

GRE FLASH CARDS

Abate



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Abate: to reduce in amount, degree, or severity.

"As the hurricane's force abated, the winds dropped and the sea became calm."

Words with Similar Meanings

ebb	lapse	let up
moderate	relent	slacken
subside		wane

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

After you are sure you understand the meaning of the word, try to learn all the words with similar meanings to that word.

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Abscond: to leave secretly

"The patron absconded from the restaurant without paying his bill by sneaking out the back door."

Words with Similar Meanings

flee	decamp	escape
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KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Aberrant: deviating from what is normal or expected.

"Since he had been a steady, cheerful worker for many years, his fellow postal workers did not expect his aberrant burst of rage."

Related Words

Aberration: A deviation from what is normal

Words with Similar Meanings

abnormal	anomalous	deviant
divergent	errant	irregular

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Abyss: an extremely deep hole.

"The submarine dove into the abyss to chart the previously unseen depths."

Related Words

Abyssal: Pertaining to great depth
Abyssmal: Extremely bad.

Words with Similar Meanings

chasm	void
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KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Abstain: to choose not to do something.

"During Lent, practicing Catholics abstain from eating meat"

Words with Similar Meanings

forbear	refrain	withhold
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Advocate: to speak in favor of.

"The vegetarian advocated a diet containing no meat."

Related Words

Advocacy: Active support for.

Words with Similar Meanings

back	champion	support
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KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Adulterate: to make impure.

"The restaurateur made his ketchup last longer by adulterating it with water."

Related Words

Unadulterated: Pure.
Adultery: An illicit relationship; an affair.

Words with Similar Meanings

doctor	debase	load
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KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Aesthetic

Aggrandize

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Alacrity

Alleviate

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Amalgamate

Ambiguous

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Ameliorate

Anachronism

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Aggrandize: to increase in power, influence and reputation.

"The supervisor sought to aggrandize himself by claiming that the achievements of his staff were actually his own."

Words with Similar Meanings

amplify	apoteosize	augment
dignify	elevate	enlarge
ennoble	exalt	glorify
magnify	swell	uplift
	wax	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Aesthetic: concerning the appreciation of beauty

"The Aesthetic Movement regarded the pursuit of beauty to be the only true purpose of art."

Related Words

Aesthete: Someone unusually sensitive to beauty
Aestheticism: Devoted to beauty

Words with Similar Meanings

artistic tasteful

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Alleviate: to make more bearable

"Taking aspirin helps to alleviate a headache."

Words with Similar Meanings

allay	assuage	comfort
ease	lessen	lighten
mitigate	palliate	relieve

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Alacrity: speed or quickness.

"The restaurant won a reputation for fine service since the wait staff responded to their clients' requests with alacrity."

Words with Similar Meanings

celerity dispatch
haste swiftness

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Ambiguous: doubtful or uncertain, can be interpreted several ways.

"The directions he gave were so ambiguous that we disagreed on which way to turn."

Related Words

Ambiguity: The quality of being ambiguous.

Words with Similar Meanings

cloudy	doubtful	dubious
equivocal	nebulous	indeterminate
obscure	unclear	vague

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Amalgamate: to combine, to mix together

"Giant Industries amalgamated with Mega Products to form Giant-Mega Products Incorporated."

Related Words

Amalgam: a mixture, especially of two metals.

Words with Similar Meanings

admix	blend	coalesce	combine
commingle	commix	compound	fuse
intermingle	intermix	merge	mingle
	mix	unite	

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Anachronism: something out of place in time.

"The aged hippie used anachronistic phrases like 'groovy' and 'far out' that had not been popular for years."

Words with Similar Meanings

archaism incongruity

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Ameliorate: to make better; to improve.

"The doctor was able to ameliorate the patient's suffering using pain-killers."

Words with Similar Meanings

amend better improve
pacify upgrade

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Analogous

Anomaly

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Antagonize

Antipathy

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Apathy

Apocryphal

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Approbation

Arbitrary

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Anomaly: deviation from what is normal.

"Albino animals may display too great an anomaly in their coloring to attract normally colored mates."

Related Words

Anomalous: Deviating from what is normal

Words with Similar Meanings

aberrant	aberration	abnormality
deviance	deviation	irregularity
	preternaturalness	

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Analogous: similar or alike in some way; equivalent to

"His mother argued that not going to college was analogous to throwing his life away."

Related Words

Analogy: a similarity between things that are otherwise dissimilar.
Analogue: something that is similar in some way to something else.

Words with Similar Meanings

alike	comparable	corresponding
equivalent	homogeneous	parallel
	similar	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Antipathy: extreme dislike

"The antipathy between the French and the English regularly erupted into open warfare."

Words with Similar Meanings

abhorrence	animosity	animus
antagonism	aversion	dislike
enmity	hatred	hostility
loathing	repellence	repugnance
repulsion		revulsion

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Antagonize: to annoy or provoke to anger.

"The child discovered that he could antagonize the cat by pulling its tail."

Related Words

Antagonistic: Tending to provoke conflict
Antagonist: Someone who fights another

Words with Similar Meanings

clash	conflict	incite
irritate	oppose	pester
provoke		vex

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Apocryphal: of questionable authority or authenticity.

"There is no hard or authoritative evidence to support the apocryphal tales that link the Roswell, New Mexico, incident to a downed U.F.O."

Words with Similar Meanings

disputed	doubtful
fictitious	fraudulent

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Apathy: Lack of interest or emotion.

"The apathy of voters is so great that less than half the people who are eligible to vote actually bother to do so."

Words with Similar Meanings

coolness	disinterest	disregard
impassivity	indifference	insensibility
lassitude	lethargy	listlessness
phlegm	stolidity	unconcern
	unresponsiveness.	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Approbation: approval and praise.

"The approbation that Jerry Lewis received in France included a medal from the Ministry of Culture."

Related Words

Appropriate: to authorize.

Words with Similar Meanings

acclaim	adulation	applause
commendation	compliments	exalt
extol	hail	kudos
	praise	

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Arbitrate

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Archaic

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Ardor

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Articulate

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Assuage

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Attenuate

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Audacious

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Austere

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Archaic: ancient, old-fashioned

"Her archaic Commodore computer could not run the latest software."

Related Words

Archaism: an outdated word or phrase.

Words with Similar Meanings

ancient	antediluvian	antique	archaic
bygone	dated	dowdy	fusty
obsolete	old-fashioned	outdated	outmoded
outmoded	passé	prehistoric	stale
superannuated	superseded	vintage	

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Arbitrate: to judge a dispute between two opposing parties

"Since the couple could not come to agreement, a judge was forced to arbitrate their divorce proceedings."

Related Words

Arbitration: a process by which a conflict is resolved
Arbitrator: a judge

Words with Similar Meanings

adjudge	adjudicate	decide
determine	judge	moderate
referee		rule

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Articulate: able to speak clearly and expressively.

"She articulates her pro-labor views so clearly that unions are among her strongest supporters."

Words with Similar Meanings

eloquent	expressive	fluent
lucid	silver-tongued	smooth-spoken

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Ardor: intense and passionate feeling

"Bishop's ardor for landscape was evident when he passionately described the beauty of the scenic Hudson Valley."

Related Words

Ardent: Expressing ardor; passionate

Words with Similar Meanings

devotion	enthusiasm	enthusiasm
fervency	fervidity	fervidness
fervor	fire	passion
zeal		zealousness

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Attenuate: reduce in force or degree; weaken

"The Bill of Rights attenuated the traditional power of government to change laws at will."

Words with Similar Meanings

debilitate	devitalize	dilute
enervate	enfeeble	rarefy
sap	thin	undermine
undo	unnerve	water
	weaken	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Assuage: to make something unpleasant less severe

"Like many people, Philip Larkin used alcohol to assuage his sense of meaningless and despair."

Words with Similar Meanings

allay	alleviate	appease
comfort	conciliate	ease
lighten	mitigate	mollify
pacify	palliate	placate
propitiate	relieve	soothe
	sweeten	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Austere: severe or stern in appearance; undecorated

"The lack of decoration makes Zen temples seem austere to the untrained eye."

Related Words

Austerity: severity, especially poverty

Words with Similar Meanings

bleak	dour	grim
hard	harsh	severe

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Audacious: fearless and daring

"The audacious peasant dared to insult the king's mother."

Related Words

Audacity: the quality of being audacious

Words with Similar Meanings

adventurous	aggressive	assertive	bold
brave	courageous	daring	dauntless
doughty	fearless	gallant	game
heroic	intrepid	mettlesome	plucky
stout	stouthearted	unafraid	undaunted
valiant	valorous	venturesome	venturous

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Banal

Bolster

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Bombastic

Burgeon

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Burnish

Cacophony

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Candid

Capricious

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Banal: predictable, clichéd, boring

"His conversation consisted of banal phrases like 'Have a nice day' or 'Another day, another dollar.'"

Related Words

Banal: something that is banal

Words with Similar Meanings

bland	bromidic	clichéd	commonplace
fatuous	hackneyed	innocuous	insipid
jejune	musty	platitudinous	prosaic
quotidian	shopworn	stale	stereotypic
threadbare	timeworn	tired	trite
	vapid	worn-out	

Bolster: support, prop up

"The presence of giant footprints bolstered the argument that Bigfoot was in the area."

Words with Similar Meanings

brace	buttress	crutch
prop	stay	support
sustain	underpinning	uphold

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Bombastic: pompous in speech and manner

"Mussolini's speeches were mostly bombastic; his boasting and outrageous claims had no basis in fact."

Related Words

Bombast: pompous speech or writing

Words with Similar Meanings

bloated	declamatory	fustian
grandiloquent	grandiose	high-flown
magniloquent	orotund	pretentious
rhetorical		self-important

Burgeon: to grow and flourish

"Faulkner neither confirmed nor denied stories about himself, allowing rumor to burgeon where it would."

Words with Similar Meanings

bloom	burgeon	flourish
prosper		thrive

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Burnish: to polish.

"He burnished the silver coffee pot until it shone brightly."

Words with Similar Meanings

buff	luster
polish	scour

Cacophony: harsh, jarring noise

"The junior high orchestra created an almost unbearable cacophony as they tried to tune their instruments."

Words with Similar Meanings

discord	chaos	disharmony
noise	clamor	din

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Capricious: changing one's mind quickly and often

"Queen Elizabeth I was quite capricious; her courtiers could never be sure which one would catch her fancy."

Related Words

Caprice: whim, sudden fancy

Words with Similar Meanings

arbitrary	chance	changeable
erratic	fickle	inconstant
mercurial	random	whimsical
	willful	

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Candid: impartial and honest in speech

"The observations of a child can be charming since they are candid and unpretentious."

Words with Similar Meanings

direct	forthright	frank
honest	open	sincere
straight	straightforward	undisguised

Castigate

Catalyst

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Caustic

Chaos

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Chauvinist

Chicanery

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Circumspect

Coalesce

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Catalyst: something that brings about a change in something else

"The imposition of harsh taxes was the catalyst that finally brought on the revolution."

Related Words

Catalyze: to bring about a change in something else

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Chaos: great disorder or confused situation

"In most religious traditions, God created an ordered universe from a chaotic void."

Related Words

Chaotic: jumbled, confused

Words with Similar Meanings

clutter	confusion	disarrangement
disarray	disorder	disorderliness
disorganization	jumble	mess
muddle	scramble	snarl
topsy-turviness		turmoil

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Chicanery: deception by means of craft or guile

"Dishonest used-car salesmen often use chicanery to sell their beat-up old cars."

Words with Similar Meanings

artifice	conniving	craftiness
deception	deviousness	misrepresentation
pettifoggery	shadiness	sneakiness
sophistry	subterfuge	underhandedness

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Coalesce: to grow together to form a single whole

"The sun and planets eventually coalesced out of a vast cloud of gas and dust."

Words with Similar Meanings

amalgamate	blend	coalesce
condense	consolidate	fuse
	unite	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Castigate: to punish or criticize harshly

"Americans are amazed at how harshly the authorities in Singapore castigate perpetrators of what would be only minor crimes in the United States."

Words with Similar Meanings

admonish	chastise	chide
rebuke	reprimand	reproach
reprove	scold	tax
	upbraid	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Caustic: biting in wit

"Dorothy Parker gained her caustic reputation from her cutting, yet witty, insults."

Words with Similar Meanings

acerbic	biting	mordant
	trenchant	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Chauvinist: someone prejudiced in favor of a group that he or she belongs to

"The attitude that men must be obeyed since they are inherently superior to women is common among male chauvinists."

Words with Similar Meanings

biased	colored	one-sided
partial	partisan	prejudicial
prepossessed		tendentious

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Circumspect: cautious, aware of potential consequences

"She was very circumspect in her language and behavior when first introduced to her fiancée's parents."

Related Words

Circumspection: caution

Words with Similar Meanings

alert	cautious	heedful
mindful	prudent	solicitous
vigilant		wary

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Cogent

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Condone

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Connoisseur

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Convolutd

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Corroborate

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Credulous

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Crescendo

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Decorum

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B56

Condone: to overlook, pardon or disregard

"Some theorists believe that failing to prosecute minor crimes is the same as condoning an air of lawlessness."

Words with Similar Meanings

exculpate excuse pardon
 remit

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Cogent: convincing and well-reasoned

"Swayed by the cogent argument of the defense, the jury had no choice but to acquit the defendant."

Related Words

Cognitive: to do with the powers of reasoning
Cognition: knowledge
Cogitate: to think deeply

Words with Similar Meanings

convincing persuasive solid
sound telling valid

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Convoluted: intricate and complicated

"Although many people bought A Brief History of Time few people could follow its convoluted ideas and theories."

Words with Similar Meanings

Byzantine complex elaborate
intricate knotty labyrinthine
perplexing tangled

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Connoisseur: a person with expert knowledge or discriminating tastes

"Dr. Crane was a connoisseur of fine food and wine, drinking and eating only the best."

Words with Similar Meanings

authority epicure expert
gastronome gourmet

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Credulous: too trusting; gullible

"Although some 4 year-olds believe in the Easter Bunny, only the most credulous 9 year olds also believe in him."

Related Words

Credulity: The quality of being credulous

Words with Similar Meanings

naive susceptible trusting

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Corroborate: supporting evidence

"Fingerprints provided corroboration for the witness's testimony that he saw the defendant in the victim's apartment."

Words with Similar Meanings

authenticate back bear out
buttress confirm substantiate
validate verify

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Decorum: appropriateness of behavior or conduct; propriety

"The countess complained that the vulgar peasants lacked the decorum appropriate for a visit to the palace."

Related Words

Decorous: conforming to acceptable standards

Words with Similar Meanings

correctness decency etiquette
manners mores propriety
 seemliness

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Crescendo: steadily increasing in volume or force

"The crescendo of tension became unbearable as Evel Knievel prepared to jump his motorcycle over the school buses."

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Deference

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Deride

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Desiccate

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Desultory

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Diatribes

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Diffident

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Dilate

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Dilatory

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Deride: to speak of or treat with contempt, to mock.

"The awkward child was often derided by his 'cooler' peers."

Related Words

Derision: mockery and taunts

Derisive: in a mocking manner

Words with Similar Meanings

gibe	jeer	mock
ridicule	scoff	sneer
	taunt	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Deference: respect, courtesy

"The respectful young law clerk treated the Supreme Court justice with the utmost deference."

Related Words

Defer: either to delay or show someone deference.

Deferent: courteous and respectful

Words with Similar Meanings

courtesy	honor	homage
obedience	respect	reverence
	veneration	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Desultory: jumping from one thing to another; disconnected.

"Diane had a desultory academic record; she had changed majors 12 times in 3 years."

Words with Similar Meanings

aimless	disconnected	erratic
haphazard	indiscriminate	objectless
objectless	purposeless	random
stray	unconsidered	unplanned.

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Desiccate: to dry out thoroughly

"After a few weeks lying on the desert's baking sands the cow's carcass became completely desiccated."

Related Words

Desiccant: something that removes water from another substance

Words with Similar Meanings

dry	parch	dehydrate.
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KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Diffident: lacking self-confidence

"Steve's diffidence during the job interview stemmed from his nervous nature and lack of experience in the field."

Words with Similar Meanings

backward	bashful	coy
demure	modest	retiring
self-effacing	shy	timid

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Diatribes: an abusive, condemnatory speech

"The trucker bellowed a diatribe at the driver who had cut him off."

Words with Similar Meanings

fulmination	harangue	invective
jeremiad	malediction	obloquy
	tirade	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dilatory: intended to delay

"The congressman used dilatory measures to delay the passage of the bill."

Words with Similar Meanings

dragging	flagging	laggard
lagging	slow	slow-footed
slow-going	slow-paced	tardy

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dilate: to make larger, expand

"When you enter a darkened room, the pupils of your eyes dilate so as to let in more light."

Words with Similar Meanings

amplify	develop	elaborate
enlarge	expand	expatiate

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dilettante

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Dirge

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Disabuse

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Discern

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Disparate

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Dissemble

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Dissonance

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Dogma

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Dirge: a funeral hymn or mournful speech.

"Melville wrote the poem A Dirge for James McPherson for the funeral of a Union general who was killed in 1864."

Words with Similar Meanings

elegy lament

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dilettante: someone with an amateurish and superficial interest in a topic

"Jerry's friends were such dilettantes they seemed to have new jobs and hobbies every week."

Words with Similar Meanings

amateur dabbler
superficial tyro

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Discern: to perceive or recognize

"It is easy to discern the difference between butter and butter-flavored topping."

Related Words

Discernment: taste and cultivation

Words with Similar Meanings

catch descry detect
differentiate discriminate distinguish
espy glimpse know
separate spot spy
tell

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Disabuse: set right, free from error

"Galileo's observations disabused scholars of the notion that the Sun revolved around the Earth."

Words with Similar Meanings

correct undeceive

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dissemble: to present a false appearance, to disguise one's real intentions or character

"The villain could dissemble to the police no longer—he admitted the deed and tore up the floor to reveal the body of the old man."

Words with Similar Meanings

act affect assume
camouflage cloak counterfeit
cover up disguise dissimulate.
fake feign mask
masquerade pose pretend
put on sham. simulate

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Disparate: fundamentally different; entirely unlike

"Although the twins are physically identical, their personalities are disparate."

Words with Similar Meanings

different dissimilar divergent
diverse variant various

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dogma: a firmly held opinion, especially a religious belief

"Linus' central dogma was that children who believed in The Great Pumpkin would be rewarded."

Words with Similar Meanings

creed doctrines
teaching tenet

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dissonance: a harsh and disagreeable combination, especially of sounds

"Cognitive dissonance is the inner conflict produced when long-standing beliefs are contradicted by new evidence."

Words with Similar Meanings

clash contention discord
dissension dissent dissidence
friction strife variance

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dogmatic

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Dupe

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Eclectic

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Efficacy

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Elegy

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Eloquent

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Embellish

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Emulate

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Dupe: to deceive or a person who is easily deceived

"Bugs Bunny was able to dupe Elmer Fudd by dressing up as a lady rabbit."

Words with Similar Meanings

beguile	betray	bluff
cozen	deceive	delude
fool	hoodwink	humbug
mislead	take in	trick

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Dogmatic: dictatorial in one's opinions

"The dictator was dogmatic; claiming he, and only he, was right."

Words with Similar Meanings

authoritarian	bossy	dictatorial
doctrinaire	domineering	imperious
magisterial	masterful	overbearing
	peremptory	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Efficacy: effectiveness

"The efficacy of penicillin was unsurpassed when it was first introduced, completely eliminating almost all bacterial infections."

Related Words

Efficacious: effective, productive

Words with Similar Meanings

dynamism	effectiveness	efficiency
force	power	productiveness
proficiency	strength	vigor

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Eclectic: selecting from or made up from a variety of sources

"Budapest's architecture is an eclectic mix of eastern and western styles."

Words with Similar Meanings

selective catholic broad

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Eloquent: persuasive and moving, especially in speech

"The Gettysburg Address is moving not only because of its lofty sentiments but because of its eloquent words."

Words with Similar Meanings

articulate	expressive	fluent
meaningful	significant	smooth-spoken

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Elegy: a sorrowful poem or speech

"Though Thomas Gray's Elegy is about death and loss, it urges its readers to endure this life, and to trust in spirituality."

Related Words

Elegiac: like an elegy-mournful

Words with Similar Meanings

dirge lament

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Emulate: to copy; to try to equal or excel

"The graduate student sought to emulate his professor in every way, copying not only how she taught, but also how she conducted herself outside of class."

Words with Similar Meanings

ape imitate simulate

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Embellish: to add ornamental or fictitious details

"Britt embellished her resume, hoping to make the lowly positions she had held seem more important."

Words with Similar Meanings

adorn	bedeck	elaborate
embroider	enhance	exaggerate

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Enervate

GRE Flashcards

B81

Engender

GRE Flashcards

B82

Enigma

GRE Flashcards

B83

Enumerate

GRE Flashcards

B84

Ephemeral

GRE Flashcards

B85

Equivocate

GRE Flashcards

B86

Erratic

GRE Flashcards

B87

Erudite

GRE Flashcards

B88

Engender: to produce, cause, or bring about

"His fear and hatred of clowns was engendered when he witnessed the death of his father at the hands of a clown."

Words with Similar Meanings

beget generate procreate
proliferate reproduce spawn

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Enervate: to reduce in strength

"The guerrillas hoped that a series of surprise attacks would enervate the regular army."

Related Words

Unnerve: to deprive of strength or courage

Words with Similar Meanings

debilitate enfeeble sap
weaken

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Enumerate: to count, list, itemize

"Moses returned from the mountain with tablets on which the commandments were enumerated."

Words with Similar Meanings

catalog index tabulate

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Enigma: a puzzle, a mystery

"Speaking in riddles and dressed in old robes, the artist gained a reputation as something of an enigma."

Words with Similar Meanings

conundrum perplexity

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Equivocate: to use expressions of double meaning in order to mislead

"When faced with criticism of his policies, the politician equivocated and left all parties thinking he agreed with them."

Related Words

Equivocal: undecided, trying to deceive
Equivocation: the act or state of equivocating

Words with Similar Meanings

ambiguous evasive waffling

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Ephemeral: lasting a short time

"The lives of mayflies seem ephemeral to us, since the flies' average life span is a matter of hours."

Words with Similar Meanings

evanescent fleeting
momentary transient

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Erudite: learned, scholarly, bookish

"The annual meeting of philosophy professors was a gathering of the most erudite, well-published individuals in the field."

Related Words

Erudition: extensive knowledge or learning

Words with Similar Meanings

scholastic learned wise

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Erratic: wandering and unpredictable

"The plot seemed predictable until it suddenly took a series of erratic turns that surprised the audience."

Related Words

Errant: straying, mistaken, roving

Words with Similar Meanings

capricious inconstant
irresolute whimsical

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Esoteric

GRE Flashcards

B89

Estimable

GRE Flashcards

B90

Eulogy

GRE Flashcards

B91

Euphemism

GRE Flashcards

B92

Exacerbate

GRE Flashcards

B93

Exculpate

GRE Flashcards

B94

Exigent

GRE Flashcards

B95

Exonerate

GRE Flashcards

B96

Estimable: admirable

"Most people consider it estimable that Mother Teresa spent her life helping the poor of India."

Related Words

Esteem: high regard

Words with Similar Meanings

admirable	commendable	creditable.
honorable	laudable	meritorious
praiseworthy	respectable	venerable
	worthy	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Esoteric: known or understood only by a few

"Only a handful of experts are knowledgeable about the esoteric world of particle physics."

Words with Similar Meanings

abstruse arcane obscure

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Euphemism: use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one

"The funeral director preferred to use the euphemism 'sleeping' instead of the word 'dead'."

Eulogy: speech in praise of someone

"His best friend gave the eulogy, outlining his many achievements and talents."

Words with Similar Meanings

commend extol laud

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Exculpate: to clear from blame, prove innocent

"The legal system is intended to convict those who are guilty and exculpate those who are innocent."

Words with Similar Meanings

absolve	acquit	clear
exonerate		vindicate

Exacerbate: to make worse

"It is unwise to take aspirin to try to relieve heartburn, since instead of providing relief, it will only exacerbate the problem."

Words with Similar Meanings

annoy	aggravate	intensify
irritate		provoke

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Exonerate: to clear of blame

"The fugitive was exonerated when another criminal confessed to committing the crime."

Words with Similar Meanings

absolve	acquit	clear
exculpate		vindicate

Exigent: urgent; requiring immediate action

"The patient was losing blood so rapidly that it was exigent to stop the source of the bleeding."

Words with Similar Meanings

critical	imperative
needed	urgent

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Explicit

Fanatical

GRE Flashcards

B97

GRE Flashcards

B98

Fawn

Fervid

GRE Flashcards

B99

GRE Flashcards

B100

Florid

Foment

GRE Flashcards

B101

GRE Flashcards

B102

Fortuitous

Frugality

GRE Flashcards

B103

GRE Flashcards

B104

Garrulous

GRE Flashcards

B105

Gregarious

GRE Flashcards

B106

Guile

GRE Flashcards

B107

Gullible

GRE Flashcards

B108

Homogenous

GRE Flashcards

B109

Iconoclast

GRE Flashcards

B110

Imperturbable

GRE Flashcards

B111

Impervious

GRE Flashcards

B112

Gregarious: outgoing, sociable

"She was so gregarious that when she found herself alone she felt quite sad."

Words with Similar Meanings

affable congenial
communicative sociable

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Garrulous: tending to talk a lot

"The garrulous parakeet distracted its owner with its continuous talking."

Words with Similar Meanings

effusive
loquacious

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Gullible: easily deceived

"The con man pretended to be a bank officer so as to fool gullible bank customers into giving him their account information."

Related Words

Gull: a person who is easily tricked

Words with Similar Meanings

credulous exploitable naive

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Guile: deceit, trickery

"Since he was not fast enough to catch the road-runner on foot, the coyote resorted to guile in an effort to trap his enemy."

Related Words

Guileless: innocent, without trickery; gullible: easily deceived

Words with Similar Meanings

artifice chicanery
connivery duplicity

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Iconoclast: one who opposes established beliefs, customs and institutions

"His lack of regard for traditional beliefs soon established him as an iconoclast."

Words with Similar Meanings

maverick nonconformist
rebel revolutionary

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Homogenous: of a similar kind

"The class was fairly homogenous since almost all of the students were journalism majors."

Related Words

Homogenized: thoroughly mixed together

Words with Similar Meanings

consistent standardized
uniform unvarying

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Impervious: impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected

"A good raincoat will be impervious to moisture."

Words with Similar Meanings

resistant impregnable

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Imperturbable: not capable of being disturbed

"The counselor had so much experience dealing with distraught children that she was imperturbable, even when faced with the wildest tantrums."

Related Words

Perturb: to disturb greatly

Words with Similar Meanings

composed dispassionate impassive
serene stoical

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Impetuous

GRE Flashcards

B113

Implacable

GRE Flashcards

B114

Inchoate

GRE Flashcards

B115

Ingenuous

GRE Flashcards

B116

Inimical

GRE Flashcards

B117

Innocuous

GRE Flashcards

B118

Insipid

GRE Flashcards

B119

Intransigent

GRE Flashcards

B120

Implacable: unable to be calmed down or made peaceful

"His rage at the betrayal was so great that he remained implacable for weeks."

Related Words

Placate: to make peaceful

Words with Similar Meanings

inexorable	intransigent	irreconcilable
relentless	remorseless	unforgiving
	unrelenting	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Impetuous: quick to act without thinking

"It is not good for an investment broker to be impetuous since much thought should be given to all the possible options."

Related Words

Impetus: impulse

Words with Similar Meanings

impulsive	precipitate	rash
reckless		spontaneous

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Ingenuous: showing innocence or childlike simplicity

"She was so ingenuous that her friends feared that her innocence and trustfulness would be exploited when she visited the big city."

Related Words

Ingénue: a naive girl or young woman

Disingenuous: giving a false impression of innocence

Words with Similar Meanings

artless	guileless	innocent
naive	simple	unaffected

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Inchoate: not fully formed, disorganized

"The ideas expressed in Nietzsche's mature work also appear in an inchoate form in his earliest writing."

Words with Similar Meanings

amorphous	incoherent
incomplete	unorganized

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Innocuous: harmless

"Some snakes are poisonous, but most species are innocuous and pose no danger to humans."

Related Words

Inoculate: to give a shot to prevent or heal an illness

Words with Similar Meanings

benign	harmless
inoffensive	insipid

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Inimical: hostile, unfriendly

"Even though a cease-fire had been in place for months, the two sides were still inimical to each other."

Words with Similar Meanings

adverse	antagonistic
dissident	recalcitrant

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Intransigent: uncompromising, refusing to be reconciled

"The professor was intransigent on the deadline, insisting that everyone turn the assignment in at the same time."

Words with Similar Meanings

implacable	inexorable	irreconcilable
obdurate	obstinate	remorseless
rigid	unbending	unrelenting
	unyielding	

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Inspid: lacking interest or flavor

"The critic claimed that the painting was inspid, containing no interesting qualities at all."

Words with Similar Meanings

banal	bland	dull
stale		vapid

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Inundate

Irascible

GRE Flashcards

B121

GRE Flashcards

B122

Laconic

Lament

GRE Flashcards

B123

GRE Flashcards

B124

Lassitude

Latent

GRE Flashcards

B125

GRE Flashcards

B126

Laud

Lavish

GRE Flashcards

B127

GRE Flashcards

B128

Irascible: easily made angry

"Attila the Hun's irascible and violent nature made all who dealt with him fear for their lives."

Related Words

irate: angry

Words with Similar Meanings

cantankerous irritable
ornery testy

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Inundate: to overwhelm, to cover with water.

"The tidal wave inundated Atlantis, which was lost beneath the water."

Words with Similar Meanings

deluge drown engulf
flood submerge

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Lament: to express sorrow, to grieve

"The children continued to lament the death of the goldfish weeks after its demise."

Words with Similar Meanings

bewail deplore
grieve mourn

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Laconic: using few words

"He was the classic laconic native of Maine, who talked as if he were being charged for each word."

Words with Similar Meanings

concise curt pithy
terse taciturn

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Latent: potential that is not readily apparent

"Latent trait testing seeks to identify skills that the test-taker may have that they are not aware of."

Related Words

Latency: the state or quality of being latent

Words with Similar Meanings

concealed dormant inert
potential quiescent

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Lassitude: a state of diminished energy

"The lack of energy that characterizes patients with anemia makes lassitude one of the primary symptoms of the disease."

Words with Similar Meanings

debilitation enervation fatigue
languor listlessness tiredness
weariness

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Lavish: extremely generous or extravagant; to give unsparingly

"She lavished the puppy with so many treats that it soon become overweight and spoiled."

Words with Similar Meanings

bestow confer exuberant
extravagant opulent profuse
prodigal luxuriant superabundant

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Laud: to give praise, to glorify

"Parades and fireworks were staged to laud the success of the rebels."

Related Words

Laudable: worth of praise
Laudatory: expressing praise

Words with Similar Meanings

acclaim applaud commend
compliment extol extol
hail praise

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Lethargic

GRE Flashcards

B129

Loquacious

GRE Flashcards

B130

Lucid

GRE Flashcards

B131

Luminous

GRE Flashcards

B132

Malingering

GRE Flashcards

B133

Malleable

GRE Flashcards

B134

Metaphor

GRE Flashcards

B135

Meticulous

GRE Flashcards

B136

Loquacious: talkative

"She was naturally loquacious, which is a problem in situations where listening is more important than talking."

Related Words

Eloquence: powerful, convincing speaking

Loquacity: the quality of being loquacious

Words with Similar Meanings

effusive garrulous verbose

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Lethargic: acting in an indifferent or slow, sluggish manner

"The clerk was so lethargic that, even when the store was slow, he always had a long line in front of him."

Words with Similar Meanings

apathetic languid lackadaisical
listless torpid

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Luminous: bright, brilliant, glowing

"The park was bathed in luminous sunshine which warmed the bodies and the souls of the visitors."

Related Words

Illuminate: to shine light on

Luminary: an inspiring person

Words with Similar Meanings

incandescent lucent lustrous
radiant resplendent

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Lucid: clear and easily understood

"The explanations were written in a simple and lucid manner so that students were immediately able to apply what they learned."

Related Words

Lucidity: clarity

Lucent: glowing with light

Words with Similar Meanings

clear coherent explicit
intelligible limpid

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Malleable: capable of being shaped

"Gold is the most malleable of precious metals; it can easily be formed into almost any shape."

Words with Similar Meanings

adaptable ductile plastic
pliable pliant

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Malingering: to evade responsibility by pretending to be ill

"A common way to avoid the draft was by malingering—pretending to be mentally or physically ill so as to avoid being taken by the Army."

Related Words

Linger: to be slow in leaving

Words with Similar Meanings

shirk slack

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Meticulous: extremely careful about details

"The investigators were instructed to find all the clues at the crime scene, so they meticulously covered every inch of the area."

Words with Similar Meanings

conscientious precise scrupulous

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Metaphor: a figure of speech comparing two different things, a symbol

"The metaphor 'a sea of troubles' suggests a lot of troubles by comparing their number to the vastness of the sea."

Related Words

Metaphorical: standing as a symbol for something else

Words with Similar Meanings

analogy comparison

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Misanthrope

Mitigate

GRE Flashcards

B137

GRE Flashcards

B138

Mollify

Monotony

GRE Flashcards

B139

GRE Flashcards

B140

Naive

Obdurate

GRE Flashcards

B141

GRE Flashcards

B142

Obsequious

Obstinate

GRE Flashcards

B143

GRE Flashcards

B144

Mitigate: to soften, to lessen

"A judge may mitigate a sentence if she decides that a person committed a crime out of need."

Words with Similar Meanings

allay	alleviate	assuage
ease	lighten	moderate
mollify	palliate	temper

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Misanthrope: a person who dislikes others

"The Grinch was such a misanthrope that even the sight of children singing made him angry."

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Monotony: no variation, tediously the same

"The monotony of the sound of the dripping faucet almost drove the research assistant crazy."

Related Words

Monotone: a sound that is made at the same tone or pitch

Words with Similar Meanings

drone tedium

Mollify: to calm or make less severe

"Their argument was so intense that it was difficult to believe any compromise would mollify them."

Words with Similar Meanings

appease assuage
conciliate pacify

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Obdurate: hardened in feeling, resistant to persuasion

"The President was completely obdurate on the issue, and no amount of persuasion would change his mind."

Words with Similar Meanings

inflexible	intransigent	recalcitrant
tenacious		unyielding

Naive: lacking sophistication or experience

"Having never traveled before, the hillbillies were totally naive to the customs of Beverly Hills."

Related Words

Naiveté: the state of being naive

Words with Similar Meanings

artless	credulous	guileless
ingenuous	simple	unaffected

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Obstinate: stubborn, unyielding

"The obstinate child could not be made to eat any food which he perceived to be 'yucky'."

Words with Similar Meanings

intransigent	mulish	persistent
pertinacious	stubborn	tenacious

Obsequious: overly-submissive and eager to please

"The obsequious new associate made sure to compliment her supervisor's tie and agree with him on every issue."

Related Words

Obeisance: a physical show of respect or submission, such as a bow

Words with Similar Meanings

compliant	deferential
servile	subservient

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Obviate

Occlude

GRE Flashcards

B145

GRE Flashcards

B146

Onerous

Opaque

GRE Flashcards

B147

GRE Flashcards

B148

Opprobrium

Ostentation

GRE Flashcards

B149

GRE Flashcards

B150

Paradox

Paragon

GRE Flashcards

B151

GRE Flashcards

B152

Occlude: to stop up, prevent the passage of

"A shadow is thrown across the Earth's surface during a solar eclipse, when the light from the sun is occluded by the moon."

Words with Similar Meanings

barricade block close
obstruct obstruct

Obviate: to prevent; to make unnecessary

"The river was shallow enough to wade across at many points, which obviated the need for a bridge."

Words with Similar Meanings

forestall preclude prohibit

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Opaque: Impossible to see through, preventing the passage of light

"The heavy build-up of dirt and grime on the windows made them almost opaque."

Related Words

Opacity: the quality of being obscure and indecipherable

Words with Similar Meanings

obscure

Onerous: troublesome and oppressive; burdensome

"The assignment was so extensive and difficult to manage that it proved onerous to the team in charge of it."

Words with Similar Meanings

arduous backbreaking burdensome
cumbersome difficult exacting
formidable hard laborious
oppressive oppressive rigorous
taxing trying

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Ostentation: excessive showiness

"The ostentation of The Sun King's court is evident in the lavish decoration and luxuriousness of his palace at Versailles."

Related Words

Ostensible: apparent

Words with Similar Meanings

conspicuousness flashiness
pretentiousness showiness

Opprobrium: public disgrace

"After the scheme to embezzle the elderly was made public, the treasurer resigned in utter opprobrium."

Words with Similar Meanings

discredit disgrace dishonor
disrepute ignominy infamy
obloquy shame

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

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Paragon: model of excellence or perfection.

"He is the paragon of what a judge should be; honest, intelligent, hardworking and just."

Words with Similar Meanings

apotheosis ideal
quintessence standard

Paradox: a contradiction or dilemma

"It is a paradox that those most in need of medical attention are often those least able to obtain it."

Words with Similar Meanings

incongruity ambiguity

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Pedant

GRE Flashcards

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Perfidious

GRE Flashcards

B154

Perfunctory

GRE Flashcards

B155

Permeate

GRE Flashcards

B156

Pervasive

GRE Flashcards

B157

Philanthropy

GRE Flashcards

B158

Phlegmatic

GRE Flashcards

B159

Placate

GRE Flashcards

B160

Perfidious: willing to betray one's trust

"The actress's perfidious companion revealed all of her intimate secrets to the gossip columnist."

Related Words

Perfidy: deceit, treachery

Words with Similar Meanings

disloyal faithless
treacherous traitorous

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Pedant: someone who shows off learning

"The graduate instructor's tedious and excessive commentary on the subject soon gained her a reputation as a pedant."

Related Words

Pedantic: making an excessive display of learning

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Permeate: to penetrate

"This miraculous new cleaning fluid is able to permeate stains and dissolve them in minutes!"

Related Words

Impermeable: unable to be permeated

Words with Similar Meanings

imbue infuse
pervade suffuse

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Perfunctory: done in a routine way; indifferent

"The machine-like teller processed the transaction and gave the waiting customer a perfunctory smile."

Words with Similar Meanings

apathetic automatic mechanical

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Philanthropy: charity, a desire or effort to promote goodness

"The Metropolitan Museum of Art owes much of its collection to the philanthropy of private collectors who willed their estates to the museum."

Related Words

Philanthropist: someone who is generous and desires to promote goodness

Words with Similar Meanings

humanitarianism altruism

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Pervade: to be present throughout, to permeate

"Four spices—cumin, turmeric, coriander and cayenne—pervade almost every Indian dish, and give the cuisine its distinctive flavor."

Related Words

Pervasive: tending to permeate or pervade

Words with Similar Meanings

imbue infuse penetrate
permeate suffuse

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Placate: to soothe or pacify

"The burglar tried to placate the snarling dog by referring to it as a 'Nice Doggy' and offering it a treat."

Related Words

Placid: tolerant; calm
Implacable: unable to be made peaceful

Words with Similar Meanings

appease conciliate mollify

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Phlegmatic: calm and unemotional in temperament

"Although the bomb could go off at any moment, the phlegmatic demolition expert remained calm and unafraid."

Words with Similar Meanings

apathetic calm emotionless
impassive indifferent passionless
unemotional

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Plastic

GRE Flashcards

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Plethora

GRE Flashcards

B162

Pragmatic

GRE Flashcards

B163

Precipitate

GRE Flashcards

B164

Prevaricate

GRE Flashcards

B165

Pristine

GRE Flashcards

B166

Probity

GRE Flashcards

B167

Proclivity

GRE Flashcards

B168

Plethora: excess

"Assuming that more was better, the defendant offered the judge a plethora of excuses."

Words with Similar Meanings

glut overabundance
superfluity surfeit

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Plastic: able to be molded, altered or bent

"The new material was very plastic and could be formed into products of vastly different shape."

Related Words

Pliable: able to be bent

Words with Similar Meanings

adaptable ductile
malleable pliant

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Precipitate: to throw violently or bring about abruptly; lacking deliberation

"Theirs was a precipitate marriage—they had only known each other for two weeks before they wed."

Related Words

Precipitous: very steep

Precipice: a steep cliff

Precipitation: weather phenomena, like rain or snow, that fall from the sky

Words with Similar Meanings

abrupt hasty headlong hurried
ill-considered impetuous impulsive prompt
rash reckless sudden

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Pragmatic: practical as opposed to idealistic

"While idealistic gamblers think they can get rich by frequenting casinos, pragmatic gamblers realize that the odds are heavily stacked against them."

Related Words

Pragmatism: a practical approach to problem solving

Words with Similar Meanings

realistic rational

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Pristine: fresh and clean, uncorrupted

"Since concerted measures had been taken to prevent looting, the archeological site was still pristine when researchers arrived."

Words with Similar Meanings

innocent undamaged

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Prevaricate: to lie or deviate from the truth

"Rather than admit that he had overslept again, the employee prevaricated and claimed that heavy traffic had prevented him from arriving at work on time."

Words with Similar Meanings

equivocate lie perjure

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Proclivity: a natural inclination or predisposition.

"Her childhood love of acting, singing and adoration indicated a proclivity for the theater in later life."

Words with Similar Meanings

bias leaning partiality
penchant predilection predisposition
prejudice propensity

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Probity: complete honesty and integrity

"George Washington's reputation for probity is illustrated in the legend about his inability to lie after he chopped down the cherry tree."

Words with Similar Meanings

morality integrity virtue
rectitude uprightiness

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Prodigal

GRE Flashcards

B169

Proliferate

GRE Flashcards

B170

Propitiate

GRE Flashcards

B171

Propriety

GRE Flashcards

B172

Prudence

GRE Flashcards

B173

Pungent

GRE Flashcards

B174

Quiescent

GRE Flashcards

B175

Rarefy

GRE Flashcards

B176

Proliferate: to increase in number quickly

"Although he only kept two guinea pigs initially, they proliferated to such an extent that he soon had dozens."

Related Words

Prolific: very productive or highly able to reproduce rapidly

Words with Similar Meanings

breed multiply procreate
propagate reproduce spawn

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Prodigal: lavish, wasteful

"The Prodigal Son quickly wasted all of his inheritance on a lavish lifestyle devoted to pleasure."

Related Words

Prodigality: excessive or reckless spending

Words with Similar Meanings

extravagant lavish profligate
spendthrift wasteful

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Propriety: acting in a proper manner, obeying rules and customs

"The aristocracy maintained a high level of propriety, adhering to even the most minor social rules."

Related Words

Appropriate: Suitable for a particular occasion or place

Words with Similar Meanings

decency decorum
modesty seemly

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Propitiate: to conciliate, to appease

"Because their gods were angry and vengeful, the Vikings propitiated them with many sacrifices."

Related Words

Propitious: advantageous, a good omen

Words with Similar Meanings

appease conciliate mollify
pacify placate

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Pungent: sharp and irritating to the senses

"The smoke from the burning tires was extremely pungent."

Words with Similar Meanings

piquant poignant acrid
caustic stinging

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Prudence: wisdom, caution or restraint

"The college student exhibited prudence by obtaining practical experience along with her studies, which greatly strengthened her resume."

Related Words

Prude: someone who is excessively concerned with propriety

Prudish: prissy and puritanical

Words with Similar Meanings

astuteness circumspection discretion
frugality judiciousness providence
thrift

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Rarefy: to make thinner or sparser

"Since the atmosphere rarefies as altitudes increase, the air at the top of very tall mountains is too thin to breathe."

Related Words

Rarefaction: the process of making something less dense

Words with Similar Meanings

attenuate thin

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Quiescent: motionless

"Many animals are quiescent over the winter months, minimizing activity in order to conserve energy."

Related Words

Quiescence: state of rest or inactivity

Words with Similar Meanings

latent dormant

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Repudiate

GRE Flashcards

B177

Reticent

GRE Flashcards

B178

Rhetoric

GRE Flashcards

B179

Satiate

GRE Flashcards

B180

Soporific

GRE Flashcards

B181

Specious

GRE Flashcards

B182

Stigma

GRE Flashcards

B183

Stolid

GRE Flashcards

B184

Reticent: silent, reserved

"Physically small and verbally reticent, Joan Didion often went unnoticed by those she was reporting upon."

Words with Similar Meanings

cool introverted laconic
standoffish taciturn undemonstrative

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Repudiate: to reject the validity of

"The old woman's claim that she was Russian royalty was repudiated when DNA tests showed she was of no relation to them."

Words with Similar Meanings

deny disavow disclaim
disown renounce

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Satiate: to satisfy fully or overindulge

"His desire for power was so great that nothing less than complete control of the country could satiate it."

Related Words

Sate: to fully satisfy or overindulge
Insatiable: incapable of being satisfied

Words with Similar Meanings

cloy glut
gorge surfeit

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Rhetoric: effective writing or speaking

"Lincoln's talent for rhetoric was evident in his beautifully expressed Gettysburg Address."

Words with Similar Meanings

eloquence oratory

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Specious: deceptively attractive; seemingly plausible but fallacious

"The student's specious excuse for being late sounded legitimate, but was proved otherwise when his teacher called his home."

Words with Similar Meanings

illusory ostensible plausible
spurious sophistic

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Soporific: causing sleep or lethargy

"The movie proved to be so soporific that soon loud snores were heard throughout the cinema."

Related Words

Sopor: deep sleep

Words with Similar Meanings

hypnotic narcotic
slumberous somnolent

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Stolid: unemotional, lacking sensitivity

"The prisoner appeared stolid and unaffected by the judge's harsh sentence."

Words with Similar Meanings

apathetic impassive indifferent
phlegmatic stoical unconcerned

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Stigma: a mark of shame or discredit

"In The Scarlet Letter Hester Prynne was required to wear the letter 'A' on her clothes as a public stigma for her adultery."

Related Words

Stigmatize: to disgrace, to label with negative terms or reputation

Words with Similar Meanings

blemish blot opprobrium
stain taint

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Sublime

Tacit

GRE Flashcards

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GRE Flashcards

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Taciturn

Tirade

GRE Flashcards

B187

GRE Flashcards

B188

Torpor

Transitory

GRE Flashcards

B189

GRE Flashcards

B190

Vacillate

Venerate

GRE Flashcards

B191

GRE Flashcards

B192

Tacit: done without using words

"Although not a word was said, everyone in the room knew that a tacit agreement was made about what course of action to take."

Related Words

Taciturn: silent, not talkative

Words with Similar Meanings

implicit	implied	undeclared
unsaid		unuttered

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Sublime: lofty or grand

"The music was so sublime that it transformed the rude surroundings into a special place."

Related Words

Sublimate: to elevate or convert into something of higher worth

Subliminal: existing outside conscious awareness

Words with Similar Meanings

august	exalted	glorious
grand	magnificent	magnificent
majestic	noble	regal
resplendent		superb

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Tirade: long, harsh speech or verbal attack

"Observers were shocked at the manager's tirade over such a minor mistake."

Words with Similar Meanings

diatribe	fulmination	harangue
obloquy	revilement	vilification

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Taciturn: silent, not talkative

"The clerk's taciturn nature earned him the nickname Silent Bob."

Related Words

Tacit: done without using words

Words with Similar Meanings

laconic reticent

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Transitory: temporary, lasting a brief time

"The reporter lived a transitory life, staying in one place only long enough to cover the current story."

Related Words

Transit: to pass through, to change or make a transition

Transient: passing quickly in and out of existence, one who stays a short time

Words with Similar Meanings

ephemeral	evanescent	fleeting
impermanent		momentary

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Torpor: extreme mental and physical sluggishness

"After surgery, the patient experienced torpor until the anesthesia wore off."

Related Words

Torpid: sluggish, lacking movement

Words with Similar Meanings

apathy languor

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Venerate: to respect deeply

"In a traditional Confucian society the young venerate their elders, deferring to the elders' wisdom and experience."

Related Words

Venerable: old, worthy of respect

Words with Similar Meanings

adore	honor
idolize	revere

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Vacillate: to physically sway or to be indecisive

"The customer held up the line as he vacillated between ordering chocolate-chip or rocky-road ice-cream."

Words with Similar Meanings

dither	falter	fluctuate
irresolute	oscillate	waver

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Veracity

GRE Flashcards

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Verbose

GRE Flashcards

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Vex

GRE Flashcards

B195

Viscous

GRE Flashcards

B196

Volatile

GRE Flashcards

B197

Waver

GRE Flashcards

B198

Whimsical

GRE Flashcards

B199

Zeal

GRE Flashcards

B200

Verbose: wordy

"The professor's answer was so verbose that his student forgot what the original question had been."

Related Words

Verbalize: to put into words

Verbatim: to quote using the exact words, words for words

Verbiage: lots of words that are usually superfluous

Words with Similar Meanings

longwinded loquacious prolix
superfluous

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Veracity: filled with truth and accuracy

"She had a reputation for veracity, so everyone trusted her description of events."

Related Words

Verity: truth

Veracious: truthful, accurate

Words with Similar Meanings

candor exactitude
fidelity probity

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Viscous: thick and adhesive, like a slow flowing fluid

"Most viscous liquids, like oil, or honey, become even thicker as they are cooled down."

Related Words

Viscid: viscous

Viscosity: a measure of how viscous a fluid is

Words with Similar Meanings

thick glutinous gelatinous

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Vex: to annoy

"The old man who loved his peace and quiet was vexed by his neighbor's loud music."

Related Words

Vexation: a feeling of irritation

Words with Similar Meanings

annoy bane bother
chafe exasperate irk
nettle nuisance peeve
provoke

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Waver: to fluctuate between choices

"If you waver too long before making a decision about which testing site to register for, you may not get your first choice."

Words with Similar Meanings

dither falter fluctuate
irresolute oscillate vacillate
waver

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Volatile: easily aroused or changeable; lively or explosive

"His volatile personality made it difficult to predict his reaction to anything."

Related Words

Volcanic: extremely explosive

Words with Similar Meanings

capricious erratic fickle
inconsistent inconstant mercurial
temperamental

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Zeal: passion, excitement

"She brought her typical zeal to the project, sparking enthusiasm in the other team members."

Related Words

Zealot: a fanatic

Words with Similar Meanings

ardency fervor
fire passion

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST

Whimsical: lightly acting in a fanciful or capricious manner; unpredictable

"The ballet was whimsical, delighting the children with its imaginative characters and unpredictable sets."

Related Words

Whim: a fancy or sudden notion

Words with Similar Meanings

capricious erratic
frivolous flippant

KAPLAN 1-800-KAP-TEST