

# Lesson 44

## Definitions



1.	<b>abrasive</b>	uh BRAY siv	harsh, causing irritation, rough
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> kind; soothing
	His mother was disturbed by his rude and abrasive behavior.		
	Derivatives >>	abrasion	
2.	<b>appease</b>	uh PEES	to pacify, to be conciliatory in a manner that sacrifices principles
	Synonyms >>	conciliate, mollify, placate, propitiate	Antonym >> to incense
	The woman tried to appease her husband when he became so angry.		
	Derivatives >>	appeased, appeasing, appeasement, appeasable, appeaser	
3.	<b>bewail</b>	buh WALE	to deplore, to express deep sorrow
	Synonyms >>	bemoan, lament	Antonym >> to rejoice in
	He bewailed the passing of his grandfather whom he loved and admired.		
	Derivatives >>	bewailed, bewailing	
4.	<b>cleft</b>	CLEFT	a space or opening made by cleavage, a split
	Synonyms >>	fissure, crevice, crack, rift, cranny, chasm, crevasse	Antonym >>
	The cleft in the mountain side was so great that it could not be crossed.		
	Derivatives >>		
5.	<b>countermand</b>	koun ter MAND	to revoke, to cancel, or to reverse
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to approve; to validate
	When the President awoke from surgery, he countermanded some orders issued by the Vice President.		
	Derivatives >>	countermandable, countermanded, countermanding	
6.	<b>defraud</b>	deh FRAWD	to deal with deceptively
	Synonyms >>	cozen, swindle	Antonym >> to deal with honestly
	Some defense contractors have defrauded the government out of millions of dollars.		
	Derivatives >>	defrauded, defrauding, defraudation, defraudment	
7.	<b>disavowal</b>	dis uh VOW ul	denial
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> acknowledgment
	His disavowal of the charges against him made the jury wonder if he was really guilty.		
	Derivatives >>	disavow	
8.	<b>eclipse</b>	eh KLIPS	to cast a shadow upon; to darken; to make dim or obscure by comparison
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to make prominent or obvious
	President Bush's successes in foreign policy were eclipsed by domestic failures in the public eye.		
	Derivatives >>	eclipsed, eclipsing, ecliptic, ecliptically, ecliptical	
9.	<b>ellipsis</b>	eh LIP sis	omission of words necessary for complete construction
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	If (it is) possible, (you) come early.		
	Derivatives >>	ellipses	
10.	<b>fussbudget</b>	FUS buj it	one who fusses
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> a serene person; a pacifist
	My sister is earning a reputation as a fussbudget because she constantly complains.		
	Derivatives >>	fussbudgety	
11.	<b>idolatry</b>	eye DOLL uh tree	worship of idols, excessive devotion
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> irreverence; indifference
	The idolatry of rock stars by some teenagers can be dangerous.		
	Derivatives >>	idolatrous, idolatry, idolatrously, idolatrousness, idolater	

12.	<b>malicious</b>	muh LISH us	motivated by hate or deliberate intent to harm
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> kind
	The malicious boy burned down the school.		
	Derivatives >>	maliciousness, malice, maliciously, malicious	
13.	<b>mote</b>	MOTE	a particle or speck of dust
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	A single mote with radioactive properties can have a cancerous effect on humans.		
	Derivatives >>		
14.	<b>optimum</b>	OP tuh mum	most favorable, best or greatest degree attainable
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> least favorable
	The operation must be performed under optimum conditions.		
	Derivatives >>	optima, optimums, optimize, optimization, optimity	
15.	<b>personification</b>	pur son uh fuh KAY	attribution of personal qualities
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Through the personification in the poem the trees seem to be human.		
	Derivatives >>	personify, personificative, personificator, personifier	
16.	<b>pertinacity</b>	pur tuh NAS eh tee	stubborn persistence or act of refusing to yield on an opinion or belief
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> vacillation
	Because of his pertinacity, the fighter was able to go the entire twelve rounds and win the fight.		
	Derivatives >>	pertinacious, pertinaciously, pertinaciousness	
17.	<b>prate</b>	PRATE	to talk idly or foolishly at great length
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to speak about serious matters
	We want a speaker who will talk of important issues, not one who will prate about himself.		
	Derivatives >>	prater, prated, prating	
18.	<b>precept</b>	PREE sept	a rule guiding conduct or imposing a standard
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	A favorite precept by which many people live is "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."		
	Derivatives >>	preceptist, preceptive	
19.	<b>repulse</b>	reh PULSE	to repel or to rebuff (usually with rudeness)
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to impress
	His offensive language repulsed the girl; it did not impress her.		
	Derivatives >>	repulsive, repulsion, repulsively, repulsiveness	
20.	<b>scribe</b>	SKRIBE	a journalist, a public secretary or clerk
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Sportswriters are often referred to as scribes.		
	Derivatives >>	scribal	
21.	<b>sophistry</b>	SOF eh stree	practice of intentionally misleading arguments that seem to be plausible
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Arguing that the Bible supports segregation is sophistry.		
	Derivatives >>	sophists, sophistical, sophist, sophister, sophistic, sophistically, sophisticalness	
22.	<b>supplication</b>	sup luh KAY shun	begging, humbly asking for a favor
	Synonyms >>	adjuration, beseechment, entreaty, imploration, importunity	Antonym >>
	I am going to see the Governor to make a supplication for a pardon for my brother.		
	Derivatives >>	supplicate, supplicatingly, supplicator, supplicatory	
23.	<b>traducer</b>	truh DOOS ur	one who slanders or speaks falsely about someone
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> one who praises or extols
	After hearing the gossip, the woman confronted the traducer face to face to stop the vicious slander.		
	Derivatives >>	traduce, traducement, traduction	
24.	<b>venturesome</b>	VEN chur sum	being bold and taking risks
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> cautious
	Columbus was venturesome in seeking to find India by sailing west.		
	Derivatives >>	venturesomely, venturesomeness, venture	
25.	<b>waylay</b>	WAY lay	to ambush or to attack unexpectedly
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The police tried to waylay the criminal.		
	Derivatives >>	waylaid, waylaying, waylays	