager, inspector, supervisor, warden, controller, director, examiner, administrator, custodian. ANTONYM: (n) underling
- overshadow**: (v) dwarf, obscure, outweigh, loom, cloud, shadow, occult, outshine, becloud, shade; (adj) overcast
- overtake**: (v) catch, attain, catch up with, exceed, overpower, overcome, go by, gain, devastate, outstrip, beat
- overtook**: (v) overtake
- owing**: (adj) due, unpaid, unsettled, outstanding, overdue, owed, payable, undischarged, indebted, fulfilling obligation, lawful. ANTONYM: (adj) settled
- owls**: (n) order Strigiformes,

- Strigiformes
- owning:** (n) admission, avowal, confession, courteous recognition, acknowledgment
- oxen:** (n) bull, ox, cows, cow, cattle, *Bos Taurus*, bullock, kine, milker, beef, dairy cow
- pacing:** (n) *accelerando*, *andante*, *allegro*, *allegretto*, pace, walk, tempo, musical time, maneuvering alongside another vessel, cardiac pacing
- paddle:** (n) blade, vane, oar, rowing; (v) dabble, dodder, row, pull, spank, toddle, totter
- paddling:** (n) defeat, boating
- paganini:** (n) Niccolò Paganini
- pagoda:** (n) tower, pagod, pagody, temple
- pail:** (n) bucketful, jug, tub, pailful, cannikin, pails, skeel, tankard, pot, pipkin, vessel
- pailful:** (n) bucket, bucketful, containerful
- palatable:** (adj) luscious, tasty, agreeable, toothsome, appetizing, eatable, delectable, delicate, tasteful, sweet, savory. ANTONYMS: (adj) disagreeable, indigestible, inedible, tasteless
- palate:** (n) gusto, savour, flavour, gustation, liking, tooth, taste, relish, roof of the mouth, smack, fancy
- palaver:** (v) chatter, babble, coax, gabble, clack; (n, v) talk; (n) gab, negotiation, cajolery, flattery; (adj, v) prate
- palpitation:** (adj, n) tremor, trembling, quivering, shaking, trepidation; (n) beat, pulse, quiver, shakiness; (adj) flutter; (v) pulsation
- paltry:** (adj, n) mean; (adj) contemptible, measly, trifling, abject, insignificant, inconsiderable, puny, little, trivial, low. ANTONYMS: (adj) generous, substantial, plentiful, enormous, important, profound
- pampas:** (n) downs, desert, wold, savanna, veldt, weary waste, geographical region, grassland, heath, plain, geographic region
- panacea:** (n) elixir, nostrum, cure, gesture, herba panacea, sop, wonder drug, miracle drug, remedy, elixir vitae, magic bullet
- pangs:** (n) anguish, compunction, contrition, distress
- pantaloon:** (n) buffoon, jester, pantalon, farceur, clown harlequin, buffo, grimacer, pantaloons, pants, trousers, clown
- pantaloons:** (n) pants, small clothes, smalls, pantaloons, trousers, inexpressibles, overalls
- panting:** (adj) gasping, breathless, blown, winded, puffed; (v) palpitation; (n) heaving, gasp, asthma, heave, puff
- pantry:** (n) buttery, store, basement, kitchen, stowage, scullery, store cupboard, covey, storeroom, stomach, stillroom
- parable:** (n) fable, comparison, tale, proverb, myth, legend, fiction, story; (adj, n, v) apologue; (adj) simile, metalepsis
- parasitic:** (adj) parasitical, leechlike, bloodsucking, epenthetic, obsequious, parasital, sycophantical, fawning, dependent
- parasol:** (n) sunshade, canopy, awning, umbrella, marquee, beach umbrella, shade, cover, tilt, tent
- parcae:** (adj) fates, book of fate, sisters three, sky
- parched:** (adj, n) thirsty; (adj) arid, adust, torrid, barren, desiccated, dehydrated, scorched, baked, withered, shriveled. ANTONYMS: (adj) quenched, humid
- parching:** (adj) torrid, hot, parched
- parchment:** (n) vellum, sheepskin, lambskin, diploma, testament, will; (v) foolscap, tablet, table, slate, pillar
- pare:** (v) cut, peel, trim, truncate, flay, curtail, whittle, shave, skin, sharpen, husk. ANTONYM: (v) expand
- parings:** (n) residue
- parlor:** (n) front room, lounge, sitting room, saloon, salon, parlour, parlors, livingroom, common room, parlours, drawing room
- parlors:** (n) parlour
- parole:** (n) countersign, password, word, watchword, pledge, plight, locution, oral communication, parlance, prattle; (v) free
- parson:** (n) cleric, clergyman, rector, pastor, curate, preacher, ecclesiastic, divine, priest, vicar, father
- partition:** (n) wall, bulkhead, divider, distribution, separation, screen; (n, v) part, split; (v) divide, apportion, deal. ANTONYMS: (v) join, reveal; (n) union
- partridge:** (n) grouse, bobwhite, bobwhite quail, wildfowl, phasianid, quail, game bird, tinamou, ruffed grouse
- partridges:** (n) family Phasianidae, order Galliformes, curassows, Phasianidae, chickens, Galliformes, hoatzins, grouse
- passable:** (adj) adequate, indifferent, fair, mediocre, satisfactory, acceptable, middling, decent, respectable, fair to middling, moderate. ANTONYMS: (adj) inadequate, unsatisfactory, unacceptable, atrocious, excellent, exceptional, disagreeable, appalling, intolerable, poor
- passably:** (adv) reasonably, middling, moderately, tolerably, adequately, enough, well enough, okay, impartially, indifferent; (adj) pretty well. ANTONYMS: (adv) insufficiently, intolerably, unsatisfactorily, inadequately
- password:** (n) catchword, watchword, parole, word, signal, combination, shibboleth, secret, discussion, a promise; (n, v) key
- pastime:** (n) game, avocation, entertainment, recreation, hobby, distraction, interest, fun, pursuit, amusement, sideline
- pastoral:** (n) eclogue, idyll, idyl; (adj) clerical, rural, rustic, idyllic, countrified, Arcadian, country, ministerial
- pasturing:** (n) grazing
- patented:** (adj) proprietary, manifest, patent medicines, open, expanded, evident, apparent, conspicuous
- pathetically:** (adv) pitifully, piteously, sorrowfully, wretchedly, pitifully, touchingly, sadly, poorly, miserably, plaintively, distressingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) intelligently, convincingly
- patriarch:** (n) forefather, paterfamilias, father, head, chief, old man, antediluvian, head of household, elder, founder, senior. ANTONYM: (n) matriarch
- patriot:** (n) jingoist, jingo, subject, patriotic, Garibaldi, loyalist, national, chauvinist. ANTONYM: (n) turncoat
- patriotic:** (adj) nationalistic, faithful, patriot, patriotic, philanthropic, xenophobic, chauvinistic, firm, jingoistic. ANTONYM: (adj) disloyal
- patriotism:** (n) nationalism, nationality, love of country, chauvinism, jingoism, loyalty, public spirit, xenophobia, Americanism, national character, civism. ANTONYM: (n) disloyalty
- patrons:** (n) audience, following, attendance, customers, public
- patterer:** (v) improvisatore
- pauper:** (n) poor man, mumper, bum, poor person, starveling; (adj) poor, indigent, penniless; (v) bust, fold

pave: (v) case, face, veneer, impave, hard surface; (adj) causewayed
paved: (adj) cobbled
paver: (n) finisher, pavior, pavement brick, bricklayer, Pavier
peaceable: (adj) gentle, calm, pacific, amicable, quiet, friendly, inoffensive, moderate, meek, serene; (adj, v) peaceful. ANTONYMS: (adj) argumentative, belligerent, intemperate, quarrelsome, crooked, disruptive, harsh, disordered
peaceably: (adv) quietly, peacefully, patiently, noiselessly
peaked: (adj) pointed, sharp, spiky, ensiform, peaky, poorly, salient, unwell, gaunt, wan, emaciated
pear: (n) bosc, Bartlett, Pyrus communis, pome, bulb, seckel, fruit tree, false fruit, edible fruit, Bartlett pear
pearls: (n) beads, jewelry, jewellery
pearly: (adj) fair, iridescent, leaden, livid, drab, milky, dingy, dun, creamy, roan; (n) chopper
pebble: (n) boulder, crystal, flint, rock, scree, cobblestone, calculus, crag, granite, pebblestone; (adj) quartz
pebbly: (adj) shingly, rocky, rough, grating, flinty, beachy, stony, gravel
peck: (n, v) nibble; (v) beak, pick, kiss, pick up; (n) pile, plenty, mass, slew, lot, mint
pecked: (adj) biched
peculiarity: (n) idiosyncrasy, distinction, particularity, oddness, eccentricity, distinctiveness, abnormality, characteristic, attribute, difference, individuality. ANTONYM: (n) similarity
peculiarly: (adj, adv) particularly, curiously, unusually, uncommonly, singularly; (adv) especially, oddly, strangely, specifically, weirdly, specially. ANTONYMS: (adv) typically, ordinarily, slightly
pecuniary: (adj) financial, fiscal, commercial, economic, nummularly, sumptuary, numismatical, pecunial, crumenal
pedagogue: (n) dominie, teacher, schoolmaster, educator, pedagog, academician, lecturer, lector, master; (n, v) pedant; (v) purist
pedantic: (adj) affected, donnish, learned, bookish, formal, scholastic, scholarly, didactic, full of affectation, fussy; (adj, v) pompous. ANTONYMS: (adj) basic, dilettante
pedestal: (n) bottom, foot, groundwork, plinth, footstall, basis,

bed, pillar, dais, stand, platform
peeled: (adj) naked, in the altogether, in the raw, naked as a jaybird, in the buff, bare, exposed, bleak, crude, cutting, natural
peeling: (n) desquamation, shelling, hull, skiving, bark, shedding; (adj, n) flaking; (adj) damaged
peep: (n, v) glance, peek, look, gaze, glint, squeal; (n) glimpse, cheep; (v) chirp, peer, pry. ANTONYMS: (v) stare, gaze; (n) examination
peeping: (n) cheeping, tweeting, chirping; (adj) inquisitive
pellicle: (n) coat, skin, shagreen, membrane, fleece, peel, leather, investment, fur, fell, hide
pellucid: (adj) limpid, transparent, lucid, clear, bright, crystalline, crystal clear, luculent, perspicuous, liquid, crystal
pelting: (n) successiveness, chronological sequence, chronological succession, hail, rain
penance: (n) atonement, sacrament, confession, compunction, penalty, expiation, remorse, repentance, punishment, reparation, hair shirt
penetrated: (adj) perforated, entered
penitent: (adj) contrite, apologetic, sorry, remorseful, regretful, guilty, sorrowful, rueful, penitential; (n) flagellant, religionist. ANTONYMS: (adj) unrepentant, impenitent, unashamed, unremorseful
penknife: (adj, n) blade; (n) switchblade, pocketknife, clasp knife, pocket knife, carving knife, stiletto; (adj) cutlery, edge tool, whittle, razor
penn: (n) university of Pennsylvania
perceptible: (adj) conspicuous, appreciable, evident, discernible, obvious, visible, palpable, apparent, detectable, manifest, observable. ANTONYMS: (adj) intangible, unclear, inaudible, inconspicuous, obscure, undetectable, invisible
perceptibly: (adv) discernibly, apparently, appreciably, manifestly, clearly, sensibly, markedly, conspicuously, recognizably, really, patently. ANTONYMS: (adv) inaudibly, invisibly
perch: (adj, n, v) roost; (v) light, settle, sit, alight, squat, land; (adj, v) lodge, abide, dwell; (n) pole
perchance: (adv) maybe, possibly, by chance, peradventure, accidentally, incidentally, mayhap, chance, haphazard, probably, haply
perching: (adj) inessorial

perennial: (adj) lasting, eternal, continual, constant, abiding, durable, perpetual, permanent, enduring, ceaseless; (adj, v) evergreen. ANTONYMS: (adj) biennial, occasional
perennially: (adv) perpetually, continually, repeatedly, incessantly, unceasingly, persistently, evergreenly, recurrently, ceaselessly, eternally, constantly
perfected: (adj) consummate, elaborate, mellow, mature, ripe, fulfilled, done, formed; (v) completed, consummated, excessive
perfumed: (adj) fragrant, odoriferous, odorous, scented, sweet, honeyed, mellifluous, angelic, angelical, fresh, gratifying. ANTONYM: (adj) odorless
periodical: (n) journal, magazine, newspaper, review, organ, publication, book; (adj) intermittent, cyclic, recurrent, annual
periplus: (n) cruise, circumnavigation, sail, voyage
perpendicular: (adj) upright, vertical, steep, plumb, straight, right, sheer, orthogonal, normal, precipitous, true. ANTONYMS: (adj) horizontal, parallel, inclined, oblique, prone, gentle
perpetuate: (v) eternize, immortalize, maintain, preserve, continue, carry on, follow up, uphold, consolidate, commemorate, bear on
perplexed: (adj) confused, puzzled, baffled, confounded, doubtful, distracted, disconcerted; (adj, v) intricate, complicated, lost, involved. ANTONYMS: (adj) unperplexed, assured, clear, knowing
perplexity: (n) confusion, dilemma, bewilderment, maze, labyrinth, embarrassment, quandary, complication, enigma; (adj, n) difficulty, distress. ANTONYM: (n) understanding
perseverance: (n) endurance, tenacity, resolution, constancy, fortitude, assiduity, industry, doggedness, firmness, persistence, determination. ANTONYMS: (n) vacillation, cowardice, indecision, indifference
persevere: (v) persist, continue, endure, abide, go on, hang on, hold on, follow, keep, remain, pursue. ANTONYMS: (v) surrender, stop, quit
perspiration: (n) diaphoresis,

- hidrosis, sudor, sweating, extravasation, secretion, exertion, exudation, effort, lather, water
- persuasiveness:** (n) eloquence, force, convincingness, potency, military strength, intensity level, strength, long suit, metier, articulacy, military posture
- pertinacity:** (n) persistence, persistency, doggedness, obstinacy, tenacity, contumacy, pertinacy, purpose, endurance, firmness, constancy
- pertinent:** (adj) apropos, appropriate, relevant, applicable, fitting, suitable, related, adequate, opportune, pat; (adj, n) apposite. ANTONYMS: (adj) inappropriate, unrelated, immaterial
- pertinently:** (adv) relevantly, appositely, aptly, fitly, properly, fittingly, rightly, patly, germanely, relatedly, apropos
- perturbation:** (n) commotion, agitation, fuss, emotion, excitement, confusion, dislocation, discomposure, interruption; (adj, n, v) trepidation; (adj, n) flutter
- pervade:** (adj, v) fill; (v) infiltrate, penetrate, diffuse, imbue, percolate, occupy, impregnate, saturate, pass through, charge
- perverted:** (adj) perverse, immoral, distorted, kinky, corrupt, twisted, abnormal, debauched, deviant, reprobate, unnatural. ANTONYMS: (adj) normal, moral, unchanged
- petitioning:** (adj) petitory, suppliant, prayerful, pleading, begging, beseeching, entreating; (n) deprecation
- pewee:** (n) peewit, pewit, green plover, flycatcher, wood pewee, lapwing
- phaeton:** (n) coach, tourer, automobile, chariot, holidaymaker, car, machine, auto, touring car, motorcar
- pheasant:** (n) monal, afropavo, peafowl, wildfowl, bird of Juno, golden pheasant, monaul, phasianid, Argus pheasant, Argus
- philanthropic:** (adj) benevolent, charitable, humanitarian, humane, kind, eleemosynary, generous, beneficent, kindly, munificent, good. ANTONYMS: (adj) selfish, miserly, nasty, mean
- philanthropist:** (n) humanitarian, donor, benefactor, philanthrope, altruist, patron, socialist, utilitarian, presenter, cosmopolite, amicus humani generis
- philanthropy:** (n) charity, generosity, humanity, kindness, philanthropic gift, beneficence, altruism, charitableness, humanitarianism, largesse, gift. ANTONYMS: (n) nastiness, selfishness
- phoebe:** (n) quintet, quint, Phoebe bird, Phebe, fins, quintuplet, v, pentad, Louvre, louver, Little Phoebe
- piazza:** (n) plaza, square, mall, circus, cloister, arcade, court, crescent, porch, space, veranda
- pickerel:** (n) clown, barred pickerel, black jack, hopper, jack, jack crossstree, chain pickerel, chain pike, boor
- pickerelweed:** (n) aquatic plant, genus Pontederia, hydrophyte, hydrophytic plant, wampee, Pontederia cordata, Pontederia
- piecemeal:** (adv) bit by bit, gradually, little by little, in stages, partially, step by step, slowly; (adj) gradual, fragmentary, stepwise, in small stages
- piece:** (n, v) cut, prick, stick; (v) perforate, bore, enter, thrust, puncture, penetrate; (adj, v) stab, wound. ANTONYM: (v) seal
- piety:** (n) godliness, devoutness, faith, righteousness, holiness, reverence, religion, religiousness, pioussness, sanctity, goodness. ANTONYMS: (n) sin, profanity, wickedness
- pigweed:** (n) Chenopodium album, leafy vegetable, greens, green, genus Chenopodium, Chenopodium, wild spinach, amaranth, allgood, fat hen
- pilgrim:** (n) hadji, passenger, journeyer, palmer, traveler, wanderer, conventual, monk, mendicant, lay brother, haji
- pilgrimage:** (n, v) expedition, excursion; (v) trip, tour, peregrination, ramble, discursion, circuit; (n) haji, haj, career
- piling:** (n) pile, stacking, pillar, spile, heap, buttress, caking, stack, stilt, cumulus, mess
- pinions:** (n) restraint
- pinnate:** (adj) ternatopinnate, quadripinnate, compound, compounder, featherlike
- pious:** (adj, n, v) devout; (adj, n) godly; (adj) religious, holy, saintly, devotional, pure, hypocritical, devoted, sanctimonious; (adj, v) earnest. ANTONYMS: (adj) impious, sinful, profane, blasphemous, irreligious,
- uncommitted, secular, irreverent
- pipewort:** (n) hydrophyte, hydrophytic plant, aquatic plant
- pitiful:** (adj, n) abject; (adj) pathetic, lamentable, piteous, contemptible, miserable, distressing, mean, wretched, poor, sad. ANTONYMS: (adj) generous, heartwarming, admirable, cheerful, fine, happy, impressive
- pitted:** (adj) pockmarked, alveolate, faveolate, cavities, hollow, rough, discolored, cellular, foveate, freckled, notched
- placid:** (adj) calm, composed, easygoing, equable, gentle, quiet, pacific, tranquil, cool, peaceable; (adj, v) peaceful. ANTONYMS: (adj) rough, energetic, stormy, frenetic, excitable, agitated, unstable, bothered, harsh, boisterous
- planed:** (adj) smooth, varnished, level, glossed, buffed, finished
- planetary:** (adj) erratic, terrestrial, wandering, universal, planetal, cosmopolitan, ecumenical, worldwide, mundane, planetaries, terrene
- plank:** (n) timber, beam, slat, girder, panel, parachute, matchboard, footbridge, hardboard; (v) flump; (n, v) planch
- plantation:** (n) orchard, farm, garden, shrubbery, hacienda, planting, settlement, colony, parterre, grove, planter
- plastered:** (adj) drunk, tight, intoxicated, pixilated, loaded, soaked, sloshed, smashed, wet, inebriated, pissed
- plastering:** (n) daubing, coating, pargeting, rendering, stucco, coat, plasterwork, application, covering, pargetting
- plead:** (v) entreat, implore, beg, adjure, petition, ask, appeal, defend, invoke, sue; (n, v) allege. ANTONYMS: (v) answer, demand
- spectrum:** (n) plectron, fescue, picking, choice, cream, malleus, device, filling, option, pickaxe, pickaxe
- pleiades:** (n) Great Bear, Little Dipper, pencil, zodiac, Southern Cross, signs of the zodiac, constellation, cluster, Big Dipper, group
- plodding:** (adj) slow, stodgy, heavy, hardworking, ponderous, steady; (n) persistence, grind, donkeywork, drudgery, walking. ANTONYMS: (adj) dilettante, rapid

plow: (n) furrow; (v) farm, cultivate, hoe, turn over, rake, till, dig, cover, dibble, dress the ground

plowed: (v) plucked; (adj) drunk

plowing: (v) tilling, sowing; (n) tillage, aration, country, cultivation, earth, land

plowshare: (n) colter, share, part, parcel, contribution, sock, percentage

plucked: (v) ploughed; (adj) pulled, unfeathered, featherless, moulting, pilled

plumage: (n) feather, plume, feathering, quill, aftershaft, alula, marabou, finery, animal material; (adj) plumosity, alular

plumper: (n) election, referendum, initiative, vote, suffrage, voice, recall, poll

plutus: (n) nabob, Timon of Athens, capitalist, dives, Idas, millionaire

poesy: (n) poetry, verse, poem, rhyme, epos, song, tuneful Nine, strain, lay, Parnassus, poetics

poisonous: (adj) toxic, mortal, venomous, noxious, malicious, fatal, baneful, poison, lethal, viperous, mephitic. ANTONYMS: (adj) harmless, benevolent, edible, kindhearted

polestar: (n) Polaris, North Star, lodestar, loadstar, polar star, variable, cynosure, focus, seat, Pole Star, heart

politeness: (n) civility, courteousness, courtliness, manners, decorum, gentility, good manners, niceness, refinement, gallantry, decency.

ANTONYMS: (n) vulgarity, rudeness, incivility, neglect

polk: (n) president Polk, James Polk

pollen: (n) powder

pop: (n) grandeur, parade, ostentation, show, ceremony, glory, luxury, pageantry, magnificence, state, splendor. ANTONYMS: (n) understatement, modesty

potificate: (v) speak, address, swagger, spout; (n) primacy, regime, authorities, archiepiscopacy, archbishopric, government

poorhouse: (n) workhouse, townhouse, establishment

poplar: (n) poplar tree, abele, cottonwood, hackmatack, wood, white poplar, angiospermous tree, gray poplar, flowering tree, black poplar, balsam poplar

populous: (adj) multitudinous, crowded, densely populated, multiple, thick, inhabited,

numerous, manifold, multiplied; (adj, v) teeming; (v) closely packed.

ANTONYM: (adj) uninhabited

por: (n) stoma, interstice, emunctory, gully hole; (v) speculate, meditate, contemplate, concentrate, centre, engulf, engross

pores: (n) voids

porridge: (v) oatmeal, hasty pudding, mince pie, oyster, pineapple, mango; (n) burgoon, pap, splash, lolbolly, podge

portentous: (adj) fateful, extraordinary, pompous, amazing, pontifical, prodigious, grandiloquent, sinister, unusual, foreboding, astonishing. ANTONYMS: (adj) modest, promising

posse: (n) crew, horde, troop, crowd, mob, constabulary, squad, pack, gang, bevy, batch

possession: (n) owner, holder, proprietor, householder, occupant, landowner, landholder, proprietary, somebody, someone, soul

postage: (n) postage stamp, token, seal, cast, postage expense, value or prepayment, mold, item, franking, pestle, impression

posterity: (n) race, descendants, issue, offspring, descendant, future, generation, progeny, breed, descendent, spat

postpone: (v) defer, delay, adjourn, procrastinate, put off, suspend, hold over, remit, shelve; (adj, v) retard, waive. ANTONYMS: (v) advance, continue

potash: (n) potassium oxide, potashes, potassium carbonate, potassium hydroxide, hydrated oxide, hydroxide

poultry: (n) chicken, fowl, hen, domestic fowl, bird, Guinea, cochin, dove, fowls, capon, chick

pout: (v) brood, sulk; (adj, v) frown, protrude; (adj) lower, glower, scowl, gloam, look downcast; (n) eelpout, hornpout

poverty-stricken: (adj) destitute, indigent, needy, miserable, penniless, squalid, depressed, bad off, impoverished, shabby

powdery: (adj) powdered, fine, sandy, farinaceous, floury, mealy, pulverized, pulverulent, psammous, sabulous, crumbly

practiced: (adj) adept, expert, skillful, versed, proficient, accomplished, skilful, skilled, trained, practised, able. ANTONYMS: (adj)

inexperienced, untrained, incompetent, clumsy, unqualified

prairie: (n) meadow, lea, grassland, field, savanna, steppe, heath, bush, jungle, desert, pampas

pranks: (n) trouble

preach: (v) lecture, exhort, moralize, advocate, sermonize, urge, hold forth, admonish, evangelize, prophesy, moralise

preacher: (n) missionary, parson, lecturer, clergyman, evangelist, pastor, priest, sermonizer, revivalist, gospeler, preachers

preaching: (n) sermon, lecture, homily, preaching, baccalaureate, speech, pulpit, exhortation, kerygma; (v) preach; (adj) hence

precede: (v) lead, head, forego, antecede, antedate, anticipate, introduce, forerun, pass, preface, go. ANTONYMS: (v) succeed, postdate

precept: (n) canon, decree, command, mandate, charge, lesson, injunction, law, commandment, principle; (adj, n) rule

precocious: (adj) advanced, early, pert, premature, impudent, obtrusive, precipitate, bright, saucy, bumptious, developed.

ANTONYMS: (adj) backward, retarded

predicament: (n) dilemma, fix, plight, crisis, difficulty, mess, quandary, case, category, impasse; (n, v) condition

preface: (n, v) prelude, preamble, proem; (n) beginning, introduction, preliminary, exordium, overture; (v) introduce, precede, premise.

ANTONYMS: (n) addendum, conclusion, postscript

preparedly: (adv) setly, fittedly, ripely, fitly, equippedly, disposedly, willingly, qualifiedly, competently, completely, maturely

prescribe: (n, v) ordain; (v) enjoin, decree, dictate, fix, command, assign, determine, set, stipulate, designate

presentable: (adj) decent, personable, satisfactory, acceptable, suitable, passable, comely, tidy, neat, becoming, sufficient. ANTONYMS: (adj) unsatisfactory, untidy, inadequate

preserves: (n) conserve, jam, chowchow, conserves, jelly, marmalade, canned food, confiture, European federation of importers of dried fruit, preserved food, apple butter

presuming: (adj) forward, arrogant, insolent, familiar, overconfident, conceited, assuming, rash, brash, pretentious, confident

pretensions: (n) airs, affected manner, mannerism

pretext: (n) pretense, pretension, color, pretence, mask, plea, guise, sham, appearance; (n, v) excuse, cloak

prevail: (n, v) triumph, control, govern; (v) dominate, overcome, outweigh, obtain, persist, carry, vanquish; (adj) preponderate.

ANTONYM: (v) lose

preying: (adj) predatory; (n) predation, pillaging, depredation

priceless: (adj) invaluable, rare, inestimable, incalculable, costly, beyond price, valuable, picked, best, choice, elect. ANTONYMS: (adj) worthless, cheap

primeval: (adj) primitive, ancient, primordial, aboriginal, primal, original, primary, first, primaeval, prehistoric, antediluvian.

ANTONYMS: (adj) modern, contemporary, factual

privates: (n) genitalia, genitals, genital organ, crotch, female genitalia, male genitalia, family jewels, fork, pudendal

prized: (adj) beloved, precious, dear, cherished, appreciated, treasured, esteemed, valuable, highly regarded, favorite, priceless.

ANTONYM: (adj) hated

proclaim: (v) declare, assert, advertise, broadcast, promulgate, enunciate, herald, decree, divulge, notify, announce

procure: (v) get, obtain, buy, earn, win, gain, have, purchase, induce, derive, find. ANTONYM: (v) give

procuring: (v) procure

profaned: (adj) defiled, impure, unclean

profanity: (n) blasphemy, oath, irreverence, obscenity, swearing, profanation, sacrilege, swear word, expletive, disrespect, utterance.

ANTONYM: (n) purity

profess: (v) assert, feign, affirm, avow, state, pretend, claim, confess, allege, aver; (n, v) protest.

ANTONYM: (v) repress

professed: (adj) alleged, declared, apparent, avowed, pretended, seeming, supposed, affected, feigned, so-called, purported

professing: (n) avowal, profession, community

professors: (n) faculty

profitably: (adv) advantageously, helpfully, fruitfully, productively, favorably, lucratively, usefully, gainfully, economically, prolifically, expediently. ANTONYMS: (adv) fruitlessly, unproductively, unhelpfully

progenitors: (n) lineage

progressing: (n) expediting; (adj) thriving, ongoing, moving, coming, forward, better; (adv) succeeding, making headway, ahead, moving ahead

projecting: (adj) projected, protruding, jutting, protrusive, pendent; (adj, v) overhanging, jutting over, salient; (v) beetling, protuberant, convex

prolific: (adj) fertile, copious, fecund, fruitful, profuse, abundant, bountiful, plentiful, fat, exuberant, pregnant. ANTONYMS: (adj) scanty, destructive, fruitless, scarce, unproductive

promontory: (n) cape, headland, mull, point, ness, head, bluff, foreland, projection, peninsula, cliff

prompting: (n) stimulation, instigation, prompt, influence, inducement, provocation, hint, invitation, leading question, suggestion; (v) to prompt

pronounce: (v) articulate, declare, affirm, say, assert, express, vocalize, proclaim; (n, v) allege; (adj, v) deliver, utter. ANTONYM: (v) mumble

propertied: (adj) rich

propitious: (adj) fortunate, lucky, good, benign, happy, opportune;

(adj, v) auspicious; (adj, n, v)

friendly; (adj, n) promising, advantageous, kind. ANTONYMS:

(adj) unfortunate, unlucky, unpropitious, inopportune, hopeless

proportionally: (adv) relatively, commensurately, pro rata, in

proportion, balancedly, symmetrically, proportionably

proportionate: (adj, v) proportional; (adj) proportionable, equal, harmonious, comparable, balanced, sufficient, relative, appropriate, adequate, equitable. ANTONYM:

(adj) disproportionate

propped: (adj) fulcrate

propriety: (adj, n) decency, modesty, correctness, aptitude; (n) decorum, fitness, etiquette, civility, grace, politeness, manners. ANTONYMS: (n) impropriety, rudeness,

unsuitableness, indecorum, decadence, tactlessness, corruption, vulgarity, indecency

prospecting: (adj) searching

prostrate: (adj, v) prone, exhaust, level, fatigue; (v) fell, overwhelm, overcome, floor, overthrow; (adj) deject, knock down. ANTONYM: (adj) upright

protracted: (adj, v) extended, lingering, continued; (adj) prolonged, lengthy, extensive, prolix, chronic, lengthened, slow, spun out. ANTONYMS: (adj) brief, abrupt, short, concise, easy

provender: (n) provisions, food, nourishment, pasturage, victuals, viands, sustenance, commissariat, cud, eatage; (n, v) nurture

proverb: (n) adage, byword, aphorism, dictum, saying, axiom, parable, motto, expression; (n, v) maxim, saw

prudence: (n) foresight, economy, frugality, caution, care, forethought, providence, circumspection, judgment, deliberation; (adj, n) wisdom. ANTONYMS: (n)

imprudence, profligacy, generosity, hindsight, recklessness, extravagance

psalm: (n) hymn, chant, psalmody, anthem, song, Salm; (v) sing

puddle: (n, v) plash; (n) pond, lake, slop, lough, mere, loch, lin; (v)

muddle, make, addle

puff: (adj, n, v) gasp; (n, v) blow, whiff, gust, drag; (v) boast, inflate, huff, heave, brag, distend

puffball: (n) earthball, false truffle, fungus, true puffball, puckball, puckfist, puff, giant puffball

pulley: (n) sheave, tackle, crane, bollock, windlass, winch, wheel, hoist, spool, blockage, auction block

pulp: (n) flesh, pith, puree, cellulose, pap, magazine, bagasse, marrow; (v) grind, squash; (adj) taste

pulpy: (adj) soft, yielding, fleshy, succulent, spongy, silken, mild, pulpous, downy, squashy, containing pulp

pulsing: (adj) beating, pulsating; (n) pulse, pulsation, impulse, caprice, heartbeat, impulsion, beat, nerve impulse, heart rate

pumpkin: (n) Autumn pumpkin, vegetable, veggie, squash, gourd, head, punkin, pumpkin, pumpkin vine

punctuality: (n) accuracy, precision, nicety, exactitude, truth, fidelity,

- exactness, promptitude, steadiness; (adj) rigor, mathematical precision. ANTONYM: (n) tardiness
- puny:** (adj) weak, petty, feeble, frail, tiny, small, minute, measly, runty, paltry, trivial. ANTONYMS: (adj) muscular, brawny, strong, significant, fit, huge, enormous, robust, considerable
- purana:** (n) shastra, Avesta, sastra, Tantra, Vedas
- purgative:** (adj) evacuant, medicinal, emptying, psychotherapeutic; (n) aperient, physic, aloes, purgament; (v) detergent, lotion, wash
- purification:** (n) defecation, purge, refinement, catharsis, purgation, purging, refining, cleaning, cleansing, cleanup, rectification. ANTONYMS: (n) debasement, dirtying, contamination
- purified:** (adj) refined, clean, pure, cleared, cleaned, cleansed, corrected, chastened, sublimated, sanitary, pured
- purify:** (adj, v) clear, cleanse; (v) purge, disinfect, refine, distill, sanctify, clarify, depurate, lustrate, chasten. ANTONYMS: (v) pollute, dilute, soil, cloud, desecrate
- purifying:** (adj) purging, purgatorial, antiseptic, expurgatory, ablutionary, remedial; (v) cathartic, abstergent; (n) purification
- puritan:** (adj) blue, puritanic, puritanical, Methodist, formalist, religionist; (n) precisian, devotee, sanyasi, yogi; (v) coquette
- purposely:** (adj, adv) designedly, advisedly, knowingly; (adv) intentionally, on purpose, by design, consciously, by choice, calculatedly, explicitly; (adj) wittingly. ANTONYM: (adv) unintentionally
- purslane:** (n) herb, pusley, herbaceous plant
- pursuits:** (n) diversion, duties
- putrid:** (adj) fetid, rotten, malodorous, corrupt, decayed, smelly, noisome, putrefied, bad, foetid, stinking. ANTONYM: (adj) fragrant
- putty:** (n) cement, paste, glue, lute, mastic, filler, solder, gum, stucco, tin oxide; (v) apply
- pygmy:** (n) manikin, pigmy, homunculus, pygmies; (adj, n) miniature; (adj) midget, tiny, little, puny, minikin, small
- pyramids:** (n) billiards, pingpong, pool, bagatelle, jackstones, pushball, hopscotch
- pythagorean:** (n) Pythagorean tuning
- quack:** (n) fraud, fake, cheat, mountebank, empiric, physician, doctor, charlatan, medicaster; (v) cackle; (n, v) cry
- quadruped:** (n) beast, tetrapod, mollusk, insect, mammal, creature, biped; (adj) quadrupedal. ANTONYM: (adj) bipedal
- quaking:** (adj) shaky, quivering, trembling, shaking, wobbly, unsteady, jarring, vibrant, uncertain, insecure; (n) fright
- quarts:** (n) quart
- quartz:** (adj) flint, fossil, crag, marble, pebble; (n) quartz glass, citrine, chalcedony, lechatelierite, aventurine, cairngorm
- queer:** (adj) fantastic, odd, eccentric, funny, curious, gay, peculiar, strange, quaint, fishy, outlandish. ANTONYMS: (adj) conventional, normal, well
- quenched:** (adj) extinct, quelled, out, slaked, squelched, dead, kayoed, permanently inactive, prohibited, proscribed, put out
- quicksilver:** (adj, n) hydrargyrum; (adj) mercurial, fickle, cannon ball, moon, Proteus, chameleon, dart, arrow, weathercock; (n) Hg
- quieted:** (adj) composed
- quivering:** (adj, n) trembling, tremor, quaking, trepidation; (n) palpitation, quiver, vibration; (adj) flutter, quavering, shivering, tremulous. ANTONYM: (adj) steady
- raccoon:** (n) coon, racoon, ringtail, pelt, common raccoon, common racoon, procyonid, fur
- racked:** (adj) assured, confident, miserable
- radiated:** (adj) radial, stellar, stelliform, penciled, diffuse
- radicle:** (n) rootlet, root, structure, radicle, germ, trunk, seed, radix
- radical, radicle, stem, stirps**
- radii:** (n) radiuses
- raft:** (n, v) float; (n) deal, flock, heap, lot, plenty, muckle, pile, slew, stack, wad
- raggedly:** (adv) shabbily, shaggily, ruggedly, unevenly, roughly, tatteredly, hoarsely, frayedly, dilapidatedly, unemptly, threadbarely
- raging:** (adj) hot, angry, fierce, irate, wild, infuriated, enraged, vehement, heated; (adj, n) mad, rabid. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, mild, contained
- rags:** (adj) refuse, rubble, scourings, sweepings, trash, waste; (n) clothing, tatter, orts, odds and ends, dress
- railroad:** (n) railway, railway system, tram road, tramway, rails, doctrine; (v) dragoon, push, coerce, bully, dispatch
- railroads:** (n) railway
- rains:** (n) wet
- rainy:** (adj) moist, pluvial, damp, pluvios, stormy, juicy, dirty, soppy, raining, drizzly; (adj, v) showery. ANTONYM: (adj) pleasant
- rake:** (n, v) tilt; (adj, v) comb; (v) hoe, harrow, graze, draw, plow; (n) debauchee, roue, slant, blood. ANTONYM: (v) glance
- raleigh:** (n) Walter Raleigh, Walter Raleigh, capital of north Carolina, Raleigh, sir Walter Raleigh
- ramble:** (n, v) journey, stroll, saunter, wander, roam, meander, excursion, hike, tramp, walk, promenade. ANTONYM: (v) settle
- rambler:** (n, v) rover; (n) nomad, straggler, walker, hiker, traveler, peregrinator, climber, vagrant, itinerant, saunterer
- rambling:** (adj) disjointed, incoherent, desultory, discursive, erratic, excursive, meandering, diffuse, loose, errant; (adj, n) wandering. ANTONYMS: (adj) coherent, abrupt, conclusive, pithy, taciturn, compact
- rampart:** (n) wall, fortification, earthwork, guard, embankment, barricade, defense, barrier; (v) battlement, circumvallation; (n, v) vallum
- rapt:** (adj) engrossed, intent, ecstatic, preoccupied, spellbound, captive, enthralled, attentive, fixed, enraptured; (v) engrossed in. ANTONYMS: (adj) detached, inattentive, uninterested, bored
- rash:** (adj, n) foolhardy, hasty, precipitate, eruption; (adj) imprudent, reckless, impetuous, heedless, audacious, sudden; (adj, adv) thoughtless. ANTONYMS: (adj) cautious, careful, sensible, wise, considered, deliberate, prudent, modest, slow, responsible, patient
- rations:** (n) fare, food, foodstuff, grub, victuals, supplies, requirements, nutrition, nourishment, meat, groceries
- rattle:** (n, v) jingle, jangle, clatter; (n) click, clang, clack; (v) bang, confuse, shake, patter, disconcert

- rattled:** (adj) hot and bothered, perturbed, upset, unsettled, puzzled, disconcerted, discomposed, bewildered, beside oneself, abashed, addled.
ANTONYM: (adj) calm
- rattling:** (adj) lively, brisk, racy, marvelous, fantastic, zippy, snappy, spanking, merry; (adv) very, real
- ravaged:** (adj) desolate, devastated, destroyed, ruined, pillaged, blasted, raped, despoiled, everlasting, goddamn, bleak
- rawness:** (n) crudity, roughness, ignorance, greenness, unripeness, sensitivity, simplicity, itch, soreness, immaturity, iciness.
ANTONYMS: (n) complexity, warmth, experience
- rearmost:** (adj) backmost, hindmost, last, final, finishing, hindermost, back, latter, ultimate, extreme, furthest back
- reawaken:** (v) revive, rejuvenate, reproduce, arouse, restart, stimulate, breathe life into, awaken, bring back, reanimate, revitalize.
ANTONYM: (v) calm
- receding:** (n) disappearance, fadeout, recession, niche; (adj) moving back, low, hairless, balding, going out, recessive, retiring
- recess:** (n) niche, pause, intermission, holiday, nook, vacation, hollow, alcove, interval, interruption; (n, v) break. ANTONYM: (n) continuation
- recesses:** (n) penitentialia, bowels, inside
- reckoning:** (n) calculation, computation, bill, score, computing, liquidation, clearance; (n, v) count, enumeration, account, estimation
- reclaimed:** (adj) cultivated, tame, domestic, rescued, disciplined, domesticated
- recollect:** (v) recall, remember, recognize, call to mind, remind, mind, think, call up, reminisce, refresh, retrieve. ANTONYM: (v) forget
- recollection:** (n, v) mind; (n) reminiscence, recall, anamnesis, remembrance, recognition, memento, memorial, commemoration, memoir, retrospect
- recommending:** (adj) recommendatory, commendatory
- reconciled:** (adj) consistent, resigned, serene, meet; (v) made friends, affriended. ANTONYM: (adj) unreconciled
- reconnoitre:** (v) explore, scout, reconaissance, investigate, examine, inspect, probe, survey, observe, make a reconaissance
- recreate:** (n, v) divert; (v) reconstruct, play, animate, refresh, renew, renovate, amuse, enliven, reanimate, entertain
- recreating:** (adj) recreative, amusing
- rectitude:** (adj, n) justice, honesty, equity; (n) integrity, veracity, virtue, uprightness, morality, purity, propriety; (adj) fidelity.
ANTONYMS: (n) immorality, incorrectness, wickedness
- reddening:** (n) flush, rufescence; (v) redden
- reddish:** (adj) ruddy, rosy, crimson, cherry, rufescent, rufous, rubicund, scarlet, rubedinous, ruby, colorful
- redeem:** (v) recover, deliver, atone, recoup, expiate, ransom, reclaim, save, free, extricate, refund.
ANTONYMS: (v) hock, pawn, lose
- redolent:** (adj) fragrant, reminiscent, evocative, odoriferous, odorous, sweet, balmy, suggestive, scented, spicy, remindful
- reefs:** (n) sunken rocks, rocks, coral reef
- reel:** (n, v) coil, roll; (v) waver, rock, stagger, totter, spin, teeter, falter; (n) bobbin, spool
- refine:** (v) cultivate, clear, polish, purify, civilize, elaborate, improve, smelt, chasten; (adj, v) clarify; (adj) purge. ANTONYMS: (v) spoil, cloud, dilute, contaminate, brutalize
- refinement:** (n) culture, cultivation, purification, gentility, polish, finish, civilization, nicety, courtesy, grace; (adj, n) elegance. ANTONYMS: (n) vulgarity, adulteration, tackiness, uncouthness, tastelessness, inelegance, coarseness, clumsiness, awkwardness, crudeness
- refit:** (v) mend, renovate, fit out, equip, fix, remodel, supply, amend, revamp; (n, v) repair; (n) renovation
- reformer:** (n) emancipationist, abolitionist, activist, hippie, demonstrator, crusader, insurgent, prohibitionist, meliorist, rebel, radical
- refreshed:** (adj) invigorated, rejuvenated, reinvigorated, new, novel, revived, impudent, energizing, overbold, energising, clean. ANTONYM: (adj) tired
- refreshing:** (adj) bracing, invigorating, refreshing, pleasant, fresh, cool, refresh, refreshingly, crisp, tonic, pleasing. ANTONYMS: (adj) unwelcome, soporific, tiring, relaxing, musty
- regal:** (adj) noble, imperial, grand, purple, royal, dignified, kingly, August, imposing, stately, magnificent. ANTONYMS: (adj) undignified, modest, poor
- regrets:** (n) regret, declination, RSVP regrets only, acknowledgement, acknowledgment, celestial latitude, excuse, Dec
- regularity:** (n) constancy, evenness, punctuality, orderliness, uniformity, steadiness, method, accuracy, discipline, system, exactness.
ANTONYMS: (n) lateness, asymmetry, irregularity, disorder, variability, variety, abnormality
- regulating:** (adj) regulatory, controlling, changeable, restrictive; (n) regulation, limitation, indexation, adjustment, ordinance, autoregulation, regularisation.
ANTONYM: (adj) fixed
- reins:** (n) bridle, Reins of a vault, reins of government, wheel, gearshift, joystick, pedals, potency, power, powerfulness
- reinvigorated:** (adj) invigorated, fresh, clean, refreshing, refreshful, overbold, novel, new, impertinent, bracing, energising
- rejoice:** (v) cheer, gladden, triumph, revel, jubilate, gratify, gloat, please; (n, v) delight, glory, joy.
ANTONYMS: (v) lament, mourn, complain
- relic:** (n, v) memento, souvenir, keepsake; (n) token, trace, remainder, remains, antique, relict, vestige, remnant
- relics:** (n) relic, rood, rosary, thurible, reliquary, remainder, remain, leavings, remains, remnants, patera
- religiously:** (adv) conscientiously, spiritually, devoutly, reverently, sacredly, holy, Godly, scrupulously, devotedly, morally, devotionally
- relinquish:** (v) abandon, abdicate, leave, cede, quit, renounce, give up, discard, disclaim, yield, desert.
ANTONYMS: (v) keep, accept, continue, enforce, acquire
- relinquished:** (adj) forsaken, deserted, derelict, unoccupied, given, surrendered
- relinquishing:** (n) handover, conclusion, ending, giving up, waiver, relinquishment, ceding; (adj) relinquent, resigned
- remedying:** (adj) curative
- remembrance:** (n, v) recollection,

- mind; (n) commemoration, memorial, recall, relic, monument, keepsake, reminiscence, recognition; (adj, n) memento
- reminiscence:** (n) memory, recall, recollection, anamnesis, memoir, nostalgia, mind, recollections, retrospect, memorial, memento
- remisances:** (n) memoirs
- remissness:** (n) laxity, negligence, laxness, carelessness, heedlessness, inadvertence, inattention, disregard, thoughtlessness, disesteem; (adj) idleness
- remnant:** (n) end, relic, remains, residue, fragment, leftover, survival, trace, oddment, balance, stub
- remnants:** (n) leavings, remains, remainder, rest, leftovers, remnant, offal, leftover, vestige, relics, refuse
- remoteness:** (n) aloofness, detachment, farawayness, remotion, loneliness, longinquity, reserve, abstraction, separation, standoffishness; (adj, n) farness. ANTONYMS: (n) warmth, accessibility, inclusion, friendliness, closeness, approachability
- remunerate:** (v) pay, recompense, compensate, reimburse, indemnify, repay, recoup, requite, reward, refund, redress
- repast:** (n) feast, food, banquet, dinner, lunch, refection, collation, luncheon, spread, potluck, eating
- repat:** (v) deplore, bewail, rue, mourn, lament, atone, sorry, bemoan, feel remorse, grieve, be sorry
- repose:** (n, v) recline, peace, lie, calm; (n) composure, ease, quiet, leisure, recreation, relaxation; (v) lay. ANTONYMS: (n, v) work; (n) activity, panic, agitation
- reproach:** (n, v) blame, rebuke, charge, abuse, disgrace, reprimand, invective; (v) accuse, chide, condemn; (n) condemnation. ANTONYMS: (n, v) praise; (v) commend, approve; (n) compliment, commendation, approval
- reproof:** (n, v) reprimand, censure, rebuke, lecture; (n) reproach, admonition, reprehension, blame, condemnation, objugation, castigation
- reprove:** (n, v) censure, blame, chide, rebuke, reprehend; (v) admonish, reproach, lecture, condemn, warn, castigate. ANTONYMS: (v) praise, approve, commend
- reptile:** (n) reptilian, creeper, basilisk, sneak, wretch, mammal, bird, shellfish; (adj) abject, vile, sordid
- repudiation:** (n) denial, refusal, exclusion, renunciation, disclaimer, negation, exception, omission, disownment, protest, renouncement. ANTONYMS: (n) permission, affirmation
- repugnance:** (n) horror, hatred, antipathy, inconsistency, repulsion, nausea, revulsion, loathing, detestation, aversion, hate. ANTONYMS: (n) pleasantness, love, attractiveness, adoration, liking
- requiem:** (n) lament, elegy, epicedium, threnody, song, funeral song, lamentation, plaint; (adj, n) coronach; (adj) nenia, deep death song
- resembling:** (adj, prep) like; (adj) analogous, parallel, similar, conformable, approximate, semblative, other, probable; (prep) similar to, reminiscent of. ANTONYMS: (prep) unlike
- reservingly:** (adv) reticently, aloofly, standoffishly, uncommunicatively, diffidently, retiringly, restrainedly, shily, coldly, coolly, demurely
- reside:** (adj, v) inhabit, dwell; (v) exist, occupy, remain, live, belong, abide, lodge, populate, lie
- resisting:** (adj) tough, tenacious, sequacious, stringy, tough as whitleather, resistant, recalcitrant, opposing, making resistance, loath; (v) resist
- resistless:** (adj) overpowering, overwhelming, unquenchable, unconquerable, supine, invincible, inextinguishable, indomitable, inactive, impregnable; (v) avoidless. ANTONYMS: (adj) resistible
- resolute:** (adj, n) constant, firm, fixed, steady; (adj, v) determined; (adj) inflexible, brave, adamant, dogged, unbending, courageous. ANTONYMS: (adj) weak, uncertain, uncommitted, timid, fickle, feeble, indecisive, flexible, flippant, hesitant, undecided
- resolutely:** (adv) determinedly, decidedly, steadfastly, decisively, unfalteringly, boldly, steadily, stubbornly, definitely, resolvedly, unwaveringly. ANTONYMS: (adv) irresolutely, indecisively, uncertainly, feebly, hesitantly, aimlessly
- resonance:** (n) ringing, sonority, vibration, reverberation, echo, plangency, timbre, timber, noise, ring, accord. ANTONYMS: (n) weakness
- resound:** (v) ring, reverberate, boom, peal, roar, blare, resonate, sound, reecho, clatter, resounding
- resounding:** (adj) booming, ringing, reverberating, loud, rolling, vibrant, emphatic, resonating, reverberant; (v) resound; (adv) resoundingly. ANTONYMS: (adj) qualified, marginal
- respite:** (n, v) pause, rest, lull; (n) repose, intermission, recess, break, remission, relief, cessation, interruption
- resplendent:** (adj, n) bright, lucid; (adj) radiant, luminous, illustrious, splendid, flamboyant, glorious, magnificent, gorgeous, effulgent. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull
- restlessness:** (n) anxiety, disquiet, impatience, fidget, uneasiness, disquietude, unrest, fidgetiness, agitation, insomnia; (adj, n) nervousness. ANTONYMS: (n) calm, contentment, restfulness, peace
- restrain:** (adj, v) confine; (v) control, rein, hold, curb, bind, contain, prevent, limit, repress; (n, v) check. ANTONYMS: (v) encourage, promote, unleash, impel, release, intensify, increase, free, extend, express, support
- restrained:** (adj) reserved, quiet, modest, temperate, discreet, limited, reasonable, subdued, unemotional, reticent, guarded. ANTONYMS: (adj) unrestrained, open, flashy, immoral, ostentatious, wild, loud, theatrical, outgoing, extravagant, emotional
- resurrection:** (n) renewal, rebirth, revival, regeneration, restoration, resurgence, reanimation, restitution, renaissance, resumption, resuscitation. ANTONYMS: (n) disappearance
- retainer:** (n) domestic, menial, follower, attendant, manservant, holder, retainers, henchman, retaining bracket, flunky, retaining fee
- retard:** (adj, v) hinder, check, obstruct, deaden; (v) slow, detain, impede, arrest, decelerate; (n, v) lag, defer. ANTONYMS: (v) expedite, hasten, prompt
- retarded:** (adj) slow, tardy, imbecile, belated, delayed, simple, obtuse, leisurely, dull, deferred, defective. ANTONYMS: (adj) precocious

- retinue:** (n) court, entourage, following, suite, cortege, escort, company, equipage; (n, v) train, attendance; (v) attendants
- retreated:** (adj) withdrawn, people
- revel:** (n, v) frolic; (v) drink, celebrate, exult, wallow, rejoice, bask, riot; (n) carousal, orgy; (adj) luxuriate.
- ANTONYMS: (v) mourn; (n) mourning
- revere:** (n, v) respect, regard, fear, worship, honor, esteem, adore; (n) deference, adoration, admiration, awe. ANTONYMS: (n) despise, disrespect, irreverence, disdain, disparagement, contempt; (v) dishonor
- reverenced:** (adj) revered, reverend, sacred, sublime, venerated, August, inspiring awe, emeritus, empyreal, empyrean, profoundly honored
- reverently:** (adv) reverentially, piously, religiously, devoutly, deferentially, worshipfully, solemnly, godly, courteously, politely, obsequiously. ANTONYM: (adv) irreverently
- revery:** (n) dream, daydream, castle in Spain, air castle, castle in the air, imagine, dreaming; (v) low spirits, melancholy, ill humor, despondency
- revising:** (n) rescript, editing, recasting, redaction, revision, rewriting, correction, rephrasing; (adj) revisory
- revisit:** (v) go back, get back, frequent, come back, review, revise, flood back, return to, go home, hang around in, have a second look at. ANTONYM: (v) depart
- reviving:** (adj) bracing, restorative, renewing, refreshing, revival, brisk, enlivening, recuperative, reanimating, promoting recuperation, giving life. ANTONYM: (adj) soothing
- revolutionize:** (v) change, revolutionise, alter, overthrow, overturn, infect, bring down, inspire, subvert, reorganize, knock over
- revolve:** (v) consider, meditate, deliberate, ponder, circle, contemplate, return, circulate, orbit, rotate; (n, v) gyrate
- reynard:** (n, v) fox; (v) Ulysses, Machiavel, sly boots; (n) vixen, doe, hart, stag, roe, deer, buck
- rhine:** (n) Joseph Banks Rhine, Rhein
- rhus:** (n) genus Rhus
- rhyme:** (n) poetry, verse, poem, song, alliteration, numbers, rhythm; (n, v) rime, measure; (v) poetize, versify
- ribbed:** (v) sulcated, striated; (adj) ridged, grooved, canalculated, having ribs, unsmooth, corrugated. ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, ribless
- riches:** (n, v) money; (n) affluence, abundance, fortune, opulence, plenty, prosperity, exuberance, treasure, resources; (v) gold
- ricochet:** (n, v) rebound, boom; (v) recoil, bound, jump, kick, glance, reverberate, skip, leap; (n) carom
- rife:** (adj) prevailing, current, rampant, plentiful, predominant, epidemic, copious, numerous, common, regnant, abundant. ANTONYMS: (adj) scarce, limited, rare, sparse
- rifles:** (n) chasseur, light infantry
- rightfully:** (adv) lawfully, legitimately, legally, justifiably, duly, correctly, properly, deservedly, righteously, fairly, rightly. ANTONYM: (adv) unduly
- rigmarole:** (n) nonsense, boloney, bosh, absurdity, baloney, tripe, trumpery, double-talk; (adj) rodomontade, nonsensical, foolish
- rill:** (n) channel, streamlet, creek, rivulet, run, tunnel, stream, bourn, beck, arroyo, watercourse
- rime:** (n, v) rhyme; (n) hoarfrost, hoar, cleft, rift, chink, crack, assonance, alliteration, consonance; (v) alliterate
- rind:** (n) bark, crust, cortex, husk, coat, hull, paring, fur, hide, surface; (n, v) skin
- ripened:** (adj) mature, matured, elderly, aged, maturer, old, mellow, grown, full-grown, cured, adult. ANTONYM: (adj) young
- ripeness:** (n, v) readiness; (n) maturation, matureness, mellowness, perfection, fruition, lusciousness, succulence, full development; (v) preparedness, ripen. ANTONYMS: (n) greenness, dryness
- ripple:** (v) bubble, murmur, gurgle, billow, surge, burble, cockle; (n, v) wave, swell, riffle, purl
- rippled:** (adj) crinkly, having a ripple, uneven, wavelike, in waves, wavy, frilly, frilled, billowy, agitated, ruffled
- rippling:** (n) ripple, wave, riffle, corrugation, moving ridge, wavelet, ripple formation; (adj) flowing, billowy
- rites:** (n) money, finances, wake, religion
- rivet:** (v) focus, concentrate, clinch, fascinate, center, absorb, engross, enthrall; (adj) nail, pin, clamp
- roach:** (n) roach, stub, dace, oriental cockroach, blackbeetle, oriental roach, Mexican Valium, giant cockroach, forget me drug, family Cyprinidae, dictyopterous insect
- roadside:** (n) verge, shoulder, border, edge, margin
- roam:** (adj, v) stray; (v) wander, gallivant, meander, range, gad, walk, drift, tramp, journey, stroll. ANTONYMS: (v) rush, settle
- roast:** (v) burn, grill, bake, joke, heat, quiz, fry, cook, scorch; (n, v) ridicule; (n) joint. ANTONYMS: (v) cool, praise
- roasted:** (adj) fried, baked
- roasting:** (n) barbecuing, cookery, cooking; (adj) broiling, baking, burning, boiling, airless, blazing, close; (adj, n) scorching. ANTONYMS: (adj) airy, fresh
- robber:** (n) highwayman, bandit, mugger, outlaw, plunderer, pillager, burglar, pirate, crook, filcher, spoiler
- robbing:** (adj) freebooting, practicing freebootery; (n) theft
- robe:** (n, v) dress, array, vest, garb, apparel; (v) clothe, attire, rig; (n) gown, cloak, garment
- roiling:** (adj) churning, nettled, agitated, annoyed, disruptive, pissed, miffed, riotous, roily, peeved, riled
- roofed:** (adj) testudinated, arched. ANTONYMS: (adj) roofless, exposed, open
- roost:** (adj, v) lodge, reside, stay, abide, dwell, inhabit, live; (v) rest, settle; (n) henroost, resort
- rotted:** (adj) rotod, crappy, icky, lousy, rotten, unsound
- roundabout:** (adj) indirect, oblique, devious, winding, circumlocutory, periphrastic; (n) circuit, rotary, circle, carousel, circumlocution. ANTONYMS: (adj) straight, straightforward, decisive, overt
- roused:** (adj) excited, awake, susceptible, emotional, elated, interested
- rout:** (adj, n, v) defeat; (n, v) discomfiture, overthrow, discomfit; (v) conquer, overpower, overcome, crush, beat, overwhelm; (n) flight. ANTONYMS: (v) lose, surrender
- roving:** (adj, v) itinerant, Peripatetic, ambulatory; (v) roam; (adj, n) wandering; (adj) rambling, mobile, migratory, peregrine, unsettled,

- vagabond
ruddy: (adj) cherry, rubicund, rosy, flushed, florid, sanguine, reddish, glowing, blooming, crimson; (adj, adv) blushing
rudely: (adv) crudely, coarsely, uncivilly, indelicately, impolitely, roughly, harshly, vulgarly, brutally, meanly, wildly. ANTONYMS: (adv) respectfully, graciously, decently, civilly, properly, attentively, agreeably, tactfully, thoughtfully, acceptably, gently
rudiment: (n) basis, fundamental, germ, element, egg, principle, essential, embryo, bedrock, fundamentals, vestige
rudimental: (adj) abortive, rudimentary, basal, elementary, neglected, rude, original, obsolete, obscure, imperfectly developed, institutional
ruffled: (adj) rippled, frilly, frilled, upset, disordered, excited, disconcerted, decorated, tousled, tangled, turbulent
ruinous: (adj) harmful, baleful, disastrous, calamitous, injurious, deleterious, dilapidated, blasting, baneful, pernicious; (adj, n) subversive. ANTONYMS: (adj) beneficial, fortunate, harmless
rumble: (n, v) murmur, roll, roar, grumble, mutter, bang, brawl, sound; (v) growl; (n) peal, noise
rumbling: (adj, n) grumbling; (n) grumble, noise, boom, thunder, roll, roar; (adj) hollow, low; (v) combination, berloque
rumor: (n) hearsay, talk, news; (n, v) gossip, fame, buzz, bruit, noise, rumour; (v) repute, reputation. ANTONYM: (n) truth
runaway: (adj, n) renegade, delinquent; (n) deserter, romp, walkaway, refugee, absconder, runagate, escapee, laughter; (adj) decided. ANTONYM: (n) challenge
rupture: (n, v) fracture, crack, tear, split, burst; (n) rift, rent, hernia, interruption, breach, breakage. ANTONYMS: (n) repair, unity; (n, v) mend
rushes: (n) rush, grasses
russet: (adj, n) auburn; (adj) tan, dun, drab, leaden, livid, pearly, dingy, brunette, bay, russety
rust: (v) corrode, eat, oxidize, tarnish, oxidize, gnaw; (n) decay, corrosion, fungus, oxidation; (adj) rusty
rustic: (n) countryman, peasant; (adj) rural, pastoral, boorish, country, bucolic, provincial, hick, agrestic, countrified. ANTONYMS: (adj) town, urbane, cultured, city, sophisticated
rustle: (n, v) whisper; (v) lift, buzz, steal, pilfer, whiz, pinch, abstract, thief, purloin; (n) rustling
rustling: (n) rustle, whispering, whisper, larceny; (adj) murmurous, susurrous, active, sighing
rusty: (adj) ancient, out of practice, intractable, old, corroded, deaf to reason, exceptionous, cantankerous; (v) moldy, raw, mildewed
ruthlessly: (adv) relentlessly, unfeelingly, heartlessly, mercilessly, brutally, severely, cruelly, unmercifully, harshly, callously, remorselessly. ANTONYMS: (adv) gently, honestly, mercifully
sabbath: (n) day of rest, Saturday, vacation, recess, holiday, dies non, Pentecost, sabbat
saccharine: (adj) syrupy, sugary, treacly, cloying, honeyed, luscious, mushy, sentimental, saccharin, soft, overly sweet
sacrament: (n) token, penance, rite, ritual, liturgy, symbol, communion, baptism, Eucharist, confirmation, ceremony
sacredness: (n) sanctity, inviolability, godliness, saintliness, innocence, piety, devotion, blessedness, sanctitude, righteousness, goodness
sacrifices: (n) holocaust
saffron: (n) yellow, crocus sativus, orange yellow, yellowness, seasoner, seasoning, flavouring, flavourer, saffron crocus, flavorer; (adj) topaz
sagacity: (n, v) discernment, judgment, penetration; (n) judiciousness, sense, prudence, gumption, acumen, perspicacity; (adj, n) discretion, wisdom. ANTONYM: (n) foolishness
sage: (adj) sagacious, discerning, intelligent, prudent, judicious, learned, profound, knowing; (adj, v) grave; (n) philosopher, scholar
sahara: (adj, n) desert; (adj) howling wilderness, waste; (n) wilderness, Sahara desert
sailor: (n) seaman, seafarer, tar, bluejacket, gob, boatman, navigator, navy man, lascar, Panama, leghorn
saleable: (adj) marketable, vendible, saleable, purchasable, venal, mercenary, merchantable, hiring
salamander: (n) bear, poker, olm, hellbender, fire hook, amphiuma, brasier, warming pan, dicamptodontid, sow, alpine salamander
salted: (adj) salty, corned, saline; (n) salt grass, lustful, lecherous, leap, flavor, corrective, saltcellar, bitter
salutary: (adj) beneficial, salubrious, good, healthful, healthy, wholesome, helpful, curative, benign, useful, advantageous
salutation: (n, v) salute; (n) reception, hail, hello, welcome, address, compliment, hullo, recognition, interpellation, pax
salute: (v) greet, hail, kiss, accost, acknowledge, buss; (n) salutation, bow, salaam; (n, v) address, compliment
sanctify: (v) purify, hallow, enshrine, anoint, honor, reconsecrate, lustrate; (adj, v) ordain, bless; (n) edify, convert
sandbank: (n) shoal, bar, reef, cay, sandbar, shallow
sandpaper: (v) sand, smoothen, smooth, rasp, rub, rub down, scrape; (n) emery paper, abradant, abrasive material
sane: (adj, n) reasonable, lucid; (adj) rational, judicious, right, sensible, normal, wise, wholesome, sound, prudent. ANTONYMS: (adj) unbalanced, insane, crazed, delirious, unreasonable, irrational, foolish
sapling: (n) seedling, stripling, adolescent, sprout, plant, youth, tree, young tree, cub, young man, plantlet
sappy: (adj) foolish, absurd, succulent, mawkish, soft, goofy, zany, weak, liquid, stupid, fool. ANTONYMS: (adj) unemotional, cool
sapwood: (n) alburnum, wood, sap
sardines: (n) anchovies, Clupeidae, etc, family Clupeidae, herring, Isospondyli, or order Isospondyli
satire: (n) sarcasm, lampoon, mockery, parody, ridicule, caricature, burlesque, quip, spoof, derision; (v) squib
satirical: (adj) satiric, cutting, mordant, mocking, ironic, biting, scornful, sardonic, derisive; (adj, n) keen; (n) ironical. ANTONYM: (adj) sympathetic
saturated: (adj, v) sodden; (adj) drenched, concentrated, sopping, soaked, full, soggy, sappy, wet through, pure; (v) impregnate. ANTONYM: (adj) unsaturated

saturation: (n) satiation, impregnation, satiety, pervasion, permeation, glut, intensity, satisfaction, fullness, surfeit, repletion

saucer: (n) plate, platter, disc, bowl, pan, dot, calabash, dish, antenna, point, porringer

savageness: (n) barbarity, savagery, ferociousness, wildness, cruelty, barbarism, fierceness, ferocity, rudeness, inhumanity, harshness

savor: (n, v) taste, smack, smell, savour; (n) flavor, gusto, sapidness, tang, flavour; (v) enjoy, bask. ANTONYM: (v) dislike

savoriness: (n) flavorsomeness, sapidness, taste, savor, appetizingness

saxon: (adj) academical, pure, chaste, severe; (n) Englishman, Sassenach, Lowlander

scalded: (adj) scorched, overcooked, burnt. ANTONYM: (adj) underdone

scalloped: (adj) notched, scalloped, crenated, rough

scant: (adj) insufficient, scanty, skimpy, poor, few, inadequate, narrow, little; (adj, v) meager, bare; (v) skimp. ANTONYMS: (adj) plentiful, extensive

scanty: (adj) insufficient, few, inadequate, bare, deficient, poor, narrow, scant, light; (adj, v) spare, lean. ANTONYMS: (adj) generous, abundant, ample, strong

scarce: (adj) rare, insufficient, deficient, infrequent, uncommon, scant, scanty, few, sparse; (adv) just, barely. ANTONYMS: (adj) plentiful, common, adequate, strong, usual, extensive

scarcity: (n) paucity, dearth, lack, deficiency, rarity, insufficiency, scarceness, infrequency, defect, deficit, rareness. ANTONYMS: (n) plethora, abundance, affluence, excess, frequency, provision, glut, profusion, intensity

scarecrow: (n) hobgoblin, bugaboo, simulacrum, malkin, frump, ogre, jackstraw, shewel, goblin, ragamuffin; (adj) octopus

scaring: (adj) appalling

scarlatina: (n) contagion, contagious disease; (adj) scabies

scattering: (n) diffusion, dissipation, dispersion, distribution, scatter, dissemination, sprinkle, sprinkling, strewing; (adj, n) spreading; (adj) distributive

scented: (adj) fragrant, perfumed,

aromatic, balmy, sweet, redolent, odoriferous, spicy, savory, smelling, angelical. ANTONYMS: (adj) scentless, smelly

schoolmaster: (n) master, preceptor, pedagogue, headmaster, dominie, teacher, principal, educator, head, Lutjanus apodus, housemaster

scintillation: (n) glitter, flash, glisten, fire, coruscation, glister, shimmer, glimmer, spark, twinkling; (n, v) emication

scipio: (n) Scipio africanus, Scipio africanus major, Publius Cornelius Scipio africanus major, Scipio the elder, Publius Cornelius Scipio

scorched: (adj) baked, adust, burnt, dry, seared, burned, charred, torrid, dried out, destroyed, drier. ANTONYMS: (adj) wet, humid

scorned: (adj) detested, hated, abject, neglected, contemptuous, despicable, insolent, undesirable, unloved, unpopular, mean

scornful: (adj) disdainful, haughty, arrogant, sarcastic, disparaging, derisive, mocking, abusive, scathing, opprobrious, insulting. ANTONYMS: (adj) approving, complimentary, humble, sympathetic, admiring

scour: (v) scrub, ransack, burnish, abrade, furbish, polish, search, cleanse, graze, buff; (adj, v) flush. ANTONYM: (v) dirty

scourge: (n) curse, blight, affliction, plague, bane, calamity; (v) lash, flagellate, castigate, punish; (n, v) whip

scrape: (n, v) scratch, graze, score, mark; (v) rub, pare, rake, grate, chafe, abrade; (n) abrasion

scraps: (n) garbage, odds and ends, scrap, bits, food waste, leftover, trash, waste, oddments, leftovers, residue

scraping: (n) scrape, scraping, abrasion, mark, scar, poor handwriting, incision, excoriation, chicken feed; (adj) hoarse, abrasive

screech: (n, v) cry, shout, shriek, yell, scream, yelp, yowl, roar; (n) screaming; (v) squawk, pipe

scripture: (adj, n) gospel; (n) bible, book, Holy Writ, canon, writ, inscription, writing, Vulgate, fact, Holy Scripture

scriptures: (n) scripture, Holy Bible

scrubbed: (adj) deferred, clean, cleaner

scrutinize: (v) inspect, examine, review, consider, audit, investigate,

explore, search, analyze, check; (adj, v) scan. ANTONYM: (v) ignore

scud: (v) race, scoot, rush, rack, dash, run, navigate, flash, flit; (n) scudding, shower

scullion: (n) cordon bleu, cook, chef de cuisine, servant, retainer, poltroon, cullion, Cinderella

scurf: (n) scale, dander, scruff, flake, scrap, scurfiness, bit, musical scale, ordered series, scaliness, scale of measurement

scurvy: (adj) contemptible, paltry, miserable, sordid, low, abject, ignoble, dirty, scabby; (v) base, scurfy

scuttle: (v) scurry, scamper, hasten, hurry, sink, post; (n, v) run; (n) hatchway, coal scuttle, opening, bucket

seaboard: (n) beach, seaside, shore, seashore, bank, coastline, shoreline, shores, littoral, seacoast, seabeach

seam: (n, v) joint, crinkle, juncture, joining, articulation; (n) layer, bed, line, furrow, junction, join. ANTONYM: (v) unpick

seamless: (adj) textbook, not to be faulted, faultless, flawless, picture perfect, unlined, unseamed. ANTONYMS: (adj) seamed, flawed

seared: (adj) arid, dry as a bone, recusant, parched. ANTONYM: (adj) wet

seashore: (n) beach, coast, shore, seaboard, seacoast, coastline, shoreline, seaside, landfall, littoral; (adj) marine

seasonable: (adj) timely, fit, well timed, favorable, timely; (adj, n, v) appropriate; (adj, v) convenient; (adj, adv) early; (n) fit adapted, in loco, a propos. ANTONYMS: (adj) untimely, unseasonable

seasoning: (n) flavor, flavoring, flavouring, seasoner, spice, dash, salt, zest, sauce, relish, cardamon

secluded: (adj) remote, secret, reclusive, privy, cloistered, isolated, lonely, retired, sequestered, solitary; (adj, v) hidden. ANTONYMS: (adj) nearby, near, exposed, busy, accessible

secreted: (adj) hidden, unseen, out of sight

sect: (n) denomination, clan, religion, party, order, cult, category, clique, class, group, Unit sect

securely: (adv) surely, safely, closely, solidly, steadily, assuredly, strongly, tightly, fixly, setly, stably. ANTONYM: (adv) insecurely

sedge: (n) rush, nutsedge, papyrus, nutgrass, chufa, galingale, galangal, weed, rush nut, nut sedge, nut grass

sedges: (n) grasses

sedulously: (adv) industriously, assiduously, studiously, earnestly, attentively, intently, painstakingly, perseveringly, laboriously, fixedly, eagerly

seeming: (adj) ostensible, superficial, illusory, outward, probable, deceptive, specious; (adj, n) appearance, semblance; (n) aspect, show. ANTONYMS: (adj) actual, deep, inner

seer: (n) prophet, augur, diviner, oracle, forecaster, visionary, clairvoyant, illusionist, conjuror, idealist, predictor

seething: (v) ebullient; (adj) irate, raging, enraged, spitting mad, beside yourself, teed off, packed; (n) ebullition, tumult, digestion

seizing: (v) seize; (n) seizure, clutches, prehension, taking, apprehension, capture, infection; (adj) catching, galling, controlling

seizure: (n) arrest, confiscation, capture, seizing, apprehension, appropriation, attachment, convulsion, detention; (adj, n) attack, assumption. ANTONYMS: (n) release, restoration, surrender

selfishness: (n) greed, egotism, greediness, meanness, individuality, opportunism, expedience, individualism, self, selfishness, selfish. ANTONYMS: (n) altruism, selflessness, sensitivity, thoughtfulness, conformity, generosity

self-reliance: (n) confidence, assurance, independence, manhood, enterprise

self-respect: (n) pride, self-esteem, dignity, face, honesty

self-styled: (adj) so-called

selvage: (n) selvedge, margin, verge, edge, selvaage, hem, clay band

selves: (pron) oneself

semblance: (adj, n) color; (n) resemblance, appearance, look, aspect, air, image, similarity, pretense, guise, pretext. ANTONYM: (n) difference

seniority: (n) eldership, age, priority, length of service, longevity, higher status, higher rank, rank, senior status, primogeniture, oldness

sensibly: (adv) sanely, intelligently, rationally, pragmatically, realistically, cleverly, politically,

perceptibly, soundly, noticeably, wisely. ANTONYMS: (adv) foolishly, ludicrously, ridiculously, unreasonably, illogically, madly, irrationally, hastily, stupidly, irresponsibly, immaturely

sensual: (adj, v) luxurious, voluptuous; (adj, adv) fleshly; (adj) animal, lascivious, sexy, sexual, libidinous, lewd, gross, licentious

sensualist: (n) epicure, hedonist, voluptuary, gastronome, cocksucker, bisexual, sensationalist, lecher, glutton, gourmet, rake

sensuality: (n) sensualism, animalism, sensuality, lust, carnality, concupiscence, animal gratification, bodily enjoyment, hedonism, sensationalism, debauchery

sensually: (adv) carnally, voluptuously, lasciviously, lustfully, raunchily, fleshly, libidinosly, sexually, lewdly, sexily, erotically

sensuous: (adj) sensitive, sensual, lush, luxurious, voluptuous, epicurean, carnal, sensational, sexy, esthetic, esthetical

separates: (n) coordinates

serenade: (n) divertimento, chivaree, cheer, canon, callithump, callathump, bellring, charivari, song, opus; (v) court

serene: (adj) peaceful, calm, quiet, placid, composed, impassive, clear, pacific, gentle, cool; (adj, v) tranquil. ANTONYMS: (adj) agitated, anxious, noisy, nervous, impatient, excitable, scatterbrained, harsh, boisterous, excited, disturbed

serenely: (adv) calmly, composedly, quietly, placidly, stilly, steadily, impassively, peacefully, Pacifically, clearly, coolly. ANTONYMS: (adv) nervously, agitatedly, boisterously, manically

serenity: (n) quiet, peace, calm, quietness, equanimity, calmness, quietude, repose; (adj, n) composure, tranquility, placidity. ANTONYMS: (n) anxiety, uproar, chaos, anger, panic, bustle, disturbance, impatience, turbulence, turmoil

sermon: (n) discourse, oration, speech, address, homily, preachment, harangue, preaching, exhortation, predication; (n, v) lecture

serpent: (n) snake, ophidian, viper, snake in the grass, reptile, rattlesnake, colubrid, contrafagotto,

cor anglais, hautboy; (v) goose

servile: (adj) abject, obsequious, base, fawning, ignoble, sordid, subservient, cringing, slavish; (adj, n) mean, low. ANTONYMS: (adj) bossy, assertive

servitor: (n) retainer, henchman, manservant, follower, lackey, footman, attache, housemaid, employe, maidservant; (v) beadle

servitude: (n) bondage, serfdom, enslavement, captivity, slavery, yoke, vassalage, thrall, easement, serfhood, dependency. ANTONYM: (n) freedom

settler: (n) migrant, colonist, immigrant, inhabitant, homesteader, squatter, planter, newcomer, colonizer, sockdolager, standish. ANTONYM: (n) native

severed: (adj) cut off, cut, broken, separate, Severn, disconnected, rent off, disrupt, disengaged, torn, disrupted

seville: (n) Sevilla

sewing: (n) embroidery, sew, needlecraft, stitch, stitching, fancywork, mend, gather, patch, gathering, binding

sexton: (n) beadle, verger, almoner, Anne sexton, Suisse, gravedigger, church officer, caretaker

shaded: (adj) dark, shads, sheltered, shadowed, umbrageous, twilight, sunless, subdued, soft, colored, darksome. ANTONYM: (adj) unshaded

shadowy: (adj) indistinct, misty, dark, faint, obscure, hazy, gloomy, vague, shady, insubstantial, dusky. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, palpable, light, distinct, open

shady: (adj) questionable, dark, fishy, doubtful, queer, suspicious, dim, uncertain, obscure, disreputable, dishonest. ANTONYMS: (adj) sunny, trustworthy, bright, reputable, aboveboard

shallows: (n) shelf, shoals

shanty: (n) cabin, hovel, cot, shack, chanty, hutch, booth, bothy, chalet, stall, shed

sharpening: (n) grinding, training, filing, dressing, acuminaton, aggravation; (adj) abrasive

sharpener: (n, v) cheat; (n) rogue, impostor, swindler, chiseler, deceiver, cheater, welscher, sharpie; (v) shark, fraud

shave: (v) scrape, reduce, pare, cut, brush, chip, whittle, crop; (adj, v) clip, shear, lop. ANTONYMS: (v)

- augment, expand, lengthen
shaving: (adj, n) paring, sliver, shiver; (n, v) shave; (n) cut, splinter, rasher, grazing, slice; (adj) clipping, dribblet
shavings: (n) residue, pencil shavings, chips, trash
shear: (v) fleece, cut, shave, pare, chop, chip, crop, trim; (adj, v) lop, prune; (n) scissors. ANTONYM: (v) lengthen
sheen: (n, v) shine, gleam; (n) polish, gloss, light, glow, lustre, glitter, brightness, brilliance; (v) burnish. ANTONYM: (n) dullness
sheik: (n) chieftain, sheikh, ruler, head, imaum, Arab chief, beau, cockscomb, gallant, fop, clotheshorse
shellfish: (n) mollusc, shell, cephalopod, crayfish, reptile, bird, scollop, bivalve, chiton, cockle, crawdad
shelving: (n) racking, shelf, bookshelf; (adj) shelvy
shiftless: (adj) lazy, idle, helpless, improvident, feckless, irresponsible, inefficient, incapable, ineffective; (adj, v) thriftless; (v) unthrifty. ANTONYM: (adj) keen
shiftlessness: (n) idleness, indolence
shiner: (n) common mackerel, contusion, bruise, luminary, object, twinkler, sparada, silversides, physical object, mackerel, emerald shiner
shiners: (n) Notropis
shingle: (n) pebble, beach, shake, rubble, signboard, milk shake, Shindle, shore; (adj) powder, dust, sand
shingles: (n) zoster, herpes, zona, herpes zoster virus
shipwrecked: (adj, v) stranded; (adj) castaway, stuck, rejected, high and dry; (v) wrecked, cast away, capsized, grounded, foundered, swamped
shire: (n) canton, province, county, country, parish, territory, township, shier, administrative district, Shire horse, administrative division
shirking: (n) avoidance, goofing off, goldbricking, dodging, escape, elusion, soldiering, skirting, slacking, fudging
shivers: (n) cold, jitters
shoal: (n) school, shelf, swarm, multitude, sandbar, bar, horde, drove, covey, sandbank; (adj) superficial
shoemaker: (n) bootmaker, dressmaker, cordwainer, boot maker, maker, shaper, souter, Crispin
shorn: (adj) sheared, hairless, bald, stubbed, Shearn, Sheard, shear, clipped, not, Nott, shaven
shortest: (adj) direct, brusque, brusque, choleric, curt, directer, hotheaded, least, irascible, lowest, most direct
shovel: (v) dig, rake, broom, delve, mop; (n) excavator, digger, shovelful, dipper, power shovel, poker
showers: (n) rain
shrewdness: (n) craftiness, perspicacity, astuteness, gumption, ingenuity, foxiness, craft, cunning, cleverness, sharpness, sagacity. ANTONYMS: (n) stupidity, ingenuousness, ineptness
shriek: (n, v) screech, cry, shout, call, howl, yell, yowl, scream; (v) bellow, caterwaul, shrill. ANTONYM: (v) sigh
shrill: (adj) piercing, penetrating, strident, keen, shrewd; (v) shriek, screech, scream, yell; (adj, v) high, sharp. ANTONYMS: (adj) low, quiet, resonant
shrinking: (n) contraction, recoil, reduction, decrease, condensation; (n, v) lessening; (adj) timid, fearful, shy, bashful; (adj, adv) cowardly. ANTONYM: (adj) confident
shrub: (n) bush, scrub, heath, greasewood, gorse, gooseberry, goldenbush, frangipanni, hawthorn, fuchsia, furze
shuffled: (adj) disorganized
shun: (v) evade, escape, elude, dodge, flee, refuse, shirk, ostracize, banish, parry; (adj, v) eschew. ANTONYMS: (v) befriend, invite, seek, welcome, woo, court, participate, include
shuts: (adj) closed
shutter: (n, v) close, shade; (n) curtain, shut, blind, window, skylight, deadlight, lid, louver, jealousy
shutting: (n) closing, conclusion, end, closure, ending, finish, mop up, culmination, closedown; (adj) confining, claudent. ANTONYM: (n) opening
sidewalk: (n) footpath, path, walk, footway, flags, trottoir, pathway, causeway, walkway, curbside, doorstep
sierra: (n) chromosphere, white snake mackerel, range, mountain, spine of the mountains, mountain ridge, range of mountains, mountain chain, kingfish, chain, chain of mountains
siesta: (n, v) snooze, doze; (n) sleep, rest, forty winks, slumber, catnap; (v) coma, dream, ecstasis, hibernation
sifting: (n) winnowing, scrutiny, hunt, judgment, winnow, separation; (v) sift; (adj) inquisitive
signified: (n) common sense, acceptance, good sense, horse sense, mother wit, sensation, sense, sensory faculty, sentience, sentiency; (adj) implied
signify: (n, v) intend, mark; (adj, n, v) import; (v) imply, indicate, denote, point, stand for, express, intimate, matter
silks: (n) garment
sill: (n) ledge, threshold, doorstep, rung, step, round, stone, cornerstone, sole, window sill, window sill
sills: (n) drop structure, Beverly Sills
silvery: (adj) silvery, argent, bright, white, gray, rich, silverish, melodious, fair, Argentine, clear
simmer: (adj, v) boil, seethe, stew; (v) cook, parboil, fizz, bubble, scald, foam, digest, bake
simoom: (n) samiel, wind, sirocco, dust storm
simple-minded: (adj) silly, naive, stupid, foolish, guileless, dumb, plain, innocent, retarded, dull
simples: (n) galenicals, medicine, physic
simplify: (v) reduce, facilitate, ease, clarify, oversimplify, abridge, streamline, reorganize, reduce physically, scale down; (adj, v) popularize. ANTONYMS: (v) complicate, specify, confuse
sincerity: (adj, n) candor, honesty, integrity, probity, faithfulness; (n) earnestness, heartiness, genuineness, candour, frankness, cordiality. ANTONYMS: (n) dishonesty, hypocrisy, flippancy, frivolity, affectedness, caution, reticence, deceit, doubt
sinecure: (n) berth, plum, sitting duck, post, position, plum job, place, office, ecclesiastical benefice, cinch, benefice
singleness: (n) sincerity, bachelorhood, bachelorship, unmarried, single, loyalty, oneness, spinsterhood, concentration, unity, straightforwardness
singular: (adj, n) extraordinary; (adj)

- odd, individual, particular, peculiar, phenomenal, rare, queer, single, quaint, exceptional. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) ordinary, normal, together, usual, customary
- singularly:** (adv) peculiarly, uniquely, unusually, curiously, rarely, uncommonly, oddly, solely, exceptionally, individually; (adj, adv) remarkably
- sinner:** (n) criminal, miscreant, culprit, sinful, trespasser, transgressor, evildoer, magdalen, rascal, villain, sinners
- sinning:** (n) sin, hell, evil-doing, original sin, mortal sin; (adj) errant, corrupt, faulty, morbid, peccant, evil
- sirens:** (n) Sirenidae, family Sirenidae
- sizable:** (adj) large, respectable, big, good, substantial, ample, tidy, goodly, hefty, appreciable, extensive. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) small, tiny, ungenerous
- sized:** (adj) pasted
- skater:** (n) skateboarder, jock
- skating:** (adj) sliding; (n) roller skating, athletics, skateboarding
- skewer:** (v) spit, impale, spike, spear, pierce, transfix, prick; (n) corking pin, nail, brad, staple
- skillfully:** (adv) skillfully, adroitly, cunningly, proficiently, deftly, adeptly, expertly, handily, artfully, goodly, ably
- skillet:** (n) pan, frypan, saucepan, casserole, tumbler, bowl, spider, basin, crucible, posnet, cup
- skim:** (v) slip, browse, skip, sweep, read, race, fly, shave, brush; (n, v) cream, slide
- skimmed:** (v) flet, flotten
- skin-deep:** (adj) superficial, shallow, surface, sketchy, trivial
- skinned:** (adj) scraped, dartos, frustrated, raw, scratched, sensitive, sore, tender, painful
- skip:** (n, v) bound, leap, hop, caper, trip; (v) dance, bounce, prance, skim; (adj, v) miss; (n) omission. **ANTONYMS:** (v) attend, trudge, include
- skipping:** (n) jumping, leaping, absenteeism; (adv) skippingly, leapingly
- skulk:** (v) prowl, sneak, creep, lie in wait, steal, malingering, shirk, conceal, slink; (adj) hide; (n, v) cower
- skunk:** (n) rotter, rat, rascal, stinker, marijuana, bum, cannabis, puke, crumb, lowlife; (v) lurch
- sky-high:** (adj) expensive, lofty, prohibitive, excessive, tall
- skylight:** (n) shutter, window, light, porthole, transom, knowledge, happiness, enlightenment, felicity, day, casement
- slack:** (adj, v) loose, lax, remiss, slow, dull; (adj) indolent, negligent, idle, flaccid, limp, baggy. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) strict, taut, thorough, brisk, diligent, attentive, upright, prompt, meticulous; (v) tighten; (n) tautness
- slag:** (n) dross, scoria, clinker, scum, trash, residue, bastard, basic slag, impurity, ember; (adj) recrement
- slanted:** (adj) slanting, diagonal, lopsided, tilted, sloped, sloping, oblique, skewed, aslant, askew, aslope. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) straight, balanced, impartial, level, upright
- slanting:** (adj) oblique, sloping, diagonal, askew, slanted, aslant, aslope, awry, leaning, sloped; (adj, adv) sideways. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) upright, direct
- sled:** (n) sledge, luge, toboggan, bobsleigh, pung, Maul, jumper, dogsled, dog sleigh
- sledge:** (n) toboggan, sleigh, Maul, bobsleigh, sledge hammer, pung, dog sleigh, dogsled, bottom, jumper; (n, v) sledgehammer
- sleep:** (n) railroad tie, crosstie, tie, noctambulist, baggage car, slumberer, dreamer, Pullman car, freight car, parlor car, express car
- sleepy:** (adj) drowsy, dozy, slow, lazy, hypnotic, inactive, comatose, dull, heavy, dreamy; (adv) asleep. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) awake, energetic, vigorous, clear, lively, refreshed
- sleety:** (adj) clouded, cold, dirty, dirty water, filthy, foul, frozen, groveling, gusty, nasty, base
- sleigh:** (n, v) sled; (n) sledge, toboggan, bobsleigh, pung, dog sleigh, dogsled, sledgehammer, Maul, jumper
- slenderness:** (n) fineness, thinness, slimmness, delicacy, slightness, feebleness, tenuity, smallness, weakness, frailty; (adj) exility. **ANTONYMS:** (n) thickness, obesity, stoutness, roundness, sturdiness, width, coarseness
- slew:** (n) wad, turning, sight, heap, stack, lot, flock; (v) rotate, slue, swerve, veer
- slimy:** (adj) greasy, slippery, muddy, sludgy, squalid, oily, oozy, ropy, viscous, slimed, sordid. **ANTONYM:** (adj) reputable
- slink:** (n, v) sneak; (v) creep, lurk, slip, prowl, steal, glide, slide; (n) flinch, fight shy, shy
- slips:** (n) pad
- slit:** (n, v) score, rip, split, breach, slash, crack, scratch; (n) crevice, gap; (adj, n) cleft; (v) slice
- sloping:** (adj, v) oblique, slope; (adj) slanting, inclined, slanted, diagonal, leaning, sloped; (adj, adv) aslope, aslant; (v) slant. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) horizontal, upright
- sloth:** (n) laziness, idleness, indolence, lethargy, lazy, acedia, inactivity, inaction, inertia, listlessness, slothfulness. **ANTONYMS:** (n) energy, liveliness
- slothful:** (adj) indolent, idle, sluggish, slack, inactive, slow, otiose, faineant, inert, listless; (adj, v) remiss. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) energetic, lively, industrious
- slough:** (n) bog, fen, quagmire, morass, mire, swamp, marsh, sludge; (v) shed, exuviate, cast
- sloughing:** (n) moult, shedding, molt, ecdysis, abscission, peeling, organic process, desquamation, biological process, moulting
- sluggish:** (adj) inert, indolent, inactive, idle, slow, torpid, slack, languid; (adj, n) lazy, drowsy, heavy. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) energetic, fast, brisk, lively, alert, speedy, industrious
- sluggishly:** (adv) dully, inertly, torpidly, indolently, languidly, lethargically, listlessly, lazily, dilatorily, slothfully, stagnantly. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) brightly, dynamically, nimbly
- slumber:** (n, v) rest, doze, snooze, nap, drowse, repose, catnap; (v) be asleep, kip, take a nap; (n) siesta
- slumbering:** (adj) dormant, asleep, latent. **ANTONYM:** (adj) awake
- slumberous:** (adj) soporific, somnolent, drowsy, sleepy, lethargic, quiet, somniferous, heavy, soporiferous, sluggish, torpid
- slush:** (adj, n) sludge, mire, squash; (v) slosh, slop, splash, plash; (adj) slime, silt, quagmire, alluvium
- slut:** (n) hussy, slattern, jade, floozy, trollop, prostitute, hooker, quean, wench, sloven; (adj) dowdy
- smeared:** (adj) smudged, unclean, soiled, grubby, smirched, muddy, messy, smudgy, grimy, greasy
- smelling:** (n) smell, flavor, scent, olfactory modality, sensing, sense of smell; (adj) redolent, scented, odorous, stinking, rotten

smitten: (adj, v) stricken; (adj) in love, crazy, enamored, struck, nuts, dotty, besotted, gaga, taken with, affected
smoky: (adj) murky, hazy, fumid, vaporous, opaque, muddy, famish, burnt; (v) sooty, smutty, dusty.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) clean, fresh, clear
smoothed: (adj) round, smoothened, curved. ANTONYM: (adj) sharp
smoother: (n) drum sander, electric sander, sander, power tool
smoothness: (n) slipperiness, slickness, sleekness, evenness, polish, glossiness, softness, silkiness, grace; (adj, n) elegance, delicacy.
 ANTONYMS: (n) resistance, unevenness, hesitation, dampness, awkwardness, harshness, hesitancy
smothered: (adj) strangled, stifled, smothered, pent-up, covered
smouldering: (adj) live, angry
snakes: (n) Ophidia, suborder Serpentes, subclass Lepidosauria, suborder Ophidia, Lepidosauria
snapping: (adj) noisy
snarl: (n, v) tangle, growl, knot, muddle, yap, howl, bark; (adj, v) snap; (v) entangle; (n) kink, maze.
 ANTONYMS: (v) facilitate, undo
sneaking: (adj) hangdog, furtive, contemptible, abject, clandestine, confidential, dirty, shabby; (n) creeping, crawling; (adj, n) sneaky
snipe: (v) attack, lash out, round, sharpshoot, clapperclaw; (n) grouse, plover, dowitcher, rail, blackcock, jacksnipe
snipes: (n) Gallinago, genus Capella, genus Gallinago, dowitchers, curlews, Capella, godwits, Scolopacidae
snivel: (n, v) blubber, sob, whine, sniffle, snuffle; (v) weep, whimper, sniff, wail, pule; (n) sniveling
snoring: (n) stertor, respiration; (adj) stertorous, asleep
snort: (v) snore, huff, inhale; (n, v) snicker, hoot, chuckle, sneer; (n) bird, Bronx cheer, boo, razzing.
 ANTONYM: (v) exhale
snout: (n) proboscis, beak, neb, nozzle, hooter, rostrum, snoot, trunk, schnozzle, honker; (v) muzzle
snowflake: (n) flake, snow bunting, snowbird, fleck, bit, junco, scrap, crystal, bunting, chip; (adj) snow
snowplow: (n) snowplough, cardiograph, recapper, votograph, tenpenny
snowy: (adj) white, pure, clean, blank, hoary, achromatic, snow-

white, unblemished, wintry, wet, favorite
snug: (adj, v) cosy, trim; (adj) cozy, easy, comfy, tight, close, warm, secure, homely; (v) neat.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) baggy, uncomfortable, unwelcoming, bleak, formal, loose
soak: (v) drench, saturate, permeate, impregnate, moisten, drown, penetrate, infuse, douse, fleece; (adj, v) immerse. ANTONYMS: (v) dry, undercharge, dip
soaked: (adj) wet, drenched, sopping, soggy, soaking, drunk, wet through, soaking wet, damp, sloshed; (adj, v) sodden. ANTONYM: (adj) dry
soaking: (adj, adv) sopping; (adj) wet, soaked, sodden, saturated, soggy; (n) soak, dip, sousing, souse; (adv, v) dripping. ANTONYM: (adj) dry
soar: (v) climb, hover, fly, mount, glide, leap, jump, lift, billow; (n, v) rise, increase. ANTONYMS: (v) decrease, drop, descend, collapse, sink
soaring: (adj) high, towering, flying, eminent, beetling; (n) glide, gliding, sailing, rise, flight, sailplaning.
 ANTONYM: (adj) low
sociable: (adj) outgoing, affable, amicable, genial, congenial, cordial, companionable, amiable, gracious, agreeable; (adj, n) social.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) unfriendly, reserved, lonely, introvert, discourteous, frosty, hostile, inhospitable, disagreeable, shy, inaccessible
softened: (adj) diffused, muffled, muted, quiet, slow, touched, sluggish, soften, pultaceous, subdued, low-key
soiled: (adj) grubby, dirty, nasty, grimy, unclean, filthy, muddy, black, mucky, polluted, foul.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) pure, immaculate
sojourner: (n) householder, incumbent, inmate, lodger, metic, tenant, residential, resident, occupier, occupant, dweller
soldering: (n) bonding, welding, brazing, attachment, soft soldering, fastening; (v) sticking
solemnity: (n) seriousness, sobriety, earnestness, formality, ceremony, impressiveness, austerity, sedateness, display, pomp, grandeur. ANTONYMS: (n) humor, levity, cheerfulness, understatement
solemnly: (adv) earnestly, gravely,

majestically, stately, sternly, staidly, thoughtfully, soberly, formally, ceremoniously, importantly.
 ANTONYMS: (adv) cheerfully, flippantly
solidago: (n) goldenrod, golden rod, genus solidago
solidified: (adj) fixed, firm, stiff, concrete, curdled, thick, coagulate, grumous, grumose; (v) consolidated, joined
solidly: (adv) steadfastly, substantially, strongly, stably, steadily, stoutly, compactly, soundly, securely, sturdily, consistently. ANTONYMS: (adv) feebly, unreliably, weakly, sparsely
solitude: (n) desolation, loneliness, seclusion, privacy, aloneness, isolation, retirement, lonesomeness, retreat, desert, solitariness.
 ANTONYMS: (n) companionship, closeness
solomon: (n) solon, shining light, Magna Apollo, magi, luminary, esprit fort, authority, Nestor
sombre: (adj) dismal, dreary, dark, shadowy, mournful, morose, murky, gloomy, sober, dull, glum
somnolence: (n) drowsiness, sleepiness, somnolency, drowse, lethargy, coma, rest, stupor, hypersomnia
sonorous: (adj) rotund, resonant, clear, rich, resounding, harmonious, round, full, ringing, vibrant, sonant.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) shrill, thin
sonorously: (adv) richly, rotundly, loudly, vibrantly, roundly, harmoniously, soundingly, vocally, fully, clearly
soot: (n) smut, lampblack, carbon black, grime, carbon, crock, dirt; (adj) ink, ebony, coal pitch, jet
soothed: (adj) composed
soothing: (adj) calming, soft, smooth, pacifying, quiet, restful, bland, calm, assuasive; (adj, n) softening; (n) alleviation. ANTONYMS: (adj) upsetting, disturbing, hostile, scary, worrying, stimulating, exasperating, annoying, invigorating, painful, intimidating
sordid: (adj) ignoble, nasty, foul, filthy, grimy, base, cheap, despicable, dishonorable, mucky, low. ANTONYMS: (adj) respectable, pleasant, wholesome, reputable, honorable, clean, attractive, humane
sorrel: (n) russet buff, shamrock, carrot, goatsfoot, oxalis, murrey, common sorrel, brown, pier, red

- sorrel, reddish brown
- sorrowful:** (adj) melancholy, doleful, sad, rueful, lugubrious, gloomy, dreary, grievous, piteous, unhappy, mournful. ANTONYMS: (adj) cheerful, content, joyful, successful
- soundings:** (adj) submersion, water
- souring:** (n) acidification, ageing
- southeast:** (adj) southeastern, southeasterly, North Carolina, Florida, Georgia; (n) SE, compass point, geographic area, geographic region, geographical area, selenium
- southerly:** (n) souther, south wind, austral, austrine; (adj) southern, meridional; (adv) southwards, southly
- southward:** (adv) southwards, southernly; (adj) southbound, southern
- southwest:** (adj) southwestern, Colorado, California, Arizona; (n) Sw, geographic area, geographical region, geographic region, geographical area, compass point; (adv) south-west
- sower:** (n) seeder, farmer, sodbuster, husbandman, granger, seed drill
- sown:** (adj) sowed, seeded, planted, sative
- spade:** (v) grub, delve, scoop, excavate; (n) nigger, coon, nigra, jigsaw, boy, black person, spit
- sparkle:** (n, v) flicker, flash, shimmer, spark, shine, blaze, fizz, gleam, glitter; (v) blink, glare. ANTONYMS: (n) apathy, dullness, lifelessness
- sparkling:** (adj, v) effervescent; (adj) bright, brilliant, radiant, glittery, bubbly, glittering, scintillating, shining, scintillant; (n) sparkle. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, dirty, lifeless, lethargic
- sparks:** (n) fire
- sparrow:** (n) hedge sparrow, sparrows, passerine, house sparrow, accentor, true sparrow, spur, snag, passeriform bird, incitement
- spartan:** (adj) severe, frugal, plain, strict, ascetic, rigorous, rigid, ascetical, nonindulgent, abstemious, harsh. ANTONYMS: (adj) luxurious, abundant, hedonistic, lavish, fussy
- spear:** (n) harpoon, lance, pike, fizgig, prick, gig, javelin, shaft, halberd; (v) stab, spike
- spectator:** (n) eyewitness, observer, onlooker, witness, audience, beholder, viewer, watcher, spectators, looker, ogler. ANTONYM: (n) player
- speculate:** (v) contemplate, deliberate, suppose, imagine, venture, consider, hazard, meditate, muse, reflect, ponder
- speculator:** (n) adventurer, profiteer, plunger, investor, scalper, gambler, venturer, speculatist, entrepreneur, financier, financier
- speeding:** (n) acceleration, quickening, hurrying, fastness, f number, scudding, focal ratio, amphetamine; (adj) active, hastening; (adv) faster
- spence:** (n) buttery
- spenser:** (n) Edmund Spenser
- spherical:** (adj) global, orbicular, globular, globose, circular, rotund, spheric, rounded, orbiculate, sphere, full. ANTONYM: (adj) nonspherical
- sphinx:** (adj) phoenix, hydra; (n) monitor, Tiresias, statue, enigma, mythical monster, Cassandra, Minotaur, mystery, mythical creature
- spiders:** (n) horseshoe crabs, Araneida, order Araneae, order Araneida, scorpions, Araneae
- spiring:** (adj) lofty
- spirited:** (adj) animated, frisky, energetic, racy, bold, gritty, quick, enthusiastic, dashing, peppy, brave. ANTONYMS: (adj) spiritless, lifeless, feeble, cowardly, apathetic, lethargic, spineless, dull, solemn, sluggish, lackluster
- spit:** (v) drizzle, expectorate, sprinkle, spew, drool, spike, spatter; (n) broach, saliva, cape; (n, v) skewer
- spite:** (n) malice, grudge, hatred, malevolence, rancour, venom, rancor, maliciousness, ill will, animosity; (n, v) pique. ANTONYMS: (v) please; (n) benevolence, goodwill, love, affection, harmony
- spitting:** (n) spiting, expectoration, ejection, sizzle, projection, forcing out, expulsion, saliva
- splendor:** (adj, n, v) brilliancy; (n) magnificence, pomp, sheen, lustre, luster, glory, ostentation, glitter; (n, v) brightness; (adj, n) radiance. ANTONYMS: (n) dullness, ordinariness, paucity, austerity, understatement, shabbiness, simplicity, unattractiveness
- splinter:** (adj, v) break, shiver, crack; (adj, n, v) split; (n, v) chip, fragment, fracture; (adj, n) shred; (n) shaving, part; (v) smash
- splitting:** (adj) ripping; (n) fission, partition, division, schism, crack, breakup, disunion, dissociation, cleavage; (v) to split
- spoiled:** (adj) bad, rotten, stale, spoil, coddled, pampered, corrupt, damaged, spoilt, putrid, rancid. ANTONYM: (adj) unspoiled
- spoils:** (n) prize, stolen goods, booty, plunder, haul, swag, pickings, trophy, boodle, prize money, treasure
- spontaneously:** (adv) naturally, unaffectedly, impromptu, willingly, gratuitously, instinctively, impulsively, ad lib, easily; (adj, adv) freely, ad libitum. ANTONYM: (adv) deliberately
- sportsman:** (n) athlete, shikari, player, jock, sportswoman, fisherman, huntsman, gamester, play, hunter, reveler
- sprightly:** (adj) spirited, cheerful, alive, blithe, agile, airy, keen; (adj, v) nimble, active; (adj, n) brisk; (adj, adv) jolly. ANTONYMS: (adj) inactive, slow, clumsy, sluggish
- springing:** (v) jumping, climbing, bounding, furious, conspicuous, prominent, ascending, projecting outwardly; (n) growth, suspension, emanation
- springly:** (adv) elastically, resiliently
- springy:** (adj) flexible, elastic, resilient, bouncy, yielding, whippy, pliable, spongy, lively, live, supple. ANTONYM: (adj) unyielding
- sprinkle:** (v) splash, drizzle, moisten, cast, dot, spatter, spray, spill; (adj, v) besprinkle; (n, v) dash, rain
- sprinkled:** (adj) scattered, speckled, wet, dotted
- sprout:** (v) bud, burgeon, burgeon, germinate, grow, pullulate; (n, v) sprit; (n) offshoot, germ, scion, acrospire
- sprouts:** (n) sprouting, Combes
- spruce:** (adj) dapper, neat, natty, jaunty, trim, rakish, stylish, dashing, snappy; (adj, v) tidy; (adj, n) bright. ANTONYMS: (adj) untidy, messy, unkempt
- spun:** (adj) spined; (v) rotate, revolve
- spying:** (n) detection, spotting, espial, catching, discovery, maculation, intelligence activity, signal detection, sensing, contracting, intelligence
- squalidness:** (n) squalor, sordidness, squalidity, uncleanness, foulness, filthiness, griminess, muckiness, muddiness, shabbiness, sordid dirtiness. ANTONYM: (n) smartness
- squashed:** (adj) packed together,

- compacted, condensed, dense, compressed, packed in
- squat:** (adj) short, chunky, stumpy, squatty, thick, low; (v) crouch, perch, sit, hunker down, bend. ANTONYMS: (adj) slender, tall, slight
- squatter:** (n) intruder, homesteader, nester, trespasser, resident, alien, stranger, backwoodsman, inhabitant, colonist, pioneer
- squatting:** (adj) crouching; (n) leg exercise, colonization, movement, knee bend; (v) couchant; (adv) squat
- squaw:** (n) wife, woman; (adj) wintry
- squeak:** (n, v) screech, shriek, scream, peep, yell, howl, chirp, cheep; (v) creak, squeak, scrape
- squeaking:** (adj) creaking, squeaky, screechy, squeaky, squealing, creaky; (n) squeak
- squeamish:** (adj) fastidious, finicky, delicate, queasy, dainty, prudish, prissy, finical, difficult, touchy, overnice
- squinting:** (n) strabismus; (adj) closed
- squire:** (n, v) escort; (n) landlord, gallant, attendant, beau, gentleman, esquire, landowner, landholder, armiger; (v) attend
- squirming:** (adj) wiggling, sinuate, moving, sinuous, twisting, writhing, wiggly, wriggly
- squirrel:** (n) hackee, spermophile, baranduki, burunduki, gopher, baranduki, baranduki, collector; (v) bank, conserve; (adj) courser
- squirrels:** (n) squirrel, mice, beavers, agoutis, marmots, gophers, guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, Rodentia, order Rodentia
- stacked:** (adj) buxom, curvaceous, prepared, shapely, voluptuous
- stacking:** (n) multiple command
- stagnant:** (adj) quiet, motionless, inert, dead, slow, still, standing, immobile, inactive, stagnate, stationary. ANTONYMS: (adj) active, moving
- stagnate:** (v) laze, loll, idle, stand still, drag, lie around; (n) halt, abide, stand, pause; (adj) stagnant. ANTONYMS: (v) rise, boom, change
- stagnation:** (n) recession, depression, stagnancy, deadlock, stasis, delay, inaction, inactivity, backwater, slump, congestion
- stain:** (n, v) spot, blemish, tarnish, blot, dye, smear, disgrace, mark, soil, dirt, defile. ANTONYMS: (v) enhance, dignify, clean
- stalactite:** (n) drip stone, cylinder
- stampede:** (n, v) panic; (v) dash, charge; (n) run, influx, assembly, departure, concourse, consternation, change of location, onrush
- stamping:** (n) impression, blocking, coin, postage, stamping of rail
- standstill:** (n) impasse, deadlock, cessation, pause, halt, stagnation, inaction, stay, stop, interruption; (adj, n) stand. ANTONYM: (n) progress
- staple:** (n, v) nail, pin, tack; (n) raw material, material, stuff; (adj, n) basic; (adj) fundamental, central, main; (v) hook. ANTONYMS: (v) undo; (adj) minor
- starch:** (v) stiffen; (adj) stiff, glair; (n) cornstarch, arrowroot, arum, cornflour, sago, manioc, cassava, vitality
- starry:** (adj) sidereal, starlike, radiant, showy, gleaming, bright, lustrous, shiny, lucid, stellar, fulgent. ANTONYMS: (adj) starless, dull
- startling:** (adj) wonderful, shocking, surprising, striking, alarming, appalling, marvellous, dramatic, frightful, sensational, lurid. ANTONYMS: (adj) unremarkable, soothing, comforting
- startlingly:** (adv) wonderfully, astonishingly, amazingly, astoundingly, shockingly, remarkably, unexpectedly, staggeringly, marvelously, alarmingly, strikingly
- starve:** (v) fast, crave, lust, hunger, thirst, perish, be hungry, deprive, benumb; (adj, v) pinch; (adj) gripe. ANTONYMS: (v) feed, eat
- starved:** (adj) famished, starving, ravenous, meager, emaciated, malnourished, thin, esurient, hungerly, lean, starveling. ANTONYM: (adj) healthy
- starveling:** (n) poor man, pauper, beggar, mendicant, mumper; (adj) hungry
- stately:** (adj) solemn, imposing, elegant; (adj, v) noble, dignified, grand, proud, great; (adj, adv) regal, majestic, royal. ANTONYMS: (adj) boisterous, humble, modest, lowly
- stationery:** (n) notepaper, stationary, note, writing materials, writing paper, office equipment, letterhead
- statuary:** (n) sculptor, carver, figuriste, modeler, chaser, statue, sculptress, assemblage, accumulation, aggregation, collection
- stead:** (n) behalf, room, lieu, spot, location, station, space, seat, position, office, locality
- steadfastness:** (adj, n) firmness, stability; (n) resolution, resolve, staunchness, perseverance, loyalty, fidelity, determination, steadiness, insistence. ANTONYMS: (n) disloyalty, indecisiveness, flexibility, indecision, indifference, unreliability, untrustworthiness, weakness
- steals:** (adj) stolen; (n) stealing
- stealthily:** (adv) furtively, sneakily, surreptitiously, covertly, clandestinely, underhandly, underhandedly, in secret, privately, sneakingly; (adj, adv) noiselessly. ANTONYM: (adv) brazenly
- stealthy:** (adj) clandestine, secret, surreptitious, sneaky, covert, private, backstairs, concealed, feline; (adj, v) sly, insidious. ANTONYM: (adj) blatant
- steamboat:** (n) liner, steamer, steam boat, steamship, cruise ship, ocean liner
- steed:** (n) horse, mount, charger, knight, courser, warhorse, pony, stallion, mare
- steeple:** (adj, n) spire, tower; (n) campanile, minaret, turret, dome; (adj) pyramid, column, obelisk, monument, pillar
- steered:** (adj) directed
- stereotype:** (v) stamp, pigeonhole, type; (n) engrave, stereo, cliché, norm, commonplace, heliotype, platitude, height
- stereotyped:** (adj, v) commonplace, stock, trite; (adj) hackneyed, banal, stale, corny, stereotypical; (v) established, familiar, incontrovertible. ANTONYMS: (adj) original, unconventional, fresh
- sterile:** (adj) infertile, barren, effete, antiseptic, futile, vain, poor, arid, aseptic; (adj, v) fruitless; (v) abortive. ANTONYMS: (adj) fertile, unhygienic, dirty, productive, fruitful, exciting, creative
- stiffness:** (n) hardness, severity, inflexibility, rigor, clumsiness, firmness, awkwardness, inclemency, harshness, tension, roughness. ANTONYMS: (n) softness, looseness, suppleness, weakness, ease, malleability, friendliness, relaxation, leniency, smoothness, limpness
- stillness:** (n) hush, calmness,

- immobility, serenity, silence, quietness, peacefulness; (adj, n) calm, quiet, peace, still.
 ANTONYMS: (n) bustle, movement, uproar, motion, turbulence, turmoil, vigor, disturbance, chaos, agitation
- stint:** (v) skimp, curtail, pinch, scrimp; (adj, v) begrudge, grudge; (n) restriction, extent, job, assignment, degree
- stocked:** (adj) stocked with, furnished, full
- stocking:** (n) hosiery, bootthose, trunk hose, supplying, stocking level, tights, silk stocking, nylons, nylon stocking, rayon stocking; (adj) stockinged
- stoned:** (adj) intoxicated, drugged, tight, zonked, drunken, inebriate, inebriated, ecstatic, rabid, high, unconscious
- stony:** (adj) rocky, hard, rough, callous, cold, pitiless, flinty, unfeeling, obdurate, bleak, icy.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, kind
- storehouse:** (adj, n, v) magazine; (n) granary, depot, barn, depository, arsenal, repertory, treasury, storage, entrepot; (adj, n) repository
- stormy:** (adj, n) inclement, boisterous, rough, severe; (adj) fierce, windy, wild, dirty, foul, tempestuous, blustering. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, still, pleasant, fair, mild, relaxed
- straggling:** (adj) rambling, straggly, spread, few, trailing, untidy, vagabond, sprawly, sprawled.
 ANTONYM: (adj) compact
- straighten:** (v) tidy, unbend, neaten, square away, extend, dress, adjust, stretch, unwind, right, straight.
 ANTONYMS: (v) bend, sink, withdraw, align, stoop, distort, confuse, complicate, tilt
- straightening:** (n) tapping, straightening of a water course
- straightway:** (adv) presently, forthwith, directly, right, anon, immediately, at once, straightforward, promptly; (adj) straight, immediate
- strainer:** (n) colander, sieve, screen, cullender, stretcher, riddle, trapping sieve, leach, percolator, sifter, screw cleaning machine
- straining:** (n) effort, push, exertion, distortion, overrefinement, tension, endeavor, torture, twisting; (adj) arduous; (v) tighten
- strait:** (adj) narrow; (n) pinch, pass, inlet, need, channel, crisis, poverty, difficulty; (adj, n) quandary; (n, v) dilemma
- stranded:** (adj, v) beached, wrecked; (adj) abandoned, marooned, isolated, shipwrecked, stuck; (v) devoted, grounded; (n) graveled, nonplussed
- strangeness:** (n) oddity, oddness, quaintness, peculiarity, curiousness, abnormality, weirdness, foreignness, queerness, singularity, quirk.
 ANTONYMS: (n) familiarity, nativeness
- strap:** (n, v) lash, whip; (n) strop, leash, rein, shoulder strap, band, bar; (v) bind, flog; (adj, n) tie.
 ANTONYM: (v) untie
- stratum:** (n) layer, bed, level, seam, floor, ply, stage, story, horizon, class, plane
- strawberries:** (n) genus *Fragaria*, *Fragaria*
- strawberry:** (n) hemangioma simplex, strawberries, wild strawberry, strawberry mark, scarlet strawberry, nevus, herbaceous plant, herb, beach strawberry, cultivated strawberry, blonde
- straying:** (n) digression, departure, error; (adj) errant, mistaking, containing error, incorrect, misleading, astray, mistaken, erroneous
- streaks:** (n) stripes, cords
- streamer:** (n) banner, standard, ensign, pennant, pennon, emblem, pennoncelle, pennoncel, colors, sign, ribbon
- streaming:** (adj) flowing, flapping, detached, incoherent, baggy, slack, relaxed, loose, lax; (n) cyclosis; (v) disheveled
- strewed:** (v) besprent, sprinkled over
- strewing:** (n) scatter, spreading, spread, sprinkling, sprinkle, dispersion
- strewn:** (adj) spread, distributed, disordered, strewed, confused, covered, diffuse, disconnected, disjointed, circulated, dispersed
- striped:** (adj) stripy, brindled, variegated, lined, banded, virgated, zoned, paled, with stripes
- strive:** (v) endeavor, contend, contest, struggle, fight, attempt, combat, strain, work, aspire, aim
- stroll:** (n, v) ramble, saunter, walk, amble, wander, promenade, tramp, hike; (v) roam, go for a walk, range
- stubborn:** (adj) contrary, hard, intractable, perverse, rigid, determined, persistent, refractory, tenacious, obdurate, inveterate.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) compliant,
- irresolute, flexible, amenable, docile, easygoing, malleable, agreeable, accommodating, cooperative, feeble
- studious:** (adj) scholarly, bookish, academic, assiduous, erudite, diligent, learned, careful, deliberate; (adj, v) thoughtful, reflective.
 ANTONYM: (adj) negligent
- studs:** (n) jewelry
- stumble:** (adj, n, v) slip; (n, v) lurch, fall, err, stagger; (adj, v) blunder, flounder, fumble; (n) misstep; (v) hit, falter
- stump:** (n) stub, end, pulpit; (v) confuse, stamp, baffle, perplex, nonplus, puzzle, bewilder, mystify.
 ANTONYM: (v) explain
- stupendous:** (adj, v) prodigious; (adj) huge, terrific, marvellous, immense, tremendous, fantastic, mighty, mammoth, miraculous, enormous.
 ANTONYM: (adj) abysmal
- stupidity:** (n) foolishness, nonsense, obtuseness, dullness, fatuity, absurdity, stolidity, slowness, denseness, idiocy, imbecility.
 ANTONYMS: (n) sense, logic, cleverness, shrewdness, wisdom, ability
- sturdily:** (adv) strongly, firmly, stoutly, solidly, robustly, hardily, powerfully, soundly, hardly, substantially, stalwartly.
 ANTONYMS: (adv) lightly, flimsily, slightly
- stygian:** (adj, v) hellish, satanic; (adj) devilish, dark, fiendish, Stygian, fiendlike, Acheronian, Acherontic; (v) diabolic, mephistophelian
- styled:** (v) titled, named, benempt
- styx:** (n) Avernus, pit of Acheron, Stygian creek, Tartarus, Cocytus, river Styx
- subdue:** (adj, n, v) conquer; (v) overpower, crush, defeat, quell, quash, suppress, restrain; (n, v) reduce; (adj, v) repress; (adv, v) control. ANTONYMS: (v) incite, enliven, resist, submit
- sublime:** (adj, v) majestic; (adj) dignified, grand, lofty, magnificent, elevated, noble, exalted, glorious; (v) sacred, sublimate. ANTONYMS: (adj) poor, ridiculous
- sublimity:** (adj, n) nobility, elevation, majesty, loftiness, splendor; (n) magnificence, dignity, greatness, sublimeness; (adj) solemnity, heroism
- subsidence:** (n) settling, remission, settlement, ebb, collapse, sinking, abatement, decline, cave in,

- decrease, suspension
- subsistence:** (n) existence, life, entity, maintenance, food, support, sustenance, living, livelihood, esse, ens
- substituted:** (v) replace; (prep) deputed, delegated; (adj) substitutional
- subtile:** (adj) fine, delicate, rare, light, guileful, astute, acute, cunning, subtle, artful, crafty
- subtract:** (v) reduce, calculate, take off, add, discount, diminish, subduct, withhold, deduce, withdraw, remove. ANTONYMS: (v) estimate, credit
- succeeding:** (adj) following, subsequent, after, consecutive, posterior, ensuing, consequent, successive, consequential; (adj, adv) later; (v) succeed. ANTONYMS: (adj) outgoing, preceding
- successively:** (adv) in turn, one after the other, in succession, sequentially, serially, running, in order, gradually, subsequently, repeatedly, one after another
- succinct:** (adj) concise, brief, compendious, short, summary, pithy, laconic, condensed, compact, curt, sententious. ANTONYMS: (adj) long, convoluted
- suck:** (v) nurse, drink, imbibe, suckle, absorb, lactate, puff, drain, pull, suck up; (n) sucking. ANTONYM: (v) rock
- suckers:** (n) family Catostomidae, loaches, carp
- sucking:** (n) suck, intake, uptake, aspiration, ingestion, consumption
- suffrance:** (n) allowance, patience, permission, forbearance, leave, toleration, suffering, resignation, acceptance; (n, v) tolerance; (adj, v) supportance
- suffocated:** (adj) suffocate; (v) asphyxied
- sugarplum:** (n) bonbon, sugar confectionery, sweet
- suggestive:** (adj, v) expressive; (adj) obscene, spicy, allusive, graphic, smutty, significant, narrative, meaningful, epic, implicative
- sullen:** (adj, n) morose, sulky, sour; (adj) gloomy, gruff, glum, moody, dark, cross, surly; (adj, v) grim. ANTONYMS: (adj) bright, cheery; (n) cheeriness
- sultry:** (adj) hot, humid, muggy, oppressive, stifling, sticky, ardent, sensual, stuffy, sweltering, torrid. ANTONYMS: (adj) fresh, cool, cold,
- temperate, dry
- sumach:** (n) shumac, smooth sumac, bush, staghorn sumac, sugar sumac, squawbush, skunkbush, shrub, shining sumac, scarlet sumac, mountain sumac
- summery:** (adj) summer, balmy, estival, aestival, hot, sunny, warm, leafy. ANTONYMS: (adj) vernal, autumnal
- sunbeams:** (n) sunshine, light, daylight, rays
- sunburnt:** (adj) brown, burnt, gloomy, fiery, sallow, adust
- sundered:** (v) subjugated, ruined financially, rough, subdued, humbled, cracked, not continuous, strained, disunited, disconnected, contrite
- sundown:** (n) nightfall, evening, dusk, twilight, hour. ANTONYMS: (n) dawn, daybreak, sunrise
- sunrise:** (n) dawn, sunup, daybreak, daylight, aurora, first light, dayspring, twilight, dawning, break of day, crack of dawn. ANTONYMS: (n) sunset, sundown, nightfall
- superfluities:** (n) added extras, additions, embellishments, trappings, accompaniments
- superfluity:** (n) plethora, redundancy, superabundance, nimiety, overabundance, overplus, embarrassment, redundancy, extravagance, surplus, glut. ANTONYM: (n) shortfall
- superfluous:** (adj, v) spare; (adj) needless, extra, excess, excessive, unnecessary, surplus, pointless, superabundant, supernumerary, supererogatory. ANTONYMS: (adj) indispensable, important, essential, basic, pertinent
- superfluously:** (adv) unnecessarily, excessively, needlessly, supernumerarily, uselessly, unwantedly, gratuitously, supererogatorily, sparsely, overly, extraneously
- superintend:** (v) oversee, manage, direct, administer, control, run, supervise, govern, handle, overlook, inspect
- supernal:** (adj) heavenly, celestial, ethereal, lofty, unearthly, spiritual, unworldly; (v) head, capital, polar, topgallant. ANTONYM: (adj) infernal
- supernumerary:** (adj, v) spare; (adj, n) additional; (adj) redundant, superfluous, supererogatory, surplus, excess, otiose; (n) super,
- spear carrier, increment
- supersede:** (n, v) supplant, displace; (v) substitute, replace, succeed, commute, annul, deputize, cut out, overrule; (n) remove
- superstition:** (n) superstitious, taboo, religion, old wives' tale, superstitious notion, lore, folklore, fanaticism, fallacy, belief, magic. ANTONYMS: (n) science, truth
- superstructure:** (n) structure, work done, building, road pavement, trailer body, superstruction, side frame, pavement, ne plus ultra, fait accompli, edifice
- supple:** (adj, v) flexible, pliable, limber, pliant; (adj) lithe, soft, plastic, graceful, lithesome, lissome. ANTONYMS: (adj) rigid, inflexible, stocky, clumsy, hard, rough, slow, tight, unyielding
- suppliant:** (n) petitioner, applicant, besieger, postulant, prayer, lover, suer; (adj) beseeching, supplicatory, imploring, humbly entreating
- supposing:** (adv) admitting, conditionally, in case; (n) supposition, conjecture, thought, theory, assumption; (conj) although, what if; (v) suppose
- surety:** (n) collateral, pledge, hostage, guarantee, earnest, guaranty, guarantor, certainty, assurance, sponsor, bail
- surfeit:** (n) overabundance, excess, repletion, satiety, plethora, overflow, congestion; (v) cloy, gorge, satiate, pall. ANTONYMS: (n) shortage, need, necessity, deficit; (v) deplete
- surpass:** (v) beat, outdo, exceed, surmount, better, excel, outstrip, overcome, overrun, best, go beyond. ANTONYMS: (v) fail, lose, follow, trail
- surpassing:** (adj) excellent, superior, transcendent, exceptional, prodigious, fine, outstanding, extraordinary; (v) surpass; (adv) surpassingly; (prep) above
- surround:** (v) gird, round, skirt, border, besiege, beset, envelop; (n, v) circle, inclose, ring, compass. ANTONYMS: (v) release, free
- surveying:** (n) mensuration, measurement, investigation, triangulation; (v) inspect, examine; (adj) observant
- survivor:** (n) person, unfortunate, survivor, somebody, animal, animate being, beast, brute, subsister, creature, someone

suspend: (adj, v) defer, put off; (v) interrupt, stop, adjourn, postpone, hang, dangle, stay, shelve, debar.

ANTONYMS: (v) continue, sustain, rise, finish, advance, inaugurate

sustaining: (adj) underneath, alimentary, at the bottom of, comforting, filling, fundamental, healthy, profitable, rich; (n) continuation, maintenance

swallows: (n) sparrows, rooks, robins, Passeriformes, Hirundinidae, etc, order Passeriformes

swamp: (v) flood, submerge, overwhelm, inundate, drench; (n) marsh, mire, quagmire, morass; (adj, v) sink, drown. ANTONYMS: (v) underwhelm, disperse, dry

sward: (n) sod, greensward, lawn, green, divot, turf, grass, meadow, mead, sodomite, grassplat

swarm: (n) host, horde, multitude, drove, throng, cloud, assembly; (n, v) mob; (v) teem, pour; (adj) shoal. ANTONYMS: (v) retreat; (n) few

swath: (n) swathe, band, track, windrow, swarth, short grass, space, bandage, swath width, swatch, smash

swaying: (adj) swinging, convincing, oscillating, influential, persuasive, moving, lilted, groggy; (n) floating, manipulation

sweats: (n) workout suit, sweatsuit, clothes, apparel, clothing

sweeps: (n) sweep period

sweeten: (v) dulcify, sugar, dulcorate, candy, mollify, honey, appease, soften, make things pleasant, gild the pill, glaze. ANTONYMS: (v) salt, displease, trouble, worry, aggravate

sweetish: (adj) somewhat sweet

sweetness: (n) sugariness, sweet, redolence, pleasantness, fragrance, aroma, charm, perfume, amenity, niceness, kindness. ANTONYMS: (n) sourness, sharpness, unpleasantness, harshness, tastelessness, unkindness

sweet-scented: (adj) fragrant

swelled: (adj) big, inflated, bloated, swollen, adult, boastful, bighearted, bad, fully grown, crowing, elder

swelling: (n) protuberance, lump, swell, intumescence, growth, projection, prominence, bulge, dropsy; (adj, v) inflated; (adj) growing. ANTONYM: (n) decline

sweltering: (adj) hot, close, sticky, stifling, muggy, sultry, scorching, humid, broiling, baking, oppressive. ANTONYMS: (adj) fresh, cool, cold

swine: (n) hog, boar, beast, sow, Eohyus, babiroussa, babirussa, barrow, brute, razorback, grunter

swoop: (v) pounce, raid, descend, clutch, wrench; (n) descent, slide, dive; (n, v) sweep, stoop, plunge

sylvan: (adj) rustic, woodland, wooded, Sylvestrian, woody, sylvatic, rural, pastoral, ligneous, forest, floral

sympathize: (v) pity, understand, condole, compassionate, feel, sympathise, identify with, empathize, have compassion, feel sorry for, feel for. ANTONYMS: (v) disapprove, disregard

synonymous: (adj) equivalent, consignificative, synonymical, similar, synonymic, same, the same as, interchangeable, equal, corresponding, consignificant.

ANTONYMS: (adj) different, antonymous, dissimilar, opposite

tablecloth: (n) duster, napery, rag, table linen

tack: (v) affix, attach, fasten, veer; (n, v) baste, shift, turn; (n) pin, tache, brad; (adj, v) sew. ANTONYMS: (v) separate, detach

tafferel: (n) taffrail

tailor: (v) sew, fashion, shape, accommodate, design, cut, adjust, fit; (n) snip, dressmaker, sartor

taint: (n, v) blemish, disgrace, corrupt, spot, blot; (adj, v) defile, sully, pollute, contaminate; (n) pollution, contamination.

ANTONYMS: (v) enhance, right, respect, disinfect, clean; (n) perfection, cleanliness; (adv) cheerfully

tainted: (adj, v) rotten, rancid, bad, musty, reasty, vitiated; (adj) rank, contaminated, faulty, putrid, dirty.

ANTONYMS: (adj) unadulterated, unchanged, untarnished, clean

tainting: (n) pollution

tallow: (n) grease, lard, oil, suet, cream, butter, cicatrix, beef tallow, dubbin, animal oil, scar

talons: (v) claws, tenaculum, unguis, tentacle, teeth; (n) clutches

tame: (v) break, subdue, soften, domesticate; (adj) meek, docile, bland, domestic, gentle, slow; (adj, v) moderate. ANTONYMS: (adj) exciting, bright, unmanageable, interesting, untamed, inspiring, brilliant, colorful, rebellious, lively

tamely: (adv) dully, blandly, gently, insipidly, obediently, uninterestingly, moderately,

brokenly, subduedly, domestically, flatly. ANTONYMS: (adv) cruelly, assertively, disobediently, interestingly, wildly

tanager: (n) redbird, firebird

tangent: (n) digression, aside, tan, grade, departure, burn, tack, suntan, sunburn, straight line

tantivy: (n) posthaste

tapeworm: (n) cestode, echinococcus, taenia, beef tapeworm, flatworm, plathelminth, pork tapeworm, taenia saginata, taenia solium, taeniasis, tapeworms

tapping: (n) draining of the furnace, paracetesis, to tap, tick, tapotement, sound, patter, drainage, clapping, casting, restriking

tare: (n) vetch, cheat, bearded darnel, rye grass, till, tare weight, swindle, slicker, ryegrass, hairy vetch; (v) zero

tarn: (n) mere, lake, loch, pond, lough, well, pool, puddle, slab, tairn, mountain lake

tartar: (n) dragon, potassium hydrogen tartrate, calculus, cream of tartar, stone, tartarum, infinitesimal calculus, incrustation, flying lizard, flying dragon; (adj) dandruff

tartarus: (n) Gehenna, pit of Acheron, hell, inferno, Tartary, tartar, Styx, Stygian creek, Hades, Cocytus, Avernus

tasting: (n) degustation, gustation, savoring, relishing, sample, gustatory sensation, gustatory perception, discernment, drinking, eating, feeding

tatters: (n) rags, clothing

tavern: (n) hotel, saloon, bar, inn, pub, public house, pothouse, taphouse, cabaret, khan, hostelry

teamster: (n) carter, driver, muleteer, postilion, arriero, cartman, carrier, porter, vetturino, truck driver, lorry driver

tearful: (adj) dolorous, maudlin, watery, weeping, teary, sad,

dolourous, wet, whimpering, sorrowful; (v) mournful. ANTONYMS: (adj) cheerful, tearless

tedium: (n) ennui, monotony, tediousness, dullness, sameness, dreariness, lifelessness, difficulty, drabness; (adj) dull work, humdrum. ANTONYMS: (n) excitement, diversion, variation, entertainment, ease

teem: (n, v) abound; (v) flow, pour, pullulate, crowd, fructify, rain cats and dogs, rain heavily, stream,

flower; (n) exuberate. ANTONYMS: (v) want, need, drizzle, disperse

teeter: (v) lurch, wobble, totter, stagger, falter, waver, reel, move, sway, shake; (n) fluidized suspension. ANTONYM: (v) steady

temperance: (n) moderation, abstinence, abstemiousness, control, restraint, moderateness, soberness, forbearance, measure, gravity, asceticism. ANTONYMS: (n) intemperance, wildness

temperate: (adj) sober, moderate, restrained, calm, reasonable, abstemious, gentle, balmy, abstinent, frugal, equitable. ANTONYMS: (adj) violent, unrestrained, stormy, cool, extreme, hot, immoderate, wintry, rough

temperately: (adv) calmly, abstemiously, soberly, softly, mildly, restrainedly, continently, coolly, balmily, gently, measuredly

tempered: (adj) attempered, temperate, moderated, toughened, subdued, set, enured, proportioned, properly adapted, emotionally hardened, treated. ANTONYM: (adj) untempered

tempest: (adj, n) storm, gust; (n) gale, hurricane, squall, disturbance, cyclone, typhoon, agitation, tornado, blizzard. ANTONYM: (n) serenity

tempestuous: (adj, n) rough, boisterous, severe; (adj) raging, furious, wild, angry, windy, fierce, gusty; (adj, v) turbulent. ANTONYMS: (adj) mild, moderate, relaxed

temporal: (adj) secular, earthly, profane, lay, carnal, mortal, fleeting, temporary, transient, impermanent, mundane. ANTONYMS: (adj) spiritual, otherworldly, mental, permanent, perpetual, lasting

tempt: (adj, v) attract, allure; (v) entice, decoy, charm, inveigle, invite, coax, seduce, fascinate, attempt. ANTONYMS: (v) discourage, appall, repel

tenderly: (adv) softly, kindly, delicately, affectionately, fondly, warmly, painfully, sensitively, caringly, sympathetically, gently. ANTONYMS: (adv) roughly, severely, disapprovingly, harshly

tenderness: (n) fondness, soreness, love, affection, sympathy; (adj, n) clemency, mildness, compassion, gentleness, softness, delicacy. ANTONYMS: (n) pleasure, dryness, hatred, strength, detachment

tending: (n) care, hairdressing, aid, treatment, attention, babysitting, incubation; (adj) apt, conducive, prone, disposed

tenement: (n) dwelling, apartment, flat, apartment building, habitation, abode, stateroom, tablinum, residence, toft, domicile

tenth: (n) custom, assessment, excise, gavel, octroi, tithe

tents: (n) encampment

terminated: (adj) complete, all over, over, extinct, accomplished, closed, highly skilled; (adj, adv) ended, finished, done; (adv) completed

terminating: (adj) final, ending, conclusive, dying, determining, terminative, last, expiring, decisive, expiring groans; (n) termination

terminus: (n) destination, finish, end, goal, terminal, term, depot, conclusion, end point, last, period

ternate: (adj) triple, compounder, compound

terra: (n) mother Earth, terra firma

terrestrial: (adj) earthly, mundane, worldly, terrene, sublunary, sublunar, telluric, planetary, tellurian, land, global. ANTONYMS: (adj) otherworldly, amphibious, cosmic, heavenly, spiritual

tethered: (v) on a rock, moored, anchored, at anchor, bound

thankful: (adj) appreciative, indebted, beholden, obliged, contented, pleased, gratified, relieved, under obligation, appreciatory, welcome. ANTONYMS: (adj) worried, unappreciative, unthankful, sorry

thaw: (v) fuse, dissolve, warm, unfreeze, soften, liquefy, defrost, run, liquify; (n) melting, thawing. ANTONYMS: (v) cool, chill, congeal

thawing: (n) thaw, melt, heating, atmospheric condition, phase change, phase transition, state change, warming; (adj) thawy

thence: (adv) therefore, thus, therefrom, thereof, consequently, then, so, thereafter, thenceforth, since, on account of

therein: (adv) in this, in there

thermometer: (n) thermocouple, thermograph, telethermometer, cryometer, pyrometer, platinum thermometer, heat indicator, gas thermometer, candy thermometer; (v) heliometer, galvanometer

thick-skinned: (adj) unfeeling, aloof, unemotional, unaffected, obdurate, uninterested, heartless, hard,

emotionless, imperturbable, callous

thieving: (n) larceny, stealing, robbery, embezzlement, misapplication, misappropriation, peculation, defalcation, burglary, thievery; (adj) thievish. ANTONYMS: (adj) philanthropic, benevolent

thinly: (adv) flimsily, slightly, slimly, slenderly, weakly, diaphanously, rarely, leanly, finely, tenuously; (adj) thin. ANTONYMS: (adv) densely, thickly, loudly, liberally

thinner: (n) dilutant, solvent, reducer, rarefied, phenylic acid, phenol, propanone, perchloromethane, solvent, oxybenzene, methylbenzene

thirst: (n, v) hunger, lust, wish; (n) longing, yen, craving, hankering, dryness, appetite; (v) starve, crave. ANTONYM: (n) dislike

thirsty: (adj) eager, arid, parched, avid, keen, athirst, greedy, absorbent, ambitious; (v) craving, hungry. ANTONYMS: (adj) quenched, satisfied, disinterested, wet

thistle: (adj) porcupine, beard, hedgehog, feather, mote, chevaux de frise, dust, down, brier; (n) nodding thistle, carline thistle

thither: (adv) hither, whither, on that point, in that respect, at that place, in that location; (adj) further, ulterior, remoter, succeeding, more distant

thoreau: (n) Henry David Thoreau

thoughtless: (adj, v) careless, heedless, rash, improvident; (adj) reckless, inattentive, hasty, unthinking, negligent, neglectful, imprudent. ANTONYMS: (adj) considerate, considered, heedful, prudent, kind, cautious, mindful, responsible, attentive, observant, sensible

thousandth: (adj) millesimal; (n) simple fraction

thrasher: (n) thresher, fox shark, mocking thrush, oscine, oscine bird, brown thrush, brown thrasher, farm machine, shark, thresher shark

threads: (n) duds, clothing, apparel, clothes, wear, vesture, coat, cords, dress, garb, garment

threescore: (adj) lx

threshing: (n) farming, separation

thrice: (adv) three times, thirdly

thrifty: (adj) careful, economical, provident, sparing, prudent, stingy, saving, spare, parsimonious, chary,

- scotch. ANTONYMS: (adj) wasteful, spendthrift, profligate, extravagant, generous
- thrilled:** (adj) jubilant, excited, happy, overjoyed, elated, ecstatic, pleased, thrilled, contented, grateful, flattered. ANTONYMS: (adj) bored, unhappy, depressed, desolate, sad, down, miserable
- thrilling:** (adj, n) electric; (adj) exciting, sensational, exhilarating, electrifying, emotional, rousing, gripping, stimulating; (adj, v) impressive; (n, v) swelling. ANTONYMS: (adj) boring, depressing, discouraging, upsetting, uninspiring
- thrive:** (adj, v) prosper; (v) flourish, grow, advance, blossom, succeed, increase, bloom, get ahead, boom; (adj) luxuriate. ANTONYMS: (v) deteriorate, fail, languish, struggle, decrease
- throes:** (n) hurt, labor, suffering
- thrush:** (n) mavis, ouzel, White-rumped thrush, candidiasis, blackbird, bluetthroat, fieldfare, merl, moniliasis, ousel, philomel
- thrusting:** (n) thrust, push, jab, poke, jabbing, stab, driving force, scoke, sack, punch, Phytolacca Americana
- thump:** (n, v) thud, bang, bump, knock, hit, strike, cuff, punch, crash, crack; (v) pound. ANTONYM: (v) tiptoe
- thunderbolt:** (n) bolt of lightning, lightning, thunder, thunderclap, bombshell, surprise, flash, shackle, quarrel, streak of lightning, streak
- thundering:** (adj) thumping, whopping, lumpish, gaunt, hulky, lubberly, spanking, big, loud, striking terror; (n) thunder
- ticking:** (n) tick, cloth, fabric, ticken; (adj) living
- tickled:** (adj) tickled pink, overjoyed, delighted, detective novel, ecstatic, elated, jubilant, happy, glad, excited. ANTONYM: (adj) disappointed
- tidbit:** (n) delicacy, morsel, choice morsel, bit, appetizer, treat, taste, scrap, nibble, kickshaw, hors d'oeuvre
- tigris:** (n) Tigris river
- tillage:** (n) agriculture, farming, cultivated land, tith, husbandry, culture, land, fallow, vintage, farmland, plowland
- timid:** (adj) shy, afraid, diffident, coy, bashful, nervous, frightened, apprehensive, modest; (adj, adv) cowardly; (adj, n) cautious. ANTONYMS: (adj, n) brave; (adj) confident, bold, fearless, resolute, forward, daring, brazen, extrovert, brash, talkative
- timidly:** (adv) fearfully, timorously, cautiously, shyly, diffidently, anxiously, nervously, shily, gingerly, modestly, apprehensively. ANTONYMS: (adv) confidently, bravely, daringly, brashly, fearlessly, decisively, brazenly
- tinder:** (n) spunk, punk, touchwood, ingle, nerve, ignitor, ignition, igniter, hoodlum, hood, goon
- tinge:** (n, v) color, hue, tint, dye, stain, touch, tincture; (n) shade, cast, undertone; (adj, n, v) dash. ANTONYMS: (v) whiten, pale; (n) white, information, pallor
- tinged:** (adj) plausible, bright, painted, fey, touched, specious, colorful, stained, tinted, dyed, tint
- tinker:** (v) monkey, fiddle, putter, mess around, toy, tamper, vamp; (n) cobbler, mender, Scomber japonicus, chub mackerel
- tinkling:** (adj) clinking, tinkly, tintinnabulary, reverberant; (n) ting
- tint:** (n, v) color, tinge, hue, stain, dye, tinct; (n) shade, tincture, tone, cast; (v) paint. ANTONYMS: (n) white, pallor; (v) whiten, pale
- tiptoe:** (v) tip, tippytoe, creep, patter, skirt, skip, tilt, sidle, lean; (adj) alert; (n) quieter. ANTONYM: (v) clump
- titanic:** (adj) enormous, giant, colossal, massive, mammoth, huge, vast, stupendous, immense, titanical, titanic. ANTONYM: (adj) tiny
- toads:** (n) caecilians, class Amphibia, frogs, newts, salamanders
- toadstools:** (n) bracket fungi, agarics, Hymenomycetes
- toil:** (n, v) labor, work, drudge, sweat, drudgery, grind, labour, travail; (v) plod; (n) effort, exertion. ANTONYMS: (n) pastime, entertainment, fun, relaxation; (v) laze, neglect
- toiling:** (adj) labouring, drudging, busy
- tolerable:** (adj) passable, mediocre, bearable, fair, middling, reasonable, adequate, respectable, endurable, sufferable; (adj, v) satisfactory. ANTONYMS: (adj) intolerable, exceptional, unbearable, unsatisfactory, bad, inadequate, appalling, inadmissible
- tolerated:** (adj) permissible, permitted, permitting, suffered, admissible
- tongs:** (n) forceps, pincers, pliers, nippers, poker, lifter, pair of tongs, trivet, vice, ice tongs; (v) clutches
- tonic:** (n) stimulant, restorative, keynote, soda pop, medicine, corroborant, tonic water; (adj) brisk, refreshing, fresh, invigorating. ANTONYM: (n) sedative
- topmost:** (adj) highest, upmost, upper, maximum, uppermost, head, supreme, utmost, crowning, apical, uttermost. ANTONYM: (adj) bottom
- topographical:** (n) local, topical; (adv) in situ
- topple:** (v) collapse, tumble, fall, stumble, overthrow, upset, overturn, pitch, capsize, tumble down, oust. ANTONYMS: (v) place, put, straighten, install, right
- torpid:** (adj) inactive, sluggish, indolent, dull, slow, dormant, lazy, dead, lifeless, flat, supine. ANTONYMS: (adj) energetic, lively
- torrent:** (n) flood, cloudburst, overflow, stream, downpour, rain, shower, soaker, inundation; (adj, n) volley, eruption. ANTONYMS: (n) drought, trickle, shower
- torrid:** (adj) hot, burning, sultry, impassioned, fervent, perfervid, fervid, fiery, ardent, sweltering, passionate. ANTONYMS: (adj) freezing, cold, cool, frigid, arctic
- tortoise:** (v) sluggish, loiterer, lingerer; (n) gopher, desert tortoise, gopher tortoise, giant tortoise, gopher turtle, testudina
- toss:** (n, v) throw, fling, pitch, chuck, cast, flip; (v) agitate, hurl, shake, convulse, discard. ANTONYM: (v) catch
- totem:** (n) clan, God, kin, kin group, kindred, kinship group, column, emblem
- tottering:** (adj) unsteady, ramshackle, easily shaken, tottery, sick, rocky, broken, trembling, cracked; (v) drooping; (n) convulsion
- toughness:** (n) hardness, firmness, stamina, ruggedness, difficulty, durability, sturdiness, stoutness, robustness, endurance; (n, v) tenacity. ANTONYMS: (n) ease, flimsiness, weakness, defeatism, flexibility
- townfolk:** (n) borough, town, municipality
- township:** (n) parish, municipality, county, community, shire, country, city, arrondissement, settlement, area, province
- townsman:** (n) burgher, burgess,

- townier, cockney, oppidan, cit, townie, compeer, equal, knobstick, match
- tradesmen:** (n) fellow tradesmen
- tramp:** (n) bum, hobo, beggar; (n, v) walk, trudge, vagabond, ramble, march; (v) roam, range, plod. ANTONYMS: (n, v) loyalist; (n) resident
- tranquil:** (adj, v) quiet, unruffled, smooth; (adj, n) peaceful; (adj) placid, still, serene, sedate, collected, composed, equable. ANTONYMS: (adj) noisy, tense, agitated, anxious, troubled, bustling, loud, perturbed, frenetic, moving, bothered
- tranquillity:** (adj, n, v) quiet; (n) serenity, quietness, relaxation, quietude, peacefulness, calmness; (n, v) repose, rest; (adj, n) stillness, calm. ANTONYMS: (n) noise, agitation, movement, panic, turbulence, turmoil
- transact:** (v) perform, execute, do, manage, conduct, deal, bargain, negotiate, enact, sell, bank. ANTONYM: (v) deny
- transcendent:** (adj) incomparable, ideal, excellent, divine, supreme, sublime, distinguished, eminent, preeminent; (v) imposing, solemn. ANTONYMS: (adj) ordinary, ridiculous, simple
- transcript:** (n) copy, duplicate, record, rescript, reproduction, counterpart, facsimile, counterfeit, adaptation, arrangement, book
- transgress:** (v) offend, infringe, break, trespass, contravene, violate, overstep, disobey, breach, infract; (adj, v) err. ANTONYM: (v) behave
- transient:** (adj) fleeting, temporary, passing, transitory, fugacious, ephemeral, momentary, temporal, provisional; (adj, n) fugitive, vagabond. ANTONYMS: (adj) enduring, lasting, immanent, long; (n) resident
- transitory:** (adj) transient, temporary, fleeting, momentary, brief, ephemeral, temporal, fugacious, impermanent, fugitive, transitive. ANTONYMS: (adj) permanent, lasting
- transmigration:** (n) metempsychosis, migration, mutagenesis, transanimation, mutagenesis, shifting, journey, transanimation, rebirth
- transmit:** (v) pass, communicate, convey, send, transfer, carry, broadcast, forward, propagate, pass on, give. ANTONYMS: (v) receive, take, get, withhold, keep
- transmute:** (v) change, metamorphose, alter, turn, convert, translate, transfigure, modify, process, become, aurify
- transparency:** (n) clearness, clarity, slide, limpidity, pellucidity, lucidity, diaphaneity, translucency, overhead, foil, pellucidity. ANTONYMS: (n) ambiguity, opacity, dirtiness, impurity
- transpire:** (v) occur, pass, evaporate, exhale, befall, come out, come about, arise, fume, exude, ensue
- transverse:** (adj, v) cross; (adj) crosswise, oblique, crossing, thwartwise, thwart, diagonal, grumpy, perversely irritable; (v) traverse; (adv) transversely
- trapper:** (n) huntsman, trap, trappure, trappour, poacher, thread gripper plate, coureur de Bois
- trappings:** (n) equipment, rigging, caparison, embroidery, trapping, tackle, suit, skirt, accouterment, lapet, flap
- traps:** (n) rigging, gear, paraphernalia, suit, trappings, things, livery, harness, accouterment, caparison, trap
- traveler:** (n) tourist, wayfarer, migrant, wanderer, itinerant, voyager, traveller, visitor, flier, flyer, footer. ANTONYM: (n) resident
- traveling:** (n) travel, journey, travelling, commuting, commutation, peregrination, circumnavigation; (adj) riding, touring, nomadic, road
- treacherously:** (adv) faithlessly, traitorously, dishonestly, perfidiously, unsafely, deceitfully, precariously, dangerously, perilously, untruly, fraudulently. ANTONYMS: (adv) firmly, honestly, loyally, safely
- tread:** (n, v) pace, walk, rate, march, tramp; (n) gait, stride, footstep, footfall, track; (v) trample
- treasured:** (adj) precious, prized, dear, beloved, loved, valued, appreciated, favorite, etched in your mind, esteemed, invited. ANTONYM: (adj) unremarkable
- treed:** (adj) cornered, trapped, unfree
- tremble:** (adj, n, v) shiver; (n, v) quiver, shudder, thrill, palpitate; (adj, v) totter, quake; (n) throb; (v) flutter, quail, falter. ANTONYMS: (v) steady, calm
- trembles:** (n) animal disease, nervousness
- tremulous:** (adj) shaky, trembling, shaking, fearful, apprehensive, quavering, fidgety, shivering; (n) nervous, diffident, coy. ANTONYMS: (adj) stable, confident, steady
- trespass:** (adj, v) offend; (n, v) sin, breach; (n) offense, invasion, infringement, encroachment; (v) encroach, infringe, intrude, invade
- tresses:** (n) locks, mop, head of hair
- trifle:** (n, v) play; (adj, n, v) trinket; (v) dally, fiddle, flirt, fool, frivol; (n) nothing, triviality, detail; (adj, n) bagatelle
- trifler:** (n) dilettante, fribble, fribbler, gamester, gambler, wanton, doodle, dangler, toyer, dallier; (v) waiter on Providence
- trifles:** (n) jests, nonsense, nugae, trivia
- trifling:** (adj) paltry, slight, petty, negligible, immaterial, worthless, trivial, minor, small; (adj, v) inconsequential; (adj, n) frivolity. ANTONYMS: (adj) significant, worthwhile, major, considerable, crucial, enormous, great, mature, profound, substantial; (n) importance
- trig:** (adj) neat, trim, natty, shipshape, tricky, spare; (n) trigonometry, triangulation, spherical trigonometry, triggering; (n, v) skid
- trill:** (v) warble, quaver, sing, hum, drip, drop, dribble, chirp, cheep, spirtle; (n, v) shake
- trilled:** (adj) rolling, involute, furred, billowing, reverberating, resounding, resonating, resonant, pronounceable, reverberative
- trimmings:** (n) embellishments, trappings, finery, fixing, superfluties, plumage, edge, paraphernalia, gear, additions, fixings
- trivialness:** (n) triviality
- trodden:** (adj) trampled, damaged, beaten, compressed, packed down. ANTONYM: (adj) loose
- trojan:** (n) Dardan, Trojan horse; (adj) Troic
- troop:** (n) group, corps, gang, crowd, band, brigade, crew, herd, swarm, horde; (n, v) flock
- trope:** (n) metaphor, figure of speech, image, hyperbole, personification, shape, simile, synecdoche, irony, kenning, metonymy
- tropic:** (adj) hot, torrid, equatorial; (n) parallel of latitude, line of latitude,

- latitude
trof: (n, v) run; (n) crib, canter, pony, gait, ride, lope; (v) gallop, general, frequent, household
trots: (n) Aztec two-step, Montezuma's revenge; (adj) ill
trough: (n) chute, channel, manger, depression, gutter, conduit, ditch, canal, crib, valley, bowl. ANTONYMS: (n) ridge
trowel: (n) spatula, watch glass, dipper, transplanter, thimble, tablespoon, pointing trowel, plastering trowel, brick trowel, garden trowel; (v) delve
troy: (n) city, Ilion, Ilium, metropolis, system of weights, troy weight
truce: (n, v) respite; (n) peace, breather, reprieve, ceasefire, agreement, agreement, pact, accord; (v) rest, pause, lull. ANTONYMS: (n) disagreement, fight, war
true-blue: (adj) staunch, true, loyal, steadfast, tried
trump: (n) trump card, brick; (adj) truepenny, quell, silence, stalemate, checkmate, nonplus; (v) outmaneuver, crossruff, scoop
trumpery: (n) nonsense, trash, frippery, gimcracks, gimcrackery, tripe, frills, folderol, falderal; (adj) trashy, worthless
trumpet: (n) horn, cornet, bugle, clarion, trumpet, brass, trombone; (v) proclaim, promulgate, show off, blare
trunks: (n) short pants, pants, luggage, Jockey shorts, Jamaica shorts, Bermuda shorts, bathing trunks, bathing suit, costume, drawers, swimming trunks
trusting: (adj) credulous, unsuspecting, naive, confident, confiding, simple, innocent, gullible, reliant, give, easy to fool. ANTONYMS: (adj) distrustful, suspicious, doubtful, hesitant, protective, shrewd, disingenuous, smart, jaded
trustworthy: (adj) honest, trusty, dependable, safe, faithful, sound, certain, good, responsible; (adj, n, v) credible; (adj, n) true. ANTONYMS: (adj) suspect, dubious, untrustworthy, undependable, sneaky, doubtful, deceitful, disloyal, disreputable, irresponsible, degenerate
truthfulness: (adj, n) honesty, sincerity, probity, honor; (n) truth, openness, frankness, candor, faith, loyalty; (adj) integrity. ANTONYMS: (n) untruthfulness, inaccuracy, evasiveness, caution, deceit
tuber: (n) Olfactory tuber, groundnut, root, corm, tuberosity, tuberacle, rhizome, sweet potato, stem, root tuber, genus tuber
tuck: (n, v) crease, pleat; (v) insert, pucker, enclose, gather, inclose, ruck, enter; (n) wrinkle, rapier
tuition: (n) education, teaching, training, tutelage, pedagogy, fee, schooling, tutoring, school fees, learning, tuition fee
tumbled: (adj) disordered
tumbler: (n) acrobat, beaker, turner, mime, roller, buffoon, tumbler switch, cup, bowl, flute; (v) glass
tumbling: (adj) falling, billowing, dropping, rolled; (adj, adv) plunging; (n) gymnastics, acrobatics, stunting, stunt flying, rumbling; (adv) headfirst
tumid: (adj, v) inflated, turgid, swelling; (adj) swollen, bombastic, orotund, large, puffy, tumescent, declamatory, rhetorical
tumult: (adj, n, v) hubbub, disturbance; (n) stir, commotion, bustle, din, fuss, excitement; (n, v) clamor, disorder, brawl. ANTONYMS: (n) peace, push, serenity, order, calm
tumultuous: (adj, n) boisterous, tempestuous; (adj) disorderly, riotous, turbulent, noisy, furious, loud, troubled, disturbed; (adj, v) tumultuary. ANTONYMS: (adj) peaceful, calm
turdus: (n) genus Turdus
turnip: (n) rutabaga, Swede, root vegetable, cruciferous vegetable, white turnip, clock
turnips: (n) root crop, brassica, genus brassica, cauliflowers, potatoes
turnout: (n) output, gathering, production, siding, yield, audience, crowd, outturn, gate, assemblage, assembly. ANTONYMS: (n) resource, origin
turtle: (n) terrapin, redbelly, cooter, snapping turtle, box tortoise, painted terrapin, marine turtle, slider, sea turtle; (adj) game, venison
twang: (n, v) flavor; (n) accent, tang, strong taste; (v) jar, strum, play, smack, taste, smatch, savor
twig: (n) sprig, bough, limb, shoot, offshoot, spray, branchlet, scion, stalk; (n, v) stick; (v) grasp
twiggy: (adj) thin, skinny, tenuous, slender, twigsome, twiglike, thinner, slight, reedy, meager, lanky
twigs: (n) sprays
twilight: (n) nightfall, night, sunset, gloaming, evening, sundown, eventide, fall, decline, evenfall; (adj) aurora. ANTONYMS: (n) daybreak, sunrise
twinkle: (n, v) flash, gleam, shimmer, glimmer, glisten, glitter, scintillate, wink; (adj, n, v) flicker; (v) shine, blink
twinkling: (n) moment, jiffy, minute, second, flash, trice, twinkle, wink, split second, breath; (adj) sparkling. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull
twittering: (n) chirping, peeping, tweeting
tying: (n) ligation, bundling, attachment, knotting, lacing; (adj) binding; (v) restrict
tyranny: (adj, n) dictatorship, autocracy; (n) absolutism, despotism, oppression, cruelty, monocracy, totalitarianism, authoritarianism, autarchy, Caesarism. ANTONYMS: (n) democracy, liberty
tyrant: (n) dictator, oppressor, autocrat, disciplinarian, bully, authoritarian, sovereign, czar, monarch, suzerain, stickler
ulysses: (v) sly boots, reynard, fox, Odysseus, Machiavel
umbrageous: (adj) shadowy, umbrage, umbratious, indignant, outraged, shadowed, incensed, touchy, testy, umbriferous, suspect
unaccountable: (adj) incomprehensible, inexplicable, strange, unintelligible, unexplainable, mysterious, impenetrable, undiscoverable, undecipherable, unknowable, unnatural. ANTONYMS: (adj) accountable, explainable, responsible, explicable
unaccountably: (adv) mysteriously, especially, curiously, bizarrely
unalterable: (adj) constant, inalterable, immutable, permanent, invariable, firm, changeless, rigid, stable, irrevocable, unchangeable. ANTONYMS: (adj) alterable, impermanent, temporary, fluid, flexible
unarmed: (adj) naked, unprotected, open, simple, destitute, bare; (v) weaponless, harmless, unfortified, vincible, untenantable
unblushingly: (adv) immodestly, brazenly, impudently, unabashedly
unbroken: (adj) continuous, entire,

- complete, continual, constant, intact, incessant, endless, whole, undivided, solid. ANTONYMS: (adj) intermittent, temporary, plowed, discontinuous, disturbed, sporadic, partial
- uncertainties:** (n) doubts, worries, misgivings
- unclean:** (adj) foul, impure, nasty, dirty, grubby, muddy, squalid, grimy, sordid, dingy, soiled. ANTONYMS: (adj) clean, hygienic, pure, uncontaminated
- uncleanness:** (n) filth, dirtiness, dirt, defilement, squalor, grease, grime, squalidness, dinginess, smuttiness, muck. ANTONYM: (n) purity
- uncommitted:** (adj) free, available, neutral, weak, not busy, unpromised, lax, detached, unengaged, desultory, unpledged. ANTONYMS: (adj) devoted, attached, resolute, pious, involved, loyal, wholehearted
- uncommonly:** (adv) rarely, strangely, infrequently, scarcely, occasionally, exceptionally, oddly; (adj, adv) particularly, remarkably, singularly, curiously. ANTONYMS: (adv) frequently, typically
- unconcerned:** (adj) apathetic, detached, insouciant, casual, careless, nonchalant, thoughtless, easygoing, listless, carefree; (adj, n) cold. ANTONYMS: (adj) caring, eager, troubled, sensitive, uptight, craving, involved, energetic, interested, annoyed, strict
- unconsciously:** (adv) instinctively, unintentionally, unthinkingly, unwittingly, ignorantly, innocently, comatosely, automatically, obliviously, unsuspectingly, inadvertently. ANTONYMS: (adv) consciously, deliberately, knowingly, purposely
- uncorrected:** (adj) unpunished
- uncultivated:** (adj) savage, ignorant, uneducated, wild, fresh, uncivilized, rude, untutored, uncultured, artless, lowbrow. ANTONYMS: (adj) cultivated, familiar, refined
- undeceived:** (adj) disillusioned, disenchanting
- undefined:** (adj) indeterminate, indistinct, obscure, shadowy, uncertain, vague, unspecified, ambiguous, unlimited, inexact, neutral. ANTONYMS: (adj) defined, exact, constrained
- underbred:** (adj) rude, boulderish, cur, lowbred, mongrel, mixed, scrub, uncivil, integrated, miscellaneous, amalgamated
- undercurrent:** (n) undertow, stream, tinge, cross fire, feeling, undersea, vortex, flow, undertide; (v) indraught, reflux
- underlie:** (adj) smolder; (n) underlay, hate; (v) sustain, suffer, spread through, possess, pervade, hazard, govern, endure
- undersized:** (adj) little, undersize, short, diminutive, stunted, tiny, puny, dwarf, underweight, weak, underdeveloped. ANTONYMS: (adj) big, robust
- understandingly:** (adv) sensitively, knowingly, sympathetically, intelligently, perceptively, considerately, compassionately, tolerantly, discerningly, thoughtfully, supportively. ANTONYMS: (adv) unkindly, insensitively
- underwriter:** (n) sponsor, backer, investment banker, proctor, secretary, solicitor, bailiff, attorney, broker, factor, clerk
- undeveloped:** (adj) rudimentary, immature, embryonic, latent, fallow, early, young, potential, premature, crude; (v) undiscovered. ANTONYMS: (adj) developed, mature, active, considered, exploited, grown, overt, ready, ripe, old
- undiluted:** (adj) straight, neat, sheer, uncorrupted, untainted, strong, uncompounded, sterilized, unmitigated, unmixed, unpolluted. ANTONYMS: (adj) diluted, tainted
- undiscovered:** (v) solved, undeveloped, unexplained, untraced; (adj) unnoticed, remote, unexplored, unheard-of, silly, unacquainted with, foolish
- undistinguishable:** (adj) exactly alike, identical, undistinguished. ANTONYM: (adj) distinguishable
- undisturbed:** (adj) peaceful, quiet, tranquil, serene, placid, still, easy, smooth, uninterrupted, untroubled, composed. ANTONYMS: (adj) tense, anxious, agitated, bothered, disordered, disturbed, noisy, scared
- undone:** (adj) ruined, unfinished, sunk, done for, finished, behindhand, decayed; (adj, v) doomed; (v) accursed, to be pitied, devoted
- undoubted:** (adj) unquestionable, undisputed, indisputable, undeniable, sure, positive, true, unquestioned, indubitable, definite, unchallenged
- undulated:** (adj) undulatory
- undulating:** (adj) sinuous, waved, undulant, undulatory, curly, apprenticed, zigzag, crimped, curvy, indented, intended. ANTONYMS: (adj) steep, straight
- undulation:** (v) flutter, undulate; (n) fluctuation, oscillation, impulse, surge, pulsation, vibration, swell, swing, roll
- undusted:** (adj) dirty
- unearthly:** (adj) weird, ghostly, uncanny, ethereal, unworldly, preternatural, spectral, eerie, spiritual, strange, heavenly. ANTONYMS: (adj) natural, physical, acceptable, normal, human
- unendurable:** (adj) intolerable, insufferable, insupportable, excruciating, impossible, unsupportable, uneasy, teasing, passionate, not patient, intolerant. ANTONYM: (adj) bearable
- unequal:** (adj) different, unlike, uneven, rough, lopsided, unfair, inadequate, disparate, disproportionate, unbalanced, unsymmetrical. ANTONYMS: (adj) equal, even, fair, identical, similar, same, level, constant, balanced, like, corresponding
- unequaled:** (adj) unequaled, unique, alone, peerless, incomparable, matchless, unrivaled, unsurpassed, unrivalled, solitary, inimitable
- unexhausted:** (v) unwasted; (adj) unweakened, unwithered, unshaken, not spent, not exhausted, not emptied, inexhausted, unworn. ANTONYM: (adj) exhausted
- unexplored:** (adj) unexplained, unapprehended, unascertained, undiscovered, unheard of; (v) unexamined, uninvented, unsearched, unstudied, unweighed, un sifted
- unfathomable:** (adj) incomprehensible, inexplicable, inscrutable, unintelligible, impenetrable, abysmal, deep, immeasurable, unaccountable, obscure, enigmatic. ANTONYMS: (adj) fathomable, shallow, explicable, explainable, comprehensible, believable, straightforward, understandable, legible, clear
- unfathomed:** (adj) complete, deep, fundamental, heavy, silent, sound,

- unfathomable, unlimited, unplumbed, unsounded
- unfinished:** (adj) rough, rude, unaccomplished, imperfect, incomplete, partial, immature, unpolished, raw, undone; (v) uncompleted. ANTONYMS: (adj) finished, complete, complex, completed
- unfledged:** (adj) callow, green, young, unfeathered, newborn, fledgless, hebetate, fledgling, untaught, unlicked, unreturned
- unfold:** (v) spread, open, extend, develop, stretch, spread out, reveal, display, stretch out; (adj, v) expound, explain. ANTONYMS: (v) fold, block, stagnate, stop, hide, withhold, check, wrap, conceal
- unfolding:** (n) development, growth, flowering, display, recitation, dawn, process, solution, disclosure; (adj) ongoing, duration
- unfrequented:** (adj) secluded, solitary, isolated, lonesome, desolate, remote, secret, eremitical, deserted, quiet, off the beaten path
- ungainly:** (adj) clumsy, gawky, unwieldy, inelegant, inept, maladroit, uncouth, graceless, stiff, wooden, unmanageable. ANTONYMS: (adj) graceful, manageable, adroit, fitting, elegant
- unhealthy:** (adj) harmful, sickly, insanitary, ailing, ill, noxious, injurious, insalubrious, sick, diseased; (adj, v) unsound. ANTONYMS: (adj) healthy, fit, hygienic, light, well, good, strong, luxuriant
- unhesitatingly:** (adv) readily, openly, freely, plainly, speedily, willingly, decidedly, resolutely, determinedly, sincerely, undisguisedly. ANTONYM: (adv) eventually
- unhurried:** (adj) slow, gradual, deliberate, calm, languid, easy, sluggish, measured, torpid, lenient, blas. ANTONYMS: (adj) rushed, vigorous, strict, fast, thoughtless, speedy
- unimaginable:** (adj) impossible, unthinkable, incredible, unbelievable, out of the question, unspeakable, miraculous, untold, unsolicited, unlikely; (adj, v) unimaginable. ANTONYMS: (adj) describable, believable
- unimpaired:** (adj) unbroken, intact, clean, sound, healthy, entire, complete, undamaged, uninjured; (v) unmarred, unsinged. ANTONYM: (adj) impaired
- unimproved:** (adj) unkempt, uncleared. ANTONYM: (adj) improved
- uninformative:** (adj) uninformative, unilluminating, not informative, newsless, not edifying, unedifying. ANTONYMS: (adj) instructive, enlightening, informative
- unintended:** (adj) accidental, inadvertent, unpremeditated, inconspicuous, unexpected, unplanned, unthinking, spontaneous, unwitting, involuntary, indirect. ANTONYMS: (adj) intended, deliberate
- uninterrupted:** (adj) ceaseless, continuous, continual, unbroken, incessant, perpetual, constant, unceasing, endless; (adj, adv) straight, nonstop. ANTONYMS: (adj) intermittent, temporary, broken, alternate, noisy, sporadic; (adv) indirectly
- uninterruptedly:** (adv) constantly, ceaselessly, continually, endlessly, unremittingly, unceasingly, successively, consecutively, continuedly, sustainedly, straightly
- unjust:** (adj) partial, injurious, wrong, inequitable, unrighteous, wicked, foul, wrongful, improper, unmerited, unjustified. ANTONYMS: (adj) just, equitable, rightful, reasonable, good
- unjustly:** (adv) wrongly, wrongfully, wickedly, iniquitously, inequitably, undeservedly, illegally, foully, injuriously, unrighteously, unjustifiedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) rightly, reasonably
- unkempt:** (adj) shaggy, scruffy, grubby, ragged, messy, slovenly, sloppy, tousled, disheveled, dirty, dilapidated. ANTONYMS: (adj) tidy, smart, elegant, kempt, trim, sleek, fresh
- unleavened:** (adj) azymous, not fermented, unmelded, unseasoned. ANTONYM: (adj) leavened
- unmarked:** (adj) overlooked, unidentified, blank, unblemished, without a scratch, without a number; (adj, v) unnoted; (v) unheeded, unthought of, unregarded, unmissed. ANTONYMS: (adj) injured, old
- unmerchtable:** (adj) unmarketable, unsalable, unvendible, not salable
- unmistakable:** (adj) obvious, evident, plain, manifest, decided, palpable, apparent, decisive; (adj, v) unequivocal, positive, definite. ANTONYMS: (adj) vague, unclear, uncertain, indefinite, doubtful, inconspicuous, equivocal
- unmixed:** (adj, v) simple, sheer, mere, downright; (adj) absolute, unmingled, undiluted, straight, uncompounded, single, plain. ANTONYM: (adj) impure
- unmolested:** (adj) undisturbed, untroubled, unthreatened, peaceable, tranquil, still, smooth, safe, quiet; (v) unafflicted, unplagued
- unmoral:** (adj) unfeeling, licentious, neutral, nonmoral. ANTONYM: (adj) immoral
- unmusical:** (adj) dissonant, discordant, harsh, tuneless, inharmonious, unmelodic, unmelodious, cacophonous, jarring, nonmusical, untunable. ANTONYMS: (adj) musical, melodious
- unnatural:** (adj) affected, artificial, grotesque, supernatural, forced, abnormal, eccentric, uncanny, stilted, mannered, anomalous. ANTONYMS: (adj) natural, normal, real, unaffected, commonplace, genuine, sincere
- unnaturally:** (adv) falsely, unusually, contrivedly, affectedly, extraordinarily, monstrosly, manneredly, by artificial means, abnormally, peculiarly, cruelly. ANTONYM: (adv) normally
- unobscured:** (adj) light
- unobserved:** (adj, v) unseen; (v) unheeded, unregarded, unthought of, unperceived; (adj) ignored, not noticed, hidden, unmarked, unnoted; (adv) secretly. ANTONYM: (adj) evident
- unobstructed:** (adj) open, unconstrained, clear, unhindered, unchecked, unimpeded, manifest, uncaught, unconfined, unloaded, free. ANTONYMS: (adj) obstructed, unclear, restricted
- unoccupied:** (adj) empty, vacant, unemployed, free, desolate, void, uninhabited, idle, inactive, deserted, abandoned. ANTONYMS: (adj) full, inhabited, overcrowded, solid, working, busy
- unpleasantly:** (adv) distastefully, disagreeably, rudely, obnoxiously, bitterly, painfully, awfully, troublesomely, offensively, hardly, displeasingly. ANTONYMS: (adv)

- delightfully, agreeably, kindly, politely, graciously, attractively, sweetly, well, humbly
- unprepared:** (adj) impromptu, extemporaneous, raw, unrehearsed, unready, extemporaneous, crude, improvised, unwary, surprised, weak. ANTONYMS: (adj) prepared, ready, attentive
- unpretending:** (adj) unassuming, humble, unostentatious, unobtrusive, lowly, unpretentious, restrained; (n) plain, homely, familiar, intimate
- unprincipled:** (adj) abandoned, unscrupulous, depraved, dishonest, unethical, profligate, dissolute, shameless, unconscionable, vicious, immoral. ANTONYMS: (adj) ethical, moral, honest, professional
- unprofitable:** (adj) profitless, fruitless, futile, inutile, disadvantageous, unfruitful, barren, idle, vain, uneconomic, unproductive. ANTONYMS: (adj) fruitful, lucrative
- unquestionable:** (adj) incontrovertible, indisputable, sure, incontestable, indubitable, certain, unequivocal, irrefutable, undoubted, definite; (v) unimpeachable. ANTONYMS: (adj) dubious, uncertain, doubtful, indefinite, tenuous, provisional, debatable, disputable
- unquestionably:** (adv) certainly, definitely, indubitably, decidedly, indisputably, positively, surely, of course, assuredly, no doubt; (adj) doubtless. ANTONYMS: (adv) doubtfully, possibly, arguably
- unrelaxed:** (adj) strained, stiff, ill at ease
- unremembered:** (adj) forgotten, lost, unnoticed
- unrepentant:** (adj) obstinate, obdurate, unregenerate, cussed, unremorseful, stubborn, flinty, not sorry, repentant, unapologetic, stony. ANTONYMS: (adj) regretful, repentant, sorry, penitent, remorseful, apologetic
- unrestrained:** (adj, n, v) loose; (adj) unconstrained, wild, uncontrolled, immoderate, extravagant, unconfined, mad, uninhibited; (adj, v) dissolute, wanton. ANTONYMS: (adj) restrained, restricted, contained, limited, partial, biddable, frugal, hidden, inhibited, manageable, reserved
- unruffled:** (adj) still, tranquil, composed, quiet, serene, cool, peaceful, placid, collected, sedate; (adj, v) undisturbed. ANTONYMS: (adj) agitated, bothered, disturbed, excitable, excited, fiery, frivolous, perturbed, scatterbrained, anxious
- unsatisfied:** (adj) dissatisfied, disgruntled, unsatiated, unsated, ungratified, restless, discontent, fidgety, fretful, unsatiated; (v) unslaked. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleased, happy
- unscrupulous:** (adj) dishonest, unprincipled, unethical, immoral, dishonorable, crooked, unfair, unconscionable, sharp, unconscientious, sly. ANTONYMS: (adj) scrupulous, principled, ethical, honest, moral
- unsophisticated:** (adj) artless, naive, unaffected, natural, ingenuous, innocent, pure, rustic, uncomplicated, green, callow. ANTONYMS: (adj) refined, complex, cultured, worldly, suave, mature, experienced, advanced, jaded
- unspeakable:** (adj) ineffable, dreadful, awful, terrible, inexpressible, nasty, horrible, atrocious, indefinable, shocking; (adj, v) unutterable. ANTONYMS: (adj) nice, wonderful, pleasant, good, lovely, bearable
- unspeakably:** (adv) indescribably, horrifically, horrifyingly, staggeringly, inexcusably, unbearably, unkindly, unpleasantly, unutterably, offensively, horrendously. ANTONYM: (adv) pleasantly
- unsuspected:** (v) unspied; (adj) unimagined, covert, adventitious, unseen, unanticipated
- unsuspecting:** (adj) gullible, naive, innocent, unsuspecting, credulous, unaware, trustful, unconscious, unwary, not suspicious, unwitting. ANTONYMS: (adj) suspicious, shrewd, prepared, expecting, conscious, realizing
- untenable:** (adj) unjustifiable, not defensible, unreasonable, inexcusable, illogical; (v) sine ICTU, pregnable, unfortified, unarmed, harmless, defenseless. ANTONYMS: (adj) valid, watertight, justifiable
- untimely:** (adj) early, unseasonable, inopportune, inappropriate, awkward, immature, previous, ill timed, inconvenient, improper, belated. ANTONYMS: (adj) timely, appropriate, opportune, convenient, overdue
- untold:** (adj) infinite, incalculable, innumerable, vast, uncounted, unnumbered, unlimited, endless; (v) unsaid, unspoken, unpublished. ANTONYMS: (adj) little, minor, small, tiny, open, slight
- untried:** (adj) raw, new, untested, unseasoned, fresh, untrodden, unsalted, young, unverified, untouched; (v) undetermined. ANTONYMS: (adj) proven, seasoned, familiar, experienced
- unutterable:** (adj) indescribable, unspeakable, inexpressible, unpronounceable, indefinable, untellable, unnameable, unapproachable, beyond description, incommunicable, terrible
- unwearied:** (adj) indefatigable, untiring, tireless, untired, indomitable, unflagging, industrious, tolerant, persistent, persevering, laborious. ANTONYM: (adj) impatient
- unweariedly:** (adv) tirelessly, unflaggingly, persistently, unwearily, busily, indefatigably
- unwieldy:** (adj) clumsy, cumbersome, unmanageable, heavy, bulky, ponderous, gawky, massive, ungainly, lumbering; (v) cumbersome. ANTONYMS: (adj) convenient, manageable, wieldy, compact, handy, dainty, light
- unwillingly:** (adv) grudgingly, loathly, aversely, unenthusiastically, indisposedly, resentfully, involuntarily, recalcitrantly, refractorily, lothly, hesitatingly. ANTONYM: (adv) wholeheartedly
- unwise:** (adj, n) silly, stupid, absurd, indiscreet; (adj) imprudent, injudicious, ridiculous, senseless, inadvisable, impolitic, unreasonable. ANTONYMS: (adj) sensible, prudent, thoughtful, sagacious, judicious, advisable
- unwittingly:** (adv) unintentionally, unknowingly, unconsciously, accidentally, ignorantly, innocently, unawares, unawarely, unsuspectingly, uninformedly, obliviously. ANTONYMS: (adv) mindfully, deliberately, knowingly
- upland:** (n) plateau, elevation, moorland, table, eminence, rise, Highlands, ridge, hill, flat terrain; (adj) mountainous
- uprightness:** (adj, n) honesty,

- rectitude, fairness, honor, right, fidelity, probity, candor, equity; (n) morality, truth. ANTONYMS: (n) debauchery, wickedness, decadence, dishonesty, immorality, indecency
- usher:** (v) lead, escort, accompany, marshal, show, conduct, bring, attend; (n) attendant, porter, doorman
- utensils:** (n) gear, equipment, tackle, apparatus, hardware
- utilitarian:** (adj) functional, practical, pragmatic, philanthropic, utile, serviceable, humanitarian, helpful, convenient; (n) Benthamite, philanthropist. ANTONYMS: (adj) surrender, relinquish, soulful, luxury, decorative, useless
- utmost:** (adj, n) maximum, extreme, uttermost, furthest, best, highest; (adj, adv) farthest; (adj, v) supreme; (adj) last, furthest; (adj, n, v) greatest. ANTONYMS: (adj) moderate, worst
- utopian:** (n) utopist, optimist, idealist; (adj) fanciful, ideal, idealistic, chimerical, impractical, airy, platonic; (adj, v) romantic. ANTONYM: (adj) dystopian
- uttered:** (adj) expressed, express, verbalised, verbalized, vocal, explicit, oral; (v) spoke, quoth, said
- vacate:** (v) abandon, resign, abdicate, relinquish, renounce, repeal, give up; (adj, v) evacuate, annul, empty, leave. ANTONYMS: (v) occupy, overflow, fill, remain, stay, enter
- vacation:** (n) leisure, leave, time off, recess, break, rest, stay, day of rest, sabbath, dies non, outing
- vagabond:** (n, v) tramp; (adj, n) vagrant; (v) roam, stray, wander, range, ramble; (n) outcast, bum, wanderer, nomad. ANTONYMS: (n) inhabitant, resident; (adj) settled
- vain:** (adj) proud, arrogant, conceited, fruitless, idle, empty, abortive, ineffectual, unproductive, narcissistic; (adj, v) useless. ANTONYMS: (adj) shy, successful, possible, persuasive, selfless, fruitful, humble, useful, responsible, worthwhile, effective
- vainly:** (adv) uselessly, futilely, fruitlessly, conceitedly, in vain, worthlessly, abortively, bootlessly, arrogantly, unproductively; (adj, adv) foolishly. ANTONYMS: (adv) fruitfully, successfully, effectively
- valet:** (n) man, attendant, lackey, butler, flunkey, manservant, waiter, gentleman, livery servant, servant
- retainer
- valhalla:** (n) Elysian Fields, Elysium, heaven, Walhalla, nirvana, promised land, paradise
- valiant:** (adj) brave, courageous, intrepid, fearless, heroic, audacious, gallant, daring, dauntless, stout, stalwart. ANTONYMS: (adj) afraid, despicable
- valor:** (n) bravery, courage, heroism, valiance, daring, spirit, pluck, audacity, boldness; (adj, n) gallantry, prowess
- vanish:** (n, v) disappear; (adj, v) fade; (v) disperse, pass, go, die, dissipate, evaporate, depart, flee, melt away. ANTONYMS: (v) come, arrive, wax, stay
- vanity:** (n) egotism, pride, emptiness, arrogance, futility, inanity, vainglory, conceitedness, pretension, pomposity; (adj, n) amour propre. ANTONYMS: (n) selflessness, humility, importance, value, effectiveness
- vantage:** (n) superiority, preference, start, handicap, expediency, expedience, advantageousness, odds, asset, tax advantage, head start. ANTONYM: (n) disadvantage
- vapor:** (n) fog, cloud, steam, haze, evaporation, vapour, fume; (adj, n) gas, air; (adj, v) bluster; (v) boast
- vaporous:** (adj) hazy, foggy, vaporific, ethereal, cloudy, vaporish, steamy, airy, unsubstantial, evaporable, cobwebby
- vapors:** (n) megrims, mist, blues, blue devils, fog, depression, hypochondriasis, pessimism, spleen, brume, horrors
- variously:** (adv) differently, multifariously, sundrily, variedly, severally, assortedly, dissimilarly, numerously, versatily, diversly, variegatedly
- vase:** (n) jar, urn, barrel, vessel, container, jug, pitcher, pot, bouquet, bushel
- vastness:** (n) enormity, immensity, immenseness, enormousness, grandeur, size, hugeness, bigness, extent, magnificence, grandness. ANTONYM: (n) closeness
- veer:** (v) swerve, shift, deviate, curve, change, trend, sheer, slew, slide, bend, deflect
- veery:** (n) thrush, *Hylocichla*, hermit thrush
- vegetate:** (v) sprout, germinate, bud, shoot, put forth, burgeon, idle, burgeon; (n) find oneself, pass the time; (adj) lead an easy life. ANTONYM: (v) do
- veil:** (n, v) cover, hide, disguise, mask, cloud, shroud, camouflage; (v) cloak, conceal; (n) curtain, blind. ANTONYMS: (v) disclose, unveil, expose
- velvety:** (adj) smooth, soft, velvet, silky, fluffy, woolly, supple, creamy, delicate, furry; (v) lanate. ANTONYMS: (adj) croaky, watery
- venerable:** (adj) ancient, reverend, estimable, August, respectable, aged, distinguished, sacred, worthy, of long standing, revered. ANTONYMS: (adj) unworthy, unimpressive, undignified, disreputable
- venison:** (adj) turtle; (n) beef, chicken, ham, lamb, mutton, pork, red meat, animal protein, white meat
- verdure:** (adj, n) greenness; (n) greenery, foliage, verdancy, viridity, green, leafage, flora, freshness, strength, vegetable kingdom
- vermin:** (n) bug, varmint, louse, trash, pest, brute, verment, scum, riffraff, ragtag and bobtail, rabble
- vermont:** (n) VT
- versicolor:** (v) tricolor; (adj) motley, multicolored
- vert:** (adj) green; (n) vertical
- vertically:** (adv) uprightly, erectly, straightly, upright, standingly, normally, sheerly, steeply; (adj) crosswise
- verspers:** (n) matins, mass, divine service, canonical hour, early evening, Evening Prayer, placebo, religious service, service, nightfall, worship
- vest:** (n) waistcoat, undershirt, singlet, oilskins, jubbah; (v) invest, clothe, enthrone, endow, put, ordain. ANTONYM: (v) divest
- vestal:** (adj) chaste, virginal, virtuous, pure, saturated, not mixed, good, sinless, undiluted; (n) woman, nun
- vexed:** (adj) troubled, irritated, angry, pestered, peeved, harassed, sore, harried, uneasy, cross, offended. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, uncomplicated
- vexing:** (adj) irritating, infuriating, maddening, annoying, galling, troublesome, bothersome, aggravating, exasperating, irksome, pestiferous
- viand:** (n) dish
- vibratory:** (adj) vibratile, vibrating, oscillatory, vibrative, oscillating, oscillative, swinging, moving

victorious: (adj) triumphant, successful, winning, jubilant, victor, fortunate, lifted up; (adj, v) triumphal, exultant, triumphing, on top. ANTONYMS: (adj) beaten, unsuccessful, failing, losing, sorrowful

vigilant: (adj) alert, watchful, attentive, observant, cautious, guarded, circumspect, wakeful, careful, jealous; (adj, v) awake.

ANTONYMS: (adj) careless, negligent, reckless, oblivious, unprepared, asleep
vigor: (n, v) energy; (adj, n) intensity; (n) spirit, vitality, force, life, strength, power, might, vim, stamina. ANTONYMS: (n) weakness, apathy, frailty, laziness, enervation, inactivity, indifference, illness, lifelessness, sluggishness, tardiness

villager: (n) denizen, dweller, inhabitant

vine: (n) grapevine, grape, creeper, vignette, vigne, potato, gourd, groundnut, haoma, horsebrier, hoyia

vinegar: (n) verjuice, eisel, crab, condiment, chili vinegar, brine, cider vinegar, acetum, acetic acid, alum

vintage: (n) crop, harvest, vino, tillage, time of origin, gardening, mow, spade husbandry, agronomy; (adj) classical, classic. ANTONYMS: (adj) new, inferior, unimportant

violet: (adj, n) mauve, lavender; (adj) empurpled, lilac, purplish; (n) viola, purple, indigo, sweet violet, reddish blue, pansy

virile: (adj) strong, manly, male, potent, forceful, manful, vigorous, robust, mature, full grown, grown up. ANTONYMS: (adj) unmanly, effeminate

virtuous: (adj) upright, pure, righteous, good, moral, just, honorable, honest, respectable, decent, pious. ANTONYMS: (adj) bad, sinful, corrupt, impure, unethical, decadent, degenerate, irreverent

visnu: (n) Juggernaut, Krishna, shiva, Siva, Buddha

visitation: (v) visit, examination; (n) tribulation, calamity, annoyance, misfortune, irritation, infliction, inspection, test, ordeal

vista: (n) outlook, panorama, horizon, aspect, scene, landscape, scenery, picture, alley; (adj, n) view, perspective

vitally: (adv) necessarily,

significantly, basically, crucially, fundamentally, principally, decisively, materially, importantly, vivaciously, primarily.

ANTONYMS: (adv) insignificantly, superficially

vitals: (n) bowels, womb, viscera, belly, entrails, organ, necessity, lap, intestines, guts, chitterings

vitiated: (adj, v) tainted; (adj) corrupt, diminished, depraved, perverted, corrupted, lessened, profligate, adulterate, faded; (v) morbid

vitreous: (adj) glassy, hyaline, lithic, crystalline, glazed, concrete, clear as crystal, clear, calculous, serene, granitic

vitus: (n) St Vitus

vivacious: (adj) lively, animated, sprightly, vibrant, spry, effervescent, gay; (adj, v) cheerful, active, buoyant, brisk. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, lethargic, listless, compliment, inactive, praise, languid, lifeless, serious, sluggish

vocation: (n, v) calling, profession, employment; (n) occupation, job, trade, business, career, line, mission, line of work

voluptuous: (adj) luscious, voluptuous, sensual, carnal, sybaritic, epicurean, buxom, sexy, sensuous, lascivious, erotic.

ANTONYM: (adj) underdeveloped

voracious: (adj) greedy, rapacious, ravenous, hungry, gluttonous, esurient, edacious, avid, ravening, grasping, insatiable. ANTONYMS: (adj) quenched, disinterested, moderate

voraciously: (adv) greedily, gluttonously, rapaciously, hungrily, avidly, raveningly, edaciously, graspingly, famishedly, covetously, wolfishly

voyaging: (n) traveling around, movement, travel, journey, exploration, adventure, discovery, journeying; (adj) wayfaring

vulcan: (n) Wright, smith, manufacturer, forger, builder, bricklayer, artist, artificer, architect, mason

vulgar: (adj) rude, coarse, plebeian, nasty, common, foul, indecent, gross, unrefined; (adj, n) low, vile.

ANTONYMS: (adj) refined, sophisticated, tasteful, polite, aesthetic, muted, fashionable, decent, artistic, pleasant, clean

vulpine: (adj) crafty, vulpecular, subtle, feline, cunning, artful

vulture: (n) predator, marauder, ghoul; (adj) tyrant, despot, harpy, inquisitor, precisian, oppressor, martinet, extortioner

wade: (v) ride the storm, buffet the waves, skim, swim, splash, wallow; (n) Virginia wade

wader: (n) shoebill, ortygan, limpkin, ibis, heron, hemipode, spoonbill, courlan, chungia, stork, trumpeter

wager: (n, v) stake, hazard, risk, venture, gamble, chance; (v) lay, pledge, pawn, play; (n) stakes

wailing: (n, v) lamentation, lament, moaning; (adj) lamenting, weeping, crying, wailful, howling, sobbing; (adj, n) bawling; (n) cry

wainscot: (n) wainscoting, panel, plinth, wall, panelling, parietes, skirting board, wainscoting, lining, paneling

waive: (v) forgo, relinquish, dispense with, resign, surrender, forfeit, give up, abandon, spare, abdicate, release. ANTONYM: (v) enforce

wakeful: (adj) vigilant, sleepless, awake, observant, restless, light, wary, psychologically light, lightheaded, tripping; (v) wistful.

ANTONYMS: (adj) unaware, asleep, inattentive, relaxed

walnut: (n) wood, walnut tree; (v) succotash, waffle, vanilla, trepang, porterhouse steak, supawn, salmis, sea slug, sauerkraut

walnuts: (n) walnut family, family Juglandaceae, hickories, Juglandaceae, pecans

wand: (n, v) stick, rod; (n) scepter, verge, mace, pole, baton, sceptre, fasces, rod of empire; (v) staff

wanderer: (n) vagabond, roamer, tramp, nomad, drifter, traveler, wayfarer, stranger, hobo, traveller; (n, v) Rambler

wanderings: (n) peregrination
wantonly: (adv) licentiously, loosely, lasciviously, recklessly, lightly, wildly, dissolutely, dissipatedly, easily, sportively, waywardly

warble: (n, v) chant, trill; (v) chirp, chirrup, descant, twitter, quaver, yodel, carol, pipe, hum

wares: (n) merchandise, goods, commodities, stock, product, commodity, freight, cargo, ware, refill, shipment

warily: (adv) carefully, guardedly, cautiously, circumspectly, charily, vigilantly, watchfully, thoughtfully, gingerly, attentively, suspiciously. ANTONYMS: (adv) boldly,

- unwarily, trustingly, thoughtlessly, rashly, recklessly
- warmed:** (adj) warmer, warm, baked
- warp:** (v) distort, deform, contort, falsify, garble, misrepresent; (n, v) bend, buckle, turn, bias; (n) distortion. ANTONYM: (v) clarify
- warped:** (adj, n) twisted; (adj) deformed, crooked, perverted, misshapen, kinky, curved, distorted, wry, partisan, superficial. ANTONYMS: (adj) wholesome, impartial
- wasps:** (n) hymenoptera, gall wasps, sawflies, order hymenoptera, etc, ants, ichneumons
- watered:** (adj) irriguous, dewy, watermarked, moist
- waterlogged:** (adj) sodden, wet, damp, doughy, awash, covered with water, moist; (v) tumbledown, shaky, ramshackle, crumbling
- water-logged:** (adj) wet
- waterloo:** (n) tragedy, ruin, licking, calamity, defeat
- watermelon:** (n) melon, Citrullus vulgaris, watermelon vine, melon vine
- watery:** (adj) moist, diluted, wet, dilute, washy, thin, damp, fluid, aqueous, weak, insipid. ANTONYMS: (adj) strong, solid, dry, soft, dehydrated, lively, dark, clear, thick, hard
- wavy:** (adj) crinkled, crinkly, corrugated, waved, undulating, und, rippled, wavelike, undulate, undulatory, rolling. ANTONYM: (adj) straight
- waxed:** (adj) resembling wax, soft, waxen; (v) wax
- waxen:** (adj) pale, waxy, white, colorless, wan, ashen, yielding, soft, gray, drawn, cereous
- waxwork:** (n) *Celastrus scandens*, wax figure, staff vine, puppet, model, doll, mammet, aglet, American bittersweet, bittersweet, figurine
- wayland:** (n) Wieland, Wayland the smith
- wearer:** (n) enjoyer
- wearisome:** (adj, v) tiresome, irksome, troublesome; (adj) tedious, dull, monotonous, boring, laborious, trying, slow, annoying. ANTONYMS: (adj) satisfying, soothing, exciting, refreshing, easy
- weather-beaten:** (adj) gnarled, rugged
- weathercock:** (n) vane, weather vane, hand, flagstaff, cairn, pointer, post, staff; (adj) chameleon, moon, Proteus
- weathered:** (adj) worn, wrinkled, lined, battered, hardened, wrinkly, rugged, tested, windswept, weatherbeaten, weatherworn. ANTONYM: (adj) smooth
- weave:** (v) twine, braid, knit, entwine, interweave, wind, waver, plait, fabricate, inweave; (n) texture. ANTONYMS: (v) separate, unweave, unpick
- weaving:** (adj) lurching, staggering, walking unsteadily, unstable, stupefying, irregular, astounding, unsteady; (n) braiding, creating from raw materials, aspect weaving
- webbed:** (adj) lacy, netted, webby, reticulated, reticulate, reticular, palmated, keld, lacelike, weblike
- webster:** (n) Daniel Webster, Noah Webster, weaver, Webber
- wedge:** (v) compress, jam, pack, ram, stuff, lodge; (n) chock, shim, slice, cuneus; (n, v) stick. ANTONYMS: (v) dislodge, remove; (n) whole
- weed:** (n) grass, marijuana, pot, plant, fireweed, smoke, ganja; (v) eliminate, hoe, plow; (adj) pick
- weedy:** (adj) scraggy, skinny, thin, meager, lean, lanky, scabby, underweight, puny, feeble, mean. ANTONYMS: (adj) strong, weedless
- weevil:** (n) seed weevil, seed beetle, beetle, black weevil, boll weevil, boud, darkling beetle, darkling ground beetle, tenebrionid, rice weevil, snout beetle
- weighty:** (adj) heavy, ponderous, grievous, powerful, profound; (adj, v) grave, serious, momentous, significant, solemn, influential. ANTONYMS: (adj) superficial, light, unimportant, trivial, weightless, unsubstantial, thin, solvable, small, facile, easy
- well-considered:** (adj) studied
- well-disposed:** (adj) propitious, friendly, favorable, good-natured, agreeable, neighborly, good, resigned, sympathetic, willing, receptive
- well-nigh:** (adv) nearly, most; (adj) practically
- westerly:** (adj) western, westbound, hillbilly; (n) west wind, prevailing westerly, wester; (adv) westwards; (v) to the west. ANTONYM: (adv) easterly
- westward:** (adv) west, westwards; (adj, adv) westerly; (adj) westbound, western; (v) to the west
- whang:** (n) blow, knock, rap, belt, bang, smash, bash, negative criticism; (v) hit, assail, lash out
- wharf:** (n) quay, harbor, port, pier, waterfront, jetty, nailery, bindery, beehive, basin; (n, v) berth
- wheelbarrow:** (n) barrow, handcart, pushcart, lawn cart, garden cart, tumulus, burial mound, truck, barrowful, grave mound
- wheeled:** (adj) on wheels. ANTONYM: (adj) wheelless
- whence:** (adv) wherefrom, hence, because, for, why, wherefore, how, then, then hence so, how comes it, how happens it
- wherein:** (adv) in what, in which, where
- whimsical:** (adj, n) fanciful, eccentric; (adj) capricious, freakish, humorous, changeable, fickle, erratic, wayward, odd, arbitrary. ANTONYMS: (adj) reasonable, behaving, normal, serious, predictable
- whir:** (n, v) buzz, whirl; (v) whiz, hum, whizz, purr, rustle; (n) verticity, whirl, whirlpool, vortex
- whirlpool:** (n, v) vortex, whirl, swirl, gurge; (n) maelstrom, verticity, whirl; (v) undercurrent, indraught, reflux, purr
- whirlwind:** (n) tornado, hurricane, twister, gale, tempest, cyclone, typhoon, waterspout, windstorm, flurry, dust devil
- whirring:** (n) whirr, birr; (adj) noisy
- whispering:** (n) whisper, murmur, susurration, rustle, report, stage whisper; (adj, n) rustling; (adj) susurrant, tranquil, hoarse, susurrous
- whistling:** (n) whistle, sound, tin whistle, music, pennywhistle, sign, signal, signaling
- whit:** (n) iota, atom, shred, scintilla, smidgen, tittle, jot, bit, particle, smidgin; (adj) dab
- whiteness:** (n) paleness, ivory, chalk, pearl, bone, bleach, alabaster, frostiness, hoariness, pallor, innocence. ANTONYM: (n) black
- whitewashed:** (adj) overpowered, overcome, crushed, conquered, beaten, routed, painted
- whither:** (adv) hither, thither, whereunto, whereto, for
- whitish:** (adj) pale, milklike, fair, milk, creamy, light, colorless, not clear, achromatic, opaque, blond. ANTONYMS: (adj) rosy, dark
- whittled:** (adj) maudlin, muddled, muzzy, raddled

- wholesome:** (adj) healthy, beneficial, salubrious, healthful, salutary, sound, good, nutritious, nourishing, pure, hale. ANTONYMS: (adj) unwholesome, unhealthy, impure, indecent, sordid, warped, tainted, decadent, deadly, unsavory
- whoop:** (n, v) shout, call; (v) howl, yell, shriek, roar, bellow, halloo, cough, hack; (n) vociferation
- widen:** (v) extend, stretch, broaden, enlarge, increase, spread, distend, develop, dilate, amplify, flare. ANTONYMS: (v) contract, cramp, restrict, shrink, curtail, decrease
- widowed:** (adj) widow, alone, vidual
- wigwam:** (n) hovel, cabin, shanty, shed, tepee, lodge, dugout, booth, bothy, chalet, cot
- wilder:** (n) Samuel Wilder, Thornton Niven Wilder, Thornton Wilder, Billy Wilder
- wildness:** (n) fierceness, ferocity, savageness, abandon, rage, extravagance, ferociousness, intensity, vehemence; (v) wilderness; (n, v) waste. ANTONYMS: (n) tameness, order, meekness, gentleness, caution, orderliness
- willed:** (adj) voluntary, hereditary
- willow:** (n) willow tree, black willow, arctic willow, arroyo willow, balsam willow, bay willow, bearberry willow, white willow, silver willow; (adj) mourning, weeds
- windy:** (adj) gusty, verbose, blowy, flatulent, wordy, breezy, tempestuous, empty, airy, prolix, bombastic. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, still, straight, uncommunicative, unresponsive, airless, pleasant, direct
- winged:** (adj) swift, rapid, speedy, quick, flying, alate, sublime, lofty, alated, aligerous, composed
- winnowing:** (n) separation, sifting, separate, swathing
- winslow:** (n) Edward Winslow
- wintery:** (adj, v) frosty, glacial, freezing, icy; (adj) arctic, frigid, wintery, frozen, chilly, chill, hibernal. ANTONYMS: (adj) mild, summery, hot, vernal, autumnal, balmy, tropical, warm
- wiry:** (adj) lean, muscular, sinewy, fibrous, brawny, stalwart, ropy, thin, supple, vigorous, rough. ANTONYMS: (adj) straight, small, tiny, smooth, soft, stout, fat
- wisacre:** (n) witling, fool, tomfool, idiot, weisenheimer, smart aleck, upstart, whippersnapper, weisenheimer, wising, simpleton
- wisely:** (adv) judiciously, prudently, sagaciously, cleverly, discreetly, shrewdly, smartly, learnedly, astutely, sharply, perspicaciously. ANTONYMS: (adv) stupidly, recklessly, imprudently, immaturely, illogically
- withal:** (adv) nevertheless, notwithstanding, however, even so, all the same, nonetheless, with; (adj) likewise; (n) sufficiency, adequacy, enough
- withdrawing:** (adj) receding, outgoing, retiring, moving back, modest, lowly; (n) departure, privacy, seclusion, cancellation
- with:** (n) twig, withy, osier, sprig, wickerwork, branchlet, band, wicker
- withered:** (adj) wizened, sear, shriveled, thin, shrunken, dry, dried up, wilted, faded, wizen; (v) lame. ANTONYM: (adj) plump
- withstood:** (v) resist
- wits:** (n) intellect, mind, wit, brains, common sense, presence, percipience, observation, mother wit, right mind, judgment
- wolfish:** (adj) edacious, esurient, voracious, ravening, rapacious, predatory, ferocious, savage, wolflike, greedy; (n) lupine
- wont:** (adj, n) use, custom, usage; (n) practice, tradition, cleanliness, assuetude, assuefaction, convention, rut; (v) practise
- wonted:** (adj, n) habitual, ordinary, usual, familiar; (adj) everyday, general, conventional, routine; (n) accustomed, common, regular
- woodchuck:** (n) groundhog, marmot, Marmota monax
- woodcock:** (n) shore bird, shorebird, snipe, limicoline bird
- woodcocks:** (n) snipes, Scolopacidae, tattlers, dowitchers, curlews, godwits
- woodcraft:** (n) craftsmanship, carpentry
- wooded:** (adj) arboreous, sylvan, woody, timbered, densely forested, leafy
- woodenness:** (n) standoffishness, pomposity, formality, stuffiness, stiltedness. ANTONYM: (n) informality
- woodpecker:** (n) redhead, ivorybill, pecker, piculet, nib, woodpeck, tool, Speight, Specht, shaft, rheheaded woodpecker
- woodpeckers:** (n) family Picidae, jacamars, order Piciformes, Picidae, Piciformes, puffbirds, toucans, barbets
- wordy:** (adj) prolix, windy, lengthy, verbose, redundant, loquacious, talkative, garrulous, rambling, tedious, exuberant. ANTONYMS: (adj) taciturn, quiet
- workhouse:** (n) workshop, almshouse, shop, jail, gaol, jailhouse, labor, clink
- workman:** (n) laborer, working man, worker, employee, hand, operative, artisan, working person, lather, mechanic, artificer
- worldly:** (adj, adv) earthly; (adj) mundane, secular, terrestrial, temporal, carnal, sophisticated, lay, profane; (adv) mundanely, temporally. ANTONYMS: (adj) spiritual, naive, cloistered, religious, unsophisticated, unworldly, unrefined, otherworldly, low, heavenly, immaterial
- wormwood:** (n) absinthe, mugwort, bitterness, old man, Mexican tea, common wormwood, absinth, gall
- wormy:** (adj) wormlike, grovelling, vermiculate, groveling, cringing, vermicular, submissive, maggoty, totally submissive, vermicious, worn
- worn-out:** (adj) stale, trite, threadbare, worn, hackneyed, jaded, old, run-down, dilapidated, disabled, beat
- worshipper:** (n) admirer, monotheist, theosophist, theist, pilgrim, mystic, believer, pantheist, adorer, devotee, fan
- worthily:** (adv) excellently, honorably, becomingly, praiseworthy, deservedly, splendidly, generously, meritoriously, virtuously, uprightly, goodly. ANTONYMS: (adv) badly, dishonorably
- worthless:** (adj, v) futile, vain; (adj) vile, idle, empty, trifling, void, trivial, cheap, miserable, null. ANTONYMS: (adj) precious, useful, worthwhile, priceless, meaningful, helpful, invaluable, deserving, valid, worthy, substantial
- wrapping:** (n) covering, wrapper, envelope, bandage, wrap, swathe, case, packaging, plaster, film, lint
- wrath:** (n) rage, resentment, ire, fury, displeasure, indignation, passion, madness, cholera, irritation; (adj) angry. ANTONYMS: (n) happiness, love, composure, serenity

- wreath:** (n) crown, coronal, garland, chaplet, lei, circle, posy, fascia, cincture, girdle, laurels
- wrecked:** (adv, v) aground; (adj) destroyed, shipwrecked, ruined, disabled, doomed, falling apart, falling down; (v) grounded, swamped, cast away. ANTONYMS: (adj) whole, pristine
- wrested:** (adj) perverted, distorted, twisted, wry
- wretch:** (n) victim, villain, scoundrel, reprobate, reptile, miscreant, martyr, object of compassion, poor devil, prey, wreak
- wretchedness:** (n) unhappiness, grief, distress, desolation, woe, sorrow, anguish, infelicity, tribulation, affliction, misfortune
- wrinkle:** (n, v) crease, crinkle, fold, rumple, crumple, furrow, pucker; (v) ruffle; (n) gather, line; (adj, v) curl. ANTONYMS: (v) unfold, straighten; (n) smoothness
- wrinkled:** (adj, n) rough, rugged; (adj) puckered, creased, wrinkly, wizened, crumpled, lined, gnarled, unironed, crinkled. ANTONYMS: (adj) unwrinkled, ironed, straight
- wrongs:** (n) mala
- wrought:** (adj) shaped, done, worked, worked up, formed
- yankee:** (n) American, Canadian, northerner, Caledonian, Irishman, Canuck, Cambrian, Scot, Scotchman, Uncle Sam; (v) Jew
- yearning:** (n) hankering, aspiration, thirst, craving, desire, hunger, nostalgia, eagerness; (adj) wistful, pining, desirous. ANTONYMS: (adj) disinterested; (n) dislike, disinclination, apathy
- yeast:** (adj, n) leaven; (n) foam, froth, spume, spray, suds, surf, lather, head, fungus; (adj) ferment
- yellowish:** (adj) sallow, yellowed, flavescent, xanthous, turning yellow, sensationalistic, jaundiced, luteous, chickenhearted, easily frightened, chicken
- yellowstone:** (n) Yellowstone river
- yelp:** (n, v) bark, cry, yell, scream, whine, squeal, screech, shriek; (v) howl, yip, bellow
- yielding:** (adj, v) flexible, pliable, supple, tractable, pliant; (adj) compliant, submissive, soft, obedient, docile; (n) submission. ANTONYMS: (adj) hard, firm, inflexible, solid, rigid, obstinate, stiff, stubborn, unyielding, rebellious
- yonder:** (adv) beyond, further, farther, abroad, thither, further away, at that place; (adj) distant, yond, furious, fierce
- yore:** (n) past, history, past times, yesteryear, old times, auld langsyne, time out of mind, time immemorial, the good old days, past tense
- zephyr:** (n) wind, air, breath, gentle wind, whiff, puff, gentle breeze, aviation; (v) Boreas, Eolus, cave of Eolus
- zoroaster:** (n) Mohammed, Zarathustra, Confucius

