

GRE Vocabulary - 200+ Most Frequently Used Words List

1. Accolade

- Synonym: Praise; appreciation; tribute; award
- Antonym: Criticism; rebuke; indictment; reprimand
- Example: My father won an **accolade** for bravery in wartime.

2. Aegis

- Synonym: Sponsorship; protection
- Antonym: Assault; aggression; offence
- Example: She negotiated under the **aegis** of the President.

3. Ambience

- Synonym: Aroma; atmosphere
- Antonym: Emptiness; blankness
- Example: We like the **ambience** at that tiny corner cafe.

4. Apostate

- Synonym: Deserter; traitor
- Antonym: Disciple; loyalist
- Example: Having left the church, he was called an **apostate**.

5. Avarice

- Synonym: Greed
- Antonym: Satisfaction; gratification
- Example: Midas lost his only daughter to his **avarice** for gold.

6. Auspices

- Synonym: Patronage
- Antonym: Powerlessness, opposition
- Example: The club functions under the **auspices** of the college.

7. Abnegate

- Synonym: Abstain; decline
- Antonym: Accept; continue
- Example: The king will **abnegate** power to his son, the prince.

8. Bacchanal

- Synonym: Carnival; debauch; feast
- Antonym: Killjoy; party pooper
- Example: Chaperones kept the prom from being a **bacchanal**.

9. Bastion

- Synonym: Bulwark; citadel; fortress
- Antonym: weak spot; weakness
- Example: The collector's office is our **bastion** against crime.

10. Benighted

- Synonym: Unlearned; untaught
- Antonym: Learned
- Example: The **benighted** peasants thought the Earth stood still.

11. Bevy

- Synonym: Assembly; band; bunch
- Antonym: Individual; one
- Example: A **bevy** of young girls flowed through the mall.

12. Blandishment

- Synonym: Adulation; sycophancy
- Antonym: Criticism
- Example: She persuaded us both with **blandishment** and bribe.

13. Byzantine

- Synonym: Daedal; intricate
- Antonym: Simple; uncomplicated
- Example: We followed **byzantine** corridors to reach her new office.

14. Bellwether

- Synonym: Doyen; forerunner; guide
- Antonym: Follower; imitator
- Example: Housing foreclosures were a **bellwether** of recession.

15. Cajole

- Synonym: Coax
- Antonym: Harass; tease
- Example: You cannot **cajole** me to try that new restaurant.

16. Censure

- Synonym: Condemnation; reprimand
- Antonym: Endorsement; citation
- Example: The committee urged **censure** for his misconduct.

17. Chicanery

- Synonym: Deception; treachery
- Antonym: Artlessness; sincerity
- Example: What sort of **chicanery** enabled the senator to become a millionaire?

18. Choleric

- Synonym: Irritable; fiery
- Antonym: Outgoing; genial
- Example: Her **choleric** nature kept the whole office on edge.

19. Clemency

- Synonym: Mercy; leniency
- Antonym: Vengeance; revenge
- Example: The judgement was harsh, but **clemency** was possible.

20. Contumely

- Synonym: Arrogance; disdain
- Antonym: Admiration; approval
- Example: The Church should not be exposed to gossip and **contumely**.

21. Coterie

- Synonym: Crowd; clique
- Antonym: Individualist
- Example: My **coterie** loves to celebrate birthdays as a group.

22. Deft

- Synonym: Skillful; smooth
- Antonym: Crude; clumsy
- Example: His **deft** fingers on the keyboard left us in awe.

23. Deleterious

- Synonym: Harmful; detrimental; adverse
- Antonym: Beneficial; benign
- Example: Chemical additives may be **deleterious** to our health.

24. Derision

- Synonym: Joke; target
- Antonym: Favourite; pet
- Example: Dr. Bean's peculiar theory was met with **derision**.

25. Desultory

- Synonym: Random; scattered; erratic
- Antonym: Systematic; methodical
- Example: A **desultory** tour of campus did not inspire them to apply.

26. Diaphanous

- Synonym: Transparent; sheer; translucent
- Antonym: Opaque
- Example: The dancers wore **diaphanous** skirts over leotards.

27. Diffidence

- Synonym: Timidity; fearfulness; shyness
- Antonym: Attitude; assertiveness
- Example: People often mistook her **diffidence** for rudeness.

28. Dolorous

- Synonym: Mournful; weeping; heartbroken
- Antonym: Triumphant; joyful
- Example: That **dolorous** music brought tears to my eyes.

29. Edict

- Synonym: Decree; ruling; directive
- Antonym: Petition; appeal
- Example: The king issued an **edict** demanding new taxes.

30. Effulgent

- Synonym: Luminous; shining
- Antonym: Dim; dull; blackened
- Example: The harvest moon was **effulgent** on the horizon.

31. Elegiac

- Synonym: Depressive; somber
- Antonym: Cheerful; bright
- Example: His reading at the funeral was lovely and **elegiac**.

32. Equivocal

- Synonym: Questionable; dubious
- Antonym: Certain; indisputable
- Example: The evidence was **equivocal** and led nowhere.

33. Eschew

- Synonym: Avoid; evade; escape
- Antonym: Seek; accept; pursue
- Example: Please **eschew** the passive voice in your writing.

34. Exalt

- Synonym: Elevate; promote
- Antonym: Humble; degrade
- Example: In astrology, Moon will exalt in the sign of Taurus.

35. Expunge

- Synonym: Erase; eradicate; abolish
- Antonym: Preserve; save
- Example: Can we **expunge** the record and start over again?

36. Fallible

- Synonym: Imperfect; flawed
- Antonym: Perfect; whole
- Example: To be human is to be **fallible**; we all err at times.

37. Fealty

- Synonym: Allegiance; commitment
- Antonym: Treachery; perfidy
- Example: Knights pledged an oath of **fealty** to their rulers.

38. Fecund

- Synonym: Fertile; prolific
- Antonym: Sterile; barren
- Example: Rabbits are quite **fecund** and produce many litters.

39. Feign

- Synonym: Pretend; simulate; assume
- Antonym: Honesty
- Example: She may **feign** illness to avoid taking the test.

40. Fervent

- Synonym: Ardent; earnest
- Antonym: Apathetic; calm
- Example: It is my **fervent** hope that you will visit soon.

41. Fidelity

- Synonym: Devotion; loyalty
- Antonym: Enmity
- Example: This tape has great **fidelity** to the original recording.

42. Filch

- Synonym: Embezzle; pilfer; purloin
- Antonym: Give; offer
- Example: Did you **filch** my yogurt from the refrigerator shelf?

43. Gaffe

- Synonym: Blooper; blunder; impropriety
- Antonym: Correction
- Example: Susan's worst **gaffe** came when she called Lisa "Lucy".

44. Gargantuan

- Synonym: Colossal; enormous
- Antonym: Dwarfed; little
- Example: Three **gargantuan** derricks stood in the oil field.

45. Genteel

- Synonym: Aristocratic; elegant
- Antonym: uncivilised; unfashionable
- Example: At one time, a **genteel** woman always wore gloves.

46. Germane

- Synonym: Applicable; apt; pertinent
- Antonym: Inappropriate; irrelevant
- Example: Your opinion is not **germane** to this discussion.

47. Glib

- Synonym: Artful; eloquent
- Antonym: Quiet; silent
- Example: **Glib** responses are inappropriate in serious times.

48. Gustatory

- Synonym: Audiovisual; aural; sonic
- Antonym: Ambiguous; faint
- Example: Sweet things appeal to my **gustatory** senses.

49. Grandiloquence

- Synonym: Rhetoric; bombast
- Antonym: Thrifty
- Example: I prefer plain speaking to **grandiloquence**.

50. Hackneyed

- Synonym: cliché; stereotyped
- Antonym: New; original; novel
- Example: To use a **hackneyed** phrase, it'll knock your socks off!

51. Halcyon

- Synonym: Tranquil; placid; serene
- Antonym: Turbulent; stormy
- Example: The day was **halcyon**; not a cloud was in the sky.

52. Hermetic

- Synonym: Esoteric
- Antonym: Superficial; shallow
- Example: If the flask is **hermetic**, no air will escape or enter.

53. Heterodoxy

- Synonym: Dissent; heresy
- Antonym: Orthodoxy; conformity
- Example: Her **heterodoxy** upset the elders of the church.

54. Hiatus

- Synonym: Gap; interval
- Antonym: Completeness
- Example: My favourite radio show is on **hiatus** for the summer.

55. Hirsute

- Synonym: Hairy; silky
- Antonym: Bald; Glabrous
- Example: Will the boy grow to be as **hirsute** as his father?

56. Humbug

- Synonym: Hoax; counterfeit
- Antonym: Original
- Example: The Wizard of Oz was something of a **humbug**.

57. Ignominy

- Synonym: Disgrace; shame; humiliation
- Antonym: Respect; esteem; honour
- Example: The captured criminals will now live in **ignominy**.

58. Omnipotent

- Synonym: Almighty; sovereign
- Antonym: Powerless; helpless
- Example: The President of the USA is considered **omnipotent** by the western countries.

59. Impecunious

- Synonym: Impoverished; poor
- Antonym: wealthy; affluent
- Example: Back then, most mine workers were **impecunious**.

60. Implacable

- Synonym: Stubborn; adamant; steadfast
- Antonym: Flexible; agreeable; acquiescent
- Example: Against such **implacable** opposition, we soon gave up.

61. Insouciant

- Synonym: Nonchalant; carefree; cavalier
- Antonym: Serious; earnest
- Example: We could hear her **insouciant** whistling from indoors.

62. Inveigh

- Synonym: Complain; scream; whine
- Antonym: Rejoice; delight
- Example: Customers **inveigh** about the company's return policy.

63. Incurable

- Synonym: Hopeless; incurable
- Antonym: Recoverable; redeemable
- Example: The distressed counsellor called the boy **incurable**.

64. Jejune

- Synonym: Boring; wearying
- Antonym: Interesting; involving; intriguing
- Example: A **jejune** drama will not entertain this audience.

65. Jeremiad

- Synonym: Diatribe; Tirade
- Antonym: Eulogy; Panegyric
- Example: The speech was a **jeremiad** about the evils of slavery.

66. Jibe

- Synonym: Coincide; correspond
- Antonym: Disagree (with); differ (from)
- Example: Our sailboat will **jibe** as it comes close to shore.

67. Jocular

- Synonym: Humorous; witty; clever
- Antonym: Lowbrow; lame
- Example: A **jocular** actor is best for the job of store Santa.

68. Juxtapose

- Synonym: Combine; mix; alternate
- Antonym: Disconnect; divide
- Example: **Juxtapose** the photos to compare them more easily.

69. Juggernaut

- Synonym: Campaign; movement; crusade
- Antonym: Lowness; wimpiness
- Example: The storm was a **juggernaut** that crushed the town.

70. Judicious

- Synonym: Intelligent; prudent
- Antonym: careless; heedless
- Example: His **judicious** plan appeased the accused and accuser.

71. Kinetic

- Synonym: Energetic; brisk
- Antonym: Inactive; lifeless
- Example: The **kinetic** sculpture turns slowly on its base.

72. Kismet

- Synonym: Destiny; fate
- Antonym: Whole
- Example: Running into each other at the mall was **kismet**.

73. Kudos

- Synonym: Applause
- Antonym: Denunciation
- Example: We offered **kudos** for her fine dance performance.

74. Knit

- Synonym: bind; crochet
- Antonym: divide; loosen
- Example: The fabric is tightly **knit**.

75. Knot

- Synonym: screw; tangle
- Antonym: Untie
- Example: Secure your trousers with a **knot**.

76. Kin

- Synonym: breed; family; tribe
- Antonym: origin; extraction
- Example: Elephant **kin** in North America are moving from east to west.

77. Knead

- Synonym: Pat; massage; rub
- Antonym: Idle; neglect
- Example: Lightly knead the dough a second time and leave for another 1 hour.

78. Lachrymose

- Synonym: Sad; tearful
- Antonym: Joyful; happy
- Example: Although her tale was **lachrymose**, it made us giggle.

79. Largesse

- Synonym: Donation; endowment
- Antonym: Hindrance; hurt; injury

- Example: Our boss's **largesse** extended to extra vacation days.

80. Licentious

- Synonym: Abandoned
- Antonym: Chaste; controlled
- Example: **Licentious** material is banned from school computers.

81. Litany

- Synonym: Catalogue; recitation; repetition
- Antonym: Condemnation; disapproval
- Example: His **litany** of complaints did nothing to persuade us.

82. Lugubrious

- Synonym: Bleak; lonely
- Antonym: Friendly; cheerful
- Example: We nearly laughed at the dean's **lugubrious** tone.

83. Libation

- Synonym: Drink; beverage
- Antonym: Sober
- Example: He poured a **libation** and toasted the New Year.

84. Lithe

- Synonym: Agile; limber; supple
- Antonym: Clumsy; rigid
- Example: With a **lithe** leap, the gymnast landed on the beam.

85. Malleable

- Synonym: Adaptable; flexible
- Antonym: Rigid; stiff; firm
- Example: The **malleable** frame adjusted to fit the portrait.

86. Maudlin

- Synonym: Mawkish; mushy; romantic; sentimental
- Antonym: Pragmatic; unemotional; unromantic
- Example: Our great aunt sends us **maudlin** greeting cards.

87. Meander

- Synonym: Drift; ramble; roam; stray
- Antonym: Stay

- Example: Three slow streams **meander** through the property.

88. Mellifluous

- Synonym: Melodic; lyrical
- Antonym: Disconnected; strident
- Example: The meadowlark has a pleasant, **mellifluous** song.

89. Mendicant

- Synonym: Beggar
- Antonym: Secular; lay; temporal
- Example: A **mendicant** tugged at my coat and asked for help.

90. Miasma

- Synonym: Cloud; haze
- Antonym: Perfume; sweetness
- Example: A dank **miasma** rose from the flooded swamp.

91. Moribund

- Synonym: Dying
- Antonym: Alive; existing
- Example: Onondaga may be considered a **moribund** language.

92. Nebulous

- Synonym: Ambiguous; cryptic
- Antonym: Obvious; clear
- Example: His explanation was **nebulous** and left us baffled.

93. Nexus

- Synonym: Center; connection; core; link; network
- Antonym: Exterior; outside; divorce
- Example: Drugs may be a **nexus** between terrorism and crime.

94. Niggardly

- Synonym: Miserly; careful; stingy
- Antonym: Generous; liberal; munificent
- Example: The broker left a **niggardly** tip of only fifty cents.

95. Nihilism

- Synonym: Anarchy; atheism; lawlessness
- Antonym: Allowance; approval; ratification

- Example: Jude's **nihilism** contrasts with his priestly garments.

96. Noisome

- Synonym: Poisonous; toxic; unhealthful
- Antonym: Healthy; sanitary
- Example: A **noisome** stench arose where we were digging.

97. Nostrum

- Synonym: Elixir; remedy; panacea
- Antonym: Disease; injury
- Example: The poet found love to be a **nostrum** for melancholy.

98. Nugatory

- Synonym: Null; invalid; void
- Antonym: Good; valid; legal
- Example: His opinion was **nugatory** to the group's decision.

99. Obeisance

- Synonym: Homage; respect; salute; nod; reverence
- Antonym: Insolence; impudence; affront
- Example: The knight made humble **obeisance** before the duke.

100. Odious

- Synonym: Disgusting; awful; hideous; obscene
- Antonym: Innocuous; acceptable; desirable; inoffensive
- Example: His behaviour is **odious**, and his speech is rude.

101. Offal

- Synonym: Garbage; debris; trash; rubbish; junk
- Antonym: Plum; treasure; pearl
- Example: Dress the deer and throw the **offal** into the woods.

102. Ossify

- Synonym: Calcify; crystallise; petrify; coagulate
- Antonym: Soften; liquefy; dissolve
- Example: The dried gourds seemed to **ossify** in the hot sun.

103. Ostracize

- Synonym: Denounce; attack; criticise
- Antonym: Approve; endorse; sanction; glorify

- Example: Do not **ostracise** him because he disagrees with you.

104. Ouster

- Synonym: Ejection; relocation; expulsion; banishment
- Antonym: Return; repatriation; immigration; approach
- Example: After her **ouster** from the club, she considered suing.

105. Overweening

- Synonym: Smug; arrogant; egotistical
- Antonym: Humble; modest; egoless
- Example: His **overweening** ambition nearly took over his life.

106. Peccadillo

- Synonym: Crime; error; misconduct; sin; wrongdoing
- Antonym: innocence; blamelessness; righteousness; virtue
- Example: It was easy to forgive him for that mild **peccadillo**.

107. Pedant

- Synonym: Teacher; instructor
- Antonym: easy-going; sloppy; lenient; unsystematic
- Example: I prefer a know-it-all to a rules-obsessed **pedant**.

108. Pernicious

- Synonym: Harmful; dangerous; detrimental; damaging
- Antonym: Benign; harmless; beneficial; inoffensive
- Example: Toxic runoff has a **pernicious** effect on the environment.

109. Piquant

- Synonym: Spicy; pungent; poignant; savoury
- Antonym: Insipid; dry; flat; tasteless; predictable
- Example: The sauce was smooth, with a **piquant** aftertaste.

110. Platitude

- Synonym: Cliche; truism; bromide
- Antonym: Profundity
- Example: No **platitude** is likely to engage the audience.

111. Provenance

- Synonym: Origin
- Antonym: Conclusion; effect; end; result

- Example: What is the **provenance** of this oil painting?

112. Puissance

- Synonym: Clout; force; influence; strength; sway
- Antonym: Enervation; impotence; inability; incapacity
- Example: The **puissance** of the unions led to that new law.

113. Quaff

- Synonym: Gulp; guzzle; imbibe; sip; swig; swill
- Antonym: Eject
- Example: We merrily **quaff** the punch at the office party.

114. Quagmire

- Synonym: Dilemma; entanglement; imbroglio; impasse
- Antonym: Agreement; solution
- Example: The **quagmire** of Vietnam sank several careers.

115. Qualms

- Synonym: Shame; doubt; objection; regret
- Antonym: Conviction; certainty; assurance; confidence
- Example: She had some **qualms** about hiring the whistle-blower.

116. Quandary

- Synonym: Dilemma; difficulty; predicament; puzzle
- Antonym: Breeze; snap; cinch
- Example: He was in a **quandary** about which job to take.

117. Quay

- Synonym: Wharf; dock; pier
- Antonym: Undock; exit
- Example: Sailors docked the ships at the **quay** for unloading.

118. Quell

- Synonym: Subdue; suppress; repress; quash
- Antonym: Help; assist; aid; support
- Example: Crackers may **quell** our hunger for a while.

119. Quiescence

- Synonym: Suspension
- Antonym: Continuation

- Example: The deer's **quiescence** ends with cooler weather.

120. Raffish

- Synonym: Crass; vulgar; coarse; common
- Antonym: Smooth; genteel; civilised; polished
- Example: He looked confident in his **raffish** scarf and cap.

121. Rapacious

- Synonym: Greedy; ravenous
- Antonym: Satisfied; full; content; stuffed; glutton
- Example: The young lioness has quite a **rapacious** appetite.

122. Recalcitrant

- Synonym: Rebellious; rebel; defiant; stubborn
- Antonym: Obedient; cooperative; docile; amenable; compliant
- Example: The **recalcitrant** burro would not move up the trail.

123. Regale

- Synonym: Dinner; banquet; feast
- Antonym: Bore
- Example: Our host will **regale** us with food and conversation.

124. Repast

- Synonym: Meal; menu
- Antonym: Diet
- Example: A long walk will help us to digest that grand **repast**.

125. Replete

- Synonym: Plump; full; round; fat
- Antonym: Thin; spare; lean; slender; slim
- Example: Everyone was **replete** following the wedding feast.

126. Respite

- Synonym: Break; pause; lull; tranquillity; restfulness
- Antonym: Noise; din; clamour; racket
- Example: The long weekend was a welcome **respite** for all.

127. Sagacious

- Synonym: Wise; prudent; insightful
- Antonym: Unwise; dense; obtuse; purblind; foolish

- Example: One hopes that one's professors will be **sagacious**.

128. Salutary

- Synonym: Beneficial; favourable; helpful; good
- Antonym: Bad; unfavourable; disadvantageous; unfriendly
- Example: Drinking water seems to be **salutary** to everyone.

129. Sanguine

- Synonym: Bloody; violent; fierce; savage
- Antonym: Conciliatory; peaceful; sympathetic; benign
- Example: He seemed oddly **sanguine** about the recession.

130. Sardonic

- Synonym: Sarcastic; barded; satiric
- Antonym: Amusing; playful; mild; gentle
- Example: In a **sardonic** tone, she suggested we look elsewhere.

131. Saturnine

- Synonym: Bleak; darkening; solemn
- Antonym: cheerful; bright; cordial
- Example: Joe was **saturnine**, but his wife was always cheerful.

132. Serendipity

- Synonym: Luck; coincidence
- Antonym: Tragedy; mishap; misadventure
- Example: Success is a mixture of **serendipity** and hard work.

133. Sordid

- Synonym: Filthy; dusty; muddy; blackened; stained
- Antonym: Unsullied; clean; immaculate
- Example: I quickly returned the **sordid** magazine to the shelf.

134. Tactile

- Synonym: Physical; tangible
- Antonym: Imperceptible; insensible; impalpable; immaterial
- Example: Reading Braille is **tactile** rather than visual.

135. Taint

- Synonym: Stain; blot; stigma; guilt
- Antonym: Purity; credit; honour; chastity

- Example: Don't let prejudice **taint** your opinions and beliefs.

136. Tautology

- Synonym: Repetition; verbalism; hyperbole
- Antonym: Brevity; compactness; conciseness; terseness
- Example: It's a **tautology** to say "This may be true or untrue."

137. Tawdry

- Synonym: Terrible; poor; miserable; meretricious
- Antonym: Elegant; handsome; tasteful
- Example: Her **tawdry** outfit was better suited to a saloon.

138. Temerity

- Synonym: Gall; nerve; audacity; arrogance
- Antonym: Timidity; modesty; hesitancy; diffidence
- Example: It took **temerity** to question his captain's orders.

139. Terse

- Synonym: Concise; brief; summary
- Antonym: Wordy; verbose; prolix; circuitous
- Example: He gave a **terse** reply to our lengthy question.

140. Timorous

- Synonym: Timid
- Antonym: Daring; hardy; bold; adventurous
- Example: A mouse is **timorous** by nature, but a fox is sly.

141. Ubiquitous

- Synonym: Commonplace; usual; familiar; frequent
- Antonym: Unusual; rare; extraordinary; seldom
- Example: Cell phones seem to be **ubiquitous** in high schools.

142. Umbrage

- Synonym: Offence; huff; anger; frustration; indignation
- Antonym: Satisfaction
- Example: She took **umbrage** when I laughed at her dog.

143. Unctuous

- Synonym: Fake; double; superficial; strained; hypocritical
- Antonym: Sincere; genuine; heartfelt; artless; candid

- Example: His **unctuous** smile was obviously insincere.

144. Undulate

- Synonym: Oscillate; fluctuate; wave; flutter
- Antonym: Flat; steep
- Example: The rattlesnake seemed to **undulate** over the sand.

145. Unkempt

- Synonym: Messy; chaotic; littered; cluttered
- Antonym: Orderly; tidy; neat; trim
- Example: Please comb your **unkempt** hair before going out.

146. Unsung

- Synonym: Unknown; obscure
- Antonym: Prominent; famous; celebrated; renowned
- Example: The soldier's bravery was **unsung**; he won no medal.

147. Usurp

- Synonym: Seize; confiscate; steal; occupy; grab
- Antonym: Give; leave; offer; release
- Example: They cannot **usurp** power without support from us.

148. Vagary

- Synonym: Whim; quirk
- Antonym: Regularity; standard; unconcern
- Example: A **vagary** in the weather dumped six inches of snow.

149. Valor

- Synonym: Heroism; courage; bravery; gallantry; courageousness
- Antonym: Cowardice; timidity; cowardliness
- Example: **Valor** on the field of battle was crucial for a knight.

150. Vanquish

- Synonym: Conquer; subdue; dominate; subject; defeat
- Antonym: Liberate; emancipate; free; release
- Example: Our debating team will **vanquish** all rival teams.

151. Venerable

- Synonym: Revered; respectable
- Antonym: Notorious; infamous; loose

- Example: The **venerable** chief had ruled for nearly fifty years.

152. Vicissitude

- Synonym: Ordeal; gauntlet; misfortune; privation
- Antonym: Similarity; stagnation; uniformity
- Example: A **vicissitude** in fortune enabled him to go to college.

153. Vilify

- Synonym: Assail; defame; denigrate; disparage; malign; revile
- Antonym: Approve; cherish; commend; compliment; laud
- Example: The columnist tried to **vilify** the author in print.

154. Virulent

- Synonym: Deadly; destructive; fatal; malignant; pernicious
- Antonym: Harmless; healthful; helpful; wholesome
- Example: Anthrax is a disease caused by a **virulent** bacterium.

155. Waft

- Synonym: Drift; float
- Antonym: Hold; keep; take
- Example: Dead leaves **waft** on the cool autumn breeze.

156. Wanton

- Synonym: Lewd; outrageous; promiscuous; shameless
- Antonym: Decent; good; moral
- Example: Wanton cruelty to animals is always appalling.

157. Waspish

- Synonym: Irritable; fiery
- Antonym: Genial; affable; outgoing
- Example: Dinah's waspish personality irritated her sisters.

158. Wastrel

- Synonym: Spendthrift; prodigal; waster
- Antonym: Economizer; miser; skinflint; niggard
- Example: The young wastrel soon squandered his inheritance.

159. Whet

- Synonym: Sharpen
- Antonym: Dull; blunt

- Example: Delicious kitchen odours may whet your appetite.

160. Wily

- Synonym: Cunning; cute
- Antonym: Ingenuous; guileless; obvious
- Example: My wily puppy found a way to open the pantry door.

161. Winnow

- Synonym: Pare; trim; reduce; sift
- Antonym: Select; pick; choose; take
- Example: Wash the berries and **winnow** out any unripe ones.

162. Wized

- Synonym: Gaunt; haggard; skeletal; shrivelled
- Antonym: Burly; healthy; brawny; husky
- Example: Her **wized** face seemed both wise and kindly.

163. Wraith

- Synonym: Ghost; apparition; spirit; phantom; spectre
- Antonym: Being
- Example: The fog hung like a **wraith** over the churchyard.

164. Xenophobia

- Synonym: Nativism; chauvinism; jingoism
- Antonym: Internationalism
- Example: Severe **xenophobia** kept him from enjoying travel.

165. Yammer

- Synonym: Whine; moan; complaint
- Antonym: Praise; compliment; applause; acclaim
- Example: Must you **yammer** on about your troubles?

166. Yaw

- Synonym: Veer; curve
- Antonym: Straighten
- Example: The plane might **yaw** as it flies through the storm.

167. Yurt

- Synonym: Canvas; pavilion
- Antonym: Castle; citadel; firehouse

- Example: My cousins lived in a **yurt** for the summer.

168. Zealous

- Synonym: Fervent; enthusiastic; ardent; passionate
- Antonym: Objective; dry; detached; impersonal
- Example: Paul is a **zealous** fan of the Cleveland Browns.

169. Zenith

- Synonym: Pinnacle; height; peak; culmination; top; apex
- Antonym: Bottom; base; foot; nadir
- Example: At the **zenith** of their climb, they saw the sea below.

170. Zephyr

- Synonym: Breeze; puff
- Antonym: Calm; soft
- Example: A constant **zephyr** warms their island home.

171. Ziggurat

- Synonym: Architecture; construction; home; house
- Antonym: Compress; abridge; diminish
- Example: The Mayans built a **ziggurat** overlooking the ocean.

172. Abjure

- Synonym: Renounce; withdraw; retract; deny
- Antonym: Maintain; admit; adhere (to); acknowledge
- Example: He never did **abjure** his belief in the big bang theory.

173. Adroitly

- Synonym: Masterfully; skillfully; well; deftly; capably
- Antonym: Poorly; ineptly; inefficiently; amateurishly
- Example: Our waiter **adroitly** balanced several trays at once.

174. Apocryphal

- Synonym: Speculative; unauthentic; hypothetical; mythic; fanciful
- Antonym: Historical; true; factual; literal
- Example: The child sneered at the **apocryphal** tooth fairy reference.

175. Arcane

- Synonym: Esoteric; profound
- Antonym: Superficial; simple; shallow; easy

- Example: Rugby is a sport with **arcane** rules and terminology.

176. Audacity

- Synonym: Gall; nerve; arrogance; temerity
- Antonym: Modesty; hesitancy; bashfulness
- Example: She had the **audacity** to challenge the professor's theory.

177. Congeal

- Synonym: Freeze; harden; stiffen
- Antonym: Soften; liquefy; dissolve; melt
- Example: The grease will **congeal** in cold water.

178. Convivial

- Synonym: Social; outgoing; hospitable; companionable; friendly
- Antonym: Antisocial; introverted; reclusive; misanthropic
- Example: A **convivial** person makes friends wherever she goes.

179. Corporeal

- Synonym: Physical; bodily
- Antonym: Psychological; intellectual; spiritual
- Example: Your **corporeal** assets may include houses or cars.

180. Crux

- Synonym: Essence; core; root; heart; point; kernel
- Antonym: Exterior; outside
- Example: The **crux** of the matter seems to be affordability.

181. Culpable

- Synonym: Guilty; blameworthy
- Antonym: Blameless; perfect; impeccable
- Example: Insurance companies were held **culpable** in his death.

182. Crepuscular

- Synonym: Twilit; dusk; sombre; gloomy; tenebrous
- Antonym: Light; luminous; illuminated; brilliant
- Example: **Crepuscular** mammals come out to graze at dusk.

183. Demagogue

- Synonym: Agitator; firebrand; proponent; rebel
- Antonym: peacemaker; reconciler

- Example: A **demagogue** wins power by stirring up the people.

184. Dissipate

- Synonym: Disperse
- Antonym: Collect; concentrate; gather; assemble; congregate
- Example: The crowd will **dissipate** after the concert ends.

185. Dotage

- Synonym: Senility; feebleness
- Antonym: Strength
- Example: In his **dotage** he became more and more forgetful.

186. Draconian

- Synonym: Cruel; drastic; heavy-handed; oppressive; severe; strict
- Antonym: Easy; gentle; mild; permissive; temperate
- Example: Trespassing laws in this country are **draconian**.

187. Dulcet

- Synonym: Pleasant; sweet; delightful; delicious
- Antonym: Unpleasant; disagreeable; unwelcome; obnoxious
- Example: We could hear the **dulcet** tones of her flute.

188. Exhort

- Synonym: Urge; encourage
- Antonym: Discourage; deter
- Example: Our professors **exhort** us to continue our studies.

189. Expedite

- Synonym: Facilitate; accelerate
- Antonym: Impede; hinder; interfere (with)
- Example: Use the priority service to **expedite** your mailing.

190. Egress

- Synonym: Exit
- Antonym: Entrance; ingress
- Example: The nearest **egress** led through a door to the patio.

191. Expiate

- Synonym: Compensate; redeem; repay
- Antonym: Charge; lose

- Example: He worked in a soup kitchen to **expiate** his misdeeds.

192. Ebullience

- Synonym: Buoyancy; elation; gaiety; liveliness
- Antonym: Depression; sadness; unhappiness
- Example: The children's **ebullience** was delightful to see.

193. Foist

- Synonym: Impose; inflict; wish
- Antonym: Unsheathe; uncover; phase out
- Example: He tried to foist his merchandise on innocent tourists.

194. Fortuitous

- Synonym: Fortunate; odd; random; serendipitous; unforeseen
- Antonym: Calculated; deliberate; designed; intentional
- Example: Our meeting in the park was entirely fortuitous.

195. Fulminate

- Synonym: Huff; rave
- Antonym: Murmur; mutter; breathe
- Example: His anger may fulminate if you continue to tease him.

196. Fulsome

- Synonym: Sickening; hagiographical; gushy; unctuous
- Antonym: Genuine; earnest; sincere; honest
- Example: Her fulsome praise only made us mistrust her more.

197. Galvanize

- Synonym: Excite; thrill; electrify; inspire
- Antonym: Bore; weary; pall; tire; discourage
- Example: His brave speeches always galvanize his listeners.

198. Mainstay

- Synonym: Anchor; backbone; pillar; standby
- Antonym: harm; weakness; vulnerability
- Example: Reading instruction is the **mainstay** of education.

199. Mercurial

- Synonym: Volatile; unpredictable
- Antonym: Constant; certain; stable; immutable

- Example: Her **mercurial** moods confused her roommates.

200. Mien

- Synonym: Look; demeanour; presence; attitude
- Antonym: Instigate; concealment; absence
- Example: At an interview, your **mien** should be professional.

201. Misanthrope

- Synonym: Cynic; recluse; loner
- Antonym: Believer
- Example: No **misanthrope** should even run for public office.

202. Modulate

- Synonym: Inflect; regulate; adjust; improve
- Antonym: Impair; hurt; spoil
- Example: Please **modulate** your voice in the library.

203. Mutable

- Synonym: Volatile; unpredictable; changeful; variable
- Antonym: Immutable; constant; certain
- Example: Our opinions on the subject seem to be **mutable**.

204. Nadir

- Synonym: Depth; zero; abyss
- Antonym: Zenith; peak; height; apex
- Example: The **nadir** of my career came when he fired me.

205. Munificent

- Synonym: Generous; charitable
- Antonym: Parsimonious; miserly; ungenerous; stingy; tightfisted
- Example: The **munificent** gift will build a new hospital wing.