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Edited by Jess Stein and Stuart Berg Flexner



THE RANDOM HOUSE

THESAURUS

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JESS STEIN
and
STUART BERG FLEXNER

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TO THE READER

The *Random House Thesaurus* was compiled to help you write and speak better by letting you find the most effective words to express yourself. It will lead you to the right word for every purpose or occasion, be it in personal letters and conversation; business and professional reports, letters, and talks; or student papers and compositions. In addition, if you use it frequently, or browse through it regularly, you will find that it will improve both the range and exactness of your vocabulary.

The word *thesaurus* came into English from Latin, where it meant "a storehouse of knowledge." It is, indeed, a storehouse of knowledge about words—the proper choice and use of words. Therefore, this thesaurus belongs on your desk or bookshelf right beside your dictionary, because these two reference books are the essential tools for anyone who wants to speak and write with clarity, effectiveness, and individuality.

The dictionary provides the meanings or definitions for given words, whereas the thesaurus provides you with words for given meanings. Thus, when you encounter a word that is new to you, or a word whose meaning you have forgotten or know only vaguely, a good dictionary, such as the *Random House Webster's College Dictionary*, is your best reference source. On the other hand, when you have a particular meaning or thought in mind but do not know, or cannot recall, the most effective word to express it, the thesaurus is your best guide. Together, the thesaurus and the dictionary offer you access to the complete range and unparalleled richness of the English language.

While almost everyone knows the value of using a dictionary, many people have been frustrated or discouraged by the complicated, time-consuming procedure required to use the index or the many cross references of the old-fashioned type of thesaurus. In recent years, however, editors, linguists, and lexicographers have perfected ways to organize the thesaurus in the familiar, easy-to-use alphabetical form. We have tried to make this book achieve that easy-to-use and effective form as fully as possible.

The Random House Thesaurus has been planned, edited, and designed for maximum usefulness, to help you find the right word or phrase—the one with just the right shade of meaning, the right overtone, the right level of usage—instantly.

To those unfamiliar with a thesaurus of synonyms and antonyms, it should be pointed out that only a very small number of words in the English language are completely identical in meaning, shade of meaning, and use. Most "syno-

To the Reader

nyms" are actually words that have similar or closely related meanings but are not perfect substitutes for each other under all circumstances. They often refer to different aspects or shades of meaning or uses of the same general concept, item, or idea. For example, among the synonyms of *road* are *boulevard*, *street*, *highway*, and *path*, though there are obviously significant differences between each of these terms. Even though they are not exact synonyms, each should be listed in a thesaurus, since one might be the exact word you are looking for.

As an added feature, we have included in this edition a selection of synonym studies following the thesaurus proper. These studies explore the subtle differences between various common words with a core meaning.

This project has had the benefit of many outstanding contributors who have worked with exceptional care and devotion. Eugene F. Shewmaker, Gloria Mihalyi Solomon, Robert L. Hurtgen, Dorothy Gerner Stein, Regina B. Wilson, and Keith Hollaman have contributed much to the final project. We would also like to express our appreciation to Eric Stein, Sharon Leong, and Rose M. Price. We have had the advantage of access to much of the material in *The Family Word Finder*, published by Reader's Digest, for which we are very grateful. The Random House dictionary staff have been generous with their help and guidance and have checked the manuscript for accuracy and ease of use.

JESS STEIN and
STUART BERG FLEXNER
Random House Reference Books

ORGANIZATION OF ENTRIES

Although anyone who opens this book at random should be able to use it immediately, the following notes may be useful:

1. All main entries are in **boldface** type and are arranged in one simple alphabetical list.
2. Each of these boldfaced main entries is followed by its part of speech. Standard abbreviations are used for this purpose: *n.* for noun, *v.* for verb, *adj.* for adjective, *adv.* for adverb, *prep.* for preposition, *conj.* for conjunction, and *interj.* for interjection. When a main entry word has more than one part of speech, each part of speech is listed separately.
3. When a main entry word has more than one meaning, each meaning is preceded by a boldfaced number and has its own separate list of synonyms.
4. Each meaning is introduced by one or more example sentences or phrases. This will help you identify the particular meaning and show you how the main entry word is used in context.
5. The synonyms listed under each meaning are generally arranged so that the most common ones, and the ones closest in meaning to the main entry word, come first. Within each list of synonyms there may be clusters of words set off by semicolons to group together separate shades of meaning or levels of use.
6. Italicized labels are included before some synonyms to show that a word or phrase has certain limitations in usage (such as *Informal* or *Slang*), that it is used primarily in a specific field of knowledge or endeavor (such as *Medical* or *Nautical*), or that it is still primarily regarded as foreign (such as *French* or *Latin*), though used in English.
7. When highly specialized synonyms are offered, they are usually preceded by "*variously*" to indicate that caution must be used to select the appropriate specialized word. Similarly, when very broadly applicable synonyms are offered, they are usually preceded by "*loosely*" to point out their highly general character.
8. At the end of many synonym lists there are lists of antonyms, introduced by the abbreviation *Ant.* Each of these antonym lists is preceded, when necessary, by a boldfaced number that matches the number of the related synonym list.

A

abandon *v.* 1 *The crew abandoned the sinking ship:* desert, forsake, leave, depart from, leave behind, withdraw from, evacuate; relinquish, run out on, turn one's back on. 2 *The scientists abandoned their research:* discontinue, give up, drop, stop, cease.

—*n.* 3 *The children danced with abandon:* unrestraint, freedom; immoderation; recklessness, wantonness, impulsiveness, impetuosity, spontaneity; enthusiasm, gusto, exuberance.

Ant. 1 claim; keep. 2 continue, maintain. 3 restraint, control; moderation.

abandoned *adj.* 1 *an abandoned house:* deserted, forsaken, vacant, desolate, unoccupied; discarded, cast aside, left behind, marooned. 2 *The barbarians led an abandoned life:* debauched, dissipated, dissolute, profligate, reprobate, shameless, immoral, disreputable, wild, wicked, wanton, unprincipled.

Ant. 1 occupied. 2 virtuous, reputable, respectable, upright; pure, chaste.

abase *v.* *The Bible says that the proud shall be abased:* humble, bring low, cast down; *Informal* put down, bring down a peg, cut down to size; humiliate, disgrace, dishonor, defame, debate.

Ant. elevate, raise, exalt, uplift; honor, acclaim, praise.

abashed *adj.* *We were abashed at forgetting their anniversary:* embarrassed, ashamed, chagrined, mortified, dismayed, taken aback, nonplussed, disconcerted.

Ant. proud, pleased, elated, exalted; poised, undaunted, reassured.

abate *v.* *The wind abated:* decrease, diminish, lessen, subside, fade, dwindle, moderate, mitigate, weaken, wane, ebb, go down, taper off, lighten, soften, quiet, slow, slake off; ease, relieve, alleviate; dampen.

Ant. increase, intensify, heighten, grow; rise, strengthen; quicken, accelerate, speed up.

abbey *n.* *The monks live in an abbey:* monastery, friary, cloister, priory, hermitage; convent, nunnery.

abbreviate *v.* *The word "Mister" is abbreviated as "Mr.":* As time was short, we abbreviated our visit: shorten, abridge, curtail, condense, reduce; cut, cut short.

Ant. lengthen, extend, stretch out, draw

out; expand, enlarge, amplify, increase, add to, pad out; prolong, protract.

abbreviation *n.* "Dr." is the abbreviation of "Doctor." This edition is an abbreviation of a longer work: shortened form, short form, shortening, condensed form, contracted form, cut-down form; reduction, contraction, abridgment, condensation, digest, cutting.

Ant. full form, written-out form; lengthening, drawing out; expansion, enlargement.

abdicate *v.* *Edward VIII of England abdicated (his throne):* renounce, resign, vacate (a throne); relinquish, give up, surrender, quit, cede, yield.

Ant. accede (to a throne); claim, possess, assume, keep.

abdomen *n.* *He exercised to flatten his abdomen:* stomach, visceral cavity, epigastrium; belly, tummy; gut, breadbasket.

abduct *v.* *Kidnappers abducted the child:* kidnap, carry off, make off with, steal, seize.

Ant. return, bring back; relinquish.

aberration *n.* 1 *a lens with spherical aberration.* The new rules were full of aberrations: irregularity, deviation, abnormality, anomaly, incongruity, aberrance. 2 *His only aberration was an occasional lapse of memory:* quirk, peculiarity, oddity, strangeness; illusion, delusion, self-deception, hallucination.

Ant. 1, 2 normality, regularity.

abet *v.* *The criminal was aided and abetted by his brother:* encourage, support, sustain, back, sanction, promote; urge, urge on, goad, spur, incite, instigate; assist, help, aid.

Ant. discourage, dissuade, denounce; deter, stop, check, thwart, obstruct, balk.

abeyance *n.* *The project will be held in abeyance until spring:* postponement, suspension, intermission, deferral; pause, delay, cessation, recess, hiatus.

Ant. continuance, continuation.

abhor *v.* *We abhor violence:* detest, hate, loathe, dislike, despise, abominate; feel aversion toward, be revolted by, find repulsive, regard with repugnance, view with horror, eschew, can't stand.

Ant. love, adore, like, delight in, dote on, cherish, relish, treasure, desire, crave.

abide *v.* 1 *I can't abide loud noise:* bear, stand, tolerate, put up with, endure, stomach, brook; submit to, accept, stand for.

abiding

2 *Abide with me a while longer*: stay, remain, tarry, linger, stop; live, reside, dwell.
Ant. 2 go, leave, quit, depart; flee.

abiding *adj.* *Abraham Lincoln had an abiding faith in the Union*: lasting, everlasting, enduring, unending, durable, firm, fast; changeless, unchanging, steadfast, constant, unshakable.

Ant. temporary, passing, momentary, impermanent; weak, shaky, changeable, fickle.

ability *n.* *A good salesperson has the ability to sell anything*: capability, capacity, power, facility, faculty, aptitude, potential, knack, competence, qualification; skill, talent, knowhow, expertise; genius, gift, mind for, bent.

Ant. inability, incapacity, inaptitude, incompetence, inadequacy.

abject *adj.* 1 *They lived in abject poverty*: hopeless, inescapable, complete, thorough; wretched, miserable. 2 *an abject coward*: spiritless, cringing, groveling; contemptible, despicable, vile, base, mean, low, ignoble, sordid.

Ant. 1 hopeful; dignified, honorable. 2 courageous, spirited, bold, staunch; domineering, arrogant; admirable, respected, esteemed, worthy.

abjure *v.* 1 *Pacifism abjures the use of force*: disclaim, disallow, repudiate, reject. 2 *The prisoners abjured their heresies and lived*: renounce, give up, forswear, recant.

Ant. maintain, uphold.

ablaze *adj.* 1 *The house was ablaze when the fire trucks arrived*: burning, blazing, on fire, afire, flaming, aflame, in flames; fiery, glowing. 2 *The students were ablaze with enthusiasm*: eager, excited, fervent, fervid, zealous, impassioned; feverish, flushed, ardent, turned-on.

able *adj.* 1 *an able lawyer*: skillful, proficient, capable, competent, expert, good, talented, highly qualified, effective, efficient, adroit, adept. 2 *He was barely able to walk. We are not able to grant your request*: capable, fit, competent; equal to, adequate, qualified.

Ant. 1 unskillful, incapable, incompetent, inept, inefficient, ineffective, amateurish; mediocre. 2 incapable, unfit, incompetent.

able-bodied *adj.* *We need four able-bodied people to move the piano*: physically fit, muscular, brawny, robust, strong, vigorous; beefy, strapping, rugged, hardy, sturdy.

Ant. weak, puny, feeble, frail.

ablution *n.* 1 *After ablutions in the river, the holy man prayed*: ceremonial washing, ritualistic washing; bathing, cleansing, purification.

2 *daily ablutions*: washing, bathing, cleaning, lavation; wash, bath.

abnegation *n.* *In a mood of abnegation, he gave up sweets*: self-denial, sacrifice, renunciation, relinquishment, giving up, eschewal; abstinence, temperance, continence.
Ant. self-indulgence, indulgence, abandon; intemperance.

abnormal *adj.* *an abnormal fear of heights. An abnormal amount of snow fell in October*: unnatural, atypical, unusual, irregular, aberrant, uncommon, exceptional, extraordinary, unexpected, inordinate; strange, peculiar, rare, queer, odd, freakish, curious; monstrous, deformed.

Ant. normal, natural, typical, usual, ordinary, common; conventional, routine, regular, customary.

abnormality *n.* *A physical abnormality may be corrected by surgery*: deformity, malformation; aberration, aberrance, anomaly, deviation, perversion; oddity, curiosity, peculiarity.

abode *n.* *The hermit's abode was a cave*: residence, place of residence, dwelling place, dwelling; house, home, living quarters, domicile.

abolish *v.* *Prohibition was abolished in 1933*: eliminate, eradicate, exterminate, extirpate, terminate, end, put an end to, wipe out, stamp out, do away with, quash; repeal, revoke, annul, nullify, declare null and void, rescind, cancel; set aside, repudiate.

Ant. establish, institute, introduce; sustain, continue; revive, reinstate, renew, restore; authorize, legalize, enact.

abolition *n.* *The senator fought for abolition of the income tax*: elimination, ending, termination, eradication, abolishment; repeal, annulment, nullification, revocation, cancellation, rescinding.

Ant. establishment, institution, introduction, creation, inauguration; authorization, enactment; continuation; reinstatement, restoration.

abominable *adj.* 1 *an abominable crime*: detestable, despicable, contemptible, reprehensible, loathsome, abhorrent, disgusting, revolting, repulsive, repugnant; vile, base, wretched, heinous, villainous, infamous, atrocious, horrid, horrible. 2 *The weather was abominable*: very unpleasant, disagreeable, miserable, terrible, extremely bad, awful. *Informal* lousy.

Ant. 1 laudable, praiseworthy, commendable, admirable; satisfactory, gratifying. 2 pleasant, agreeable, enjoyable, pleasing, delightful, good, wonderful.

abomination *n.* 1 *The dirty streets are an abomination!*: abhorrence, horror, disgrace,

aboriginal

defilement, annoyance. 2 *feelings of abomination for concentration camps*: revulsion, loathing, repugnance, disgust, detestation, hate, hatred, abhorrence.

Ant. 1 delight, joy, pleasure; benefit, blessing, boon. 2 love, liking, affection, fondness, relish; admiration, appreciation, respect, approval.

aboriginal *adj.* *The Indians were the aboriginal people of America*: native, indigenous, original; earliest, first, ancient, primary, prime.

Ant. alien, foreign; late, recent, successive, modern.

aboriginal *n.* *The Australian aborigines hunt with spears*: original inhabitant, primitive inhabitant, indigenous person; native.

Ant. alien, foreigner, newcomer, late arrival.

abortive *adj.* *Efforts to raise the sunken ship proved abortive*: fruitless, useless, unsuccessful, unproductive, unavailing, futile, unfruitful.

Ant. successful, fruitful, productive.

abound *v.* *Our garden abounds with roses. Tulips abound in Holland*: teem, overflow, be filled, be well supplied, be rich in, swarm, proliferate; exist in great numbers, be plentiful, flourish, thrive.

Ant. lack, want, have too few, be deficient in; be in short supply.

about-face *n.* *The senator did an about-face on tax cuts*: reversal, turnaround, reverse, turnabout, switch, shift; disavowal, recantation, retraction.

aboveboard *adj.* *Her criticisms seemed fair and aboveboard*: candid, open, honest, truthful, sincere, frank, square-dealing, on the up and up; guileless, ingenuous, artless; un concealed.

Ant. devious, evasive, underhand.

abrasion *n.* 1 *The abrasion on his knee soon healed*: scraped spot, scrape; scratch, lesion. 2 *Years of abrasion had worn the stones smooth*: scraping, grating, rubbing, friction; erosion, wearing away, wearing down.

abrasive *n.* 1 *Sandpaper is an abrasive*: scraping material, grinding material, scouring material; smoothing substance. —*adj.* 2 *abrasive remarks*: harsh, annoying, irritating; rasping, grating, caustic; nasty, hurtful, galling, chafing.

Ant. 2 mild, soothing, comforting, gentle, agreeable.

abreast *adv., adj.* *The soldiers marched three abreast*: side by side, in a line across, in rank.

Ant. one behind another, one after another.

abridge *v.* 1 *The book was abridged*: shorten, condense, reduce, digest, abbrevi-

absent

ate, cut, cut down, pare down. 2 *No one can abridge your legal rights*: restrict, limit, diminish, lessen, reduce, decrease; deprive one of.

Ant. 1 expand, enlarge, lengthen; augment, add to. 2 increase, augment.

abridgment *n.* 1 *a new abridgment of Gibbon's Roman history*: shortened form, condensed form, condensation, digest, truncation. 2 *an abridgment of the mayor's power*: restriction, limitation, curtailment, reduction, lessening, decrease.

Ant. 1 lengthened version. 2 expansion, enlargement, increase, augmentation, extension.

abroad *adv.* 1 *On our trip abroad we visited England*: overseas, out of the country. 2 *Is it safe to be abroad at night?*: out of doors, outside, out of the house, out in the open air. 3 *A thousand rumors were abroad*: in circulation, at large, making the rounds; spread far and wide, rife, astir.

Ant. 1 near home; in one's native land. 2 indoors, inside, in, in the house.

abrogate *v.* *Congress must abrogate this unjust law*: abolish, cancel, terminate, put an end to, end, do away with, quash; repeal, revoke, rescind, annul, nullify, void, invalidate, set aside; retract, withdraw, repudiate.

Ant. institute, establish; enact, ratify; confirm, uphold, support.

abrupt *adj.* 1 *The car came to an abrupt stop*: sudden, unexpected, unforeseen, unanticipated; hasty, quick, instantaneous, precipitate. 2 *Your abrupt reply hurt our feelings*: curt, brusque, blunt, brisk, short; discourteous, impolite, ungracious, rude. 3 *The cliff made an abrupt descent to the sea*: steep, sheer, sharp, precipitous.

Ant. 1 anticipated, expected, foreseen; gradual, unhurried, slow, easy. 2 courteous, polite, gracious, thoughtful, civil. 3 gradual.

abscond *v.* *The thief absconded with the jewels*: flee, take flight, fly, depart hastily, leave suddenly; take off, make off, steal away; escape, run away, run off; *Informal* skip.

absence *n.* 1 *The teacher noted the student's absence*: not being present, nonattendance, nonpresence, nonappearance, absenteeism. 2 *an absence of initiative*: lack, nonexistence; scarcity, deficiency, insufficiency, want, dearth.

Ant. 1 presence, attendance. 2 existence; abundance, sufficiency, plethora.

absent *adj.* 1 *Why were you absent from class?*: not present, nonpresent, nonattendant; missing, out, truant. 2 *He gave her an absent look*: inattentive, unthinking, heedless, oblivious, preoccupied, distracted; vacant, blank, vague. —*v.* 3 *Why did you ab-*

absent-minded

sent yourself from the meeting? cause to be not present, fail to attend, not appear, stay away, keep away, play truant.

Ant. 1 present, in attendance. 2 attentive, thoughtful, aware, alert. 3 attend, appear at, show up.

absent-minded *adj.* *He's so absent-minded he's lost three hats:* forgetful, distracted, unheeding, unmindful, preoccupied, woolgathering, oblivious, day-dreaming.

Ant. attentive, alert, heedful, observant.

absolute *adj.* 1 *an absolute monarch:* unrestricted, unrestrained, unlimited, unconditional; complete, supreme. 2 *His story was an absolute lie:* complete, pure, total, definite, thorough, unqualified, unadulterated, unmitigated, utter, consummate, outright; *Informal* out-and-out. 3 *We have absolute proof of his guilt:* positive, definite, conclusive, certain, sure, decisive; real, genuine, unquestionable, undeniable, unequivocal.

Ant. 1 restricted, conditional, limited, provisional, qualified. 2, 3 qualified, conditional, provisional, dubious; incomplete.

absolutely *adv.* 1 *I am absolutely sure:* entirely, completely, wholly, utterly, definitely, positively; unconditionally. 2 *Good nutrition is absolutely essential:* positively, utterly, definitely, truly, really; undoubtedly, unquestionably, indubitably.

Ant. 1 somewhat, fairly. 2 probably, conditionally.

absolution *n.* *They came to the shrine, seeking absolution for their sins:* pardon, amnesty, forgiveness, deliverance, exculpation, remission.

Ant. blame, censure, condemnation.

absolve *v.* 1 *The priest absolved their sins:* pardon, forgive, shrive. 2 *The jury absolved him of the crime:* acquit, find not guilty, judge innocent; exonerate, clear. 3 *I was absolved of having to pay the debt:* release, free, set free, excuse from, exempt, discharge.

Ant. 1 accuse, blame; condemn. 2 convict, find guilty. 3 obligate, oblige, bind.

absorb *v.* 1 *The sponge absorbed all the water:* soak up, take up, suck up, drink in, sponge up. 2 *Can the students absorb this lesson?* take in completely, assimilate, incorporate, digest, ingest. 3 *I was so absorbed in this book that I didn't hear you:* engross, immerse, occupy, preoccupy, engage, rivet, fix.

Ant. 1 exude, eject. 2 disperse, impart.

absorbent *adj.* *Blotting paper is extremely absorbent:* permeable, spongy, absorptive, porous, thirsty, pervious.

absurdity

Ant. moistureproof, waterproof, water-repellent, impermeable.

absorbing *adj.* *Tom Sawyer is an absorbing book:* fascinating, interesting, engrossing, captivating, engaging.

abstain *v.* *Vegetarians abstain from eating meat:* refrain, desist, forbear, eschew, avoid, forgo; deny oneself, resist.

Ant. indulge in, yield to, give in to; abandon oneself to.

abstemious *adj.* *His abstemious habits allowed him few pleasures:* abstinent, ascetic, austere, temperate, abstentious.

Ant. self-indulgent, abandoned, uncontrolled, hedonistic, profligate, immoderate.

abstention *n.* *Vegetarians are known for their abstention from eating meat:* abstaining, refraining, desisting, holding back, forbearance, eschewing, eschewal, avoidance, refusal.

Ant. indulgence, abandon.

abstinence *n.* 1 *I admire Quakers for their abstinence:* nonindulgence, self-denial, self-restraint, self-control, discipline, abstention; (variously) temperance, sobriety; continence, chastity.

Ant. indulgence, self-indulgence, abandon, excess.

abstract *adj.* 1 *Abstract ideas:* theoretical, theoretic, unapplied, general, generalized, imaginary, visionary, intangible, hypothetical, impractical; recondite, arcane, intellectual. — *n.* 2 *Please write an abstract of this article:* summary, synopsis, précis, brief, digest, extract, condensation. — *v.* 3 *to abstract salt from sea water:* extract, remove, withdraw, take out; separate, dissociate. 4 *Please abstract this article:* summarize, synopsis; digest, condense, abridge.

Ant. 1 concrete, specific, material; practical; factual, real, actual. 2 amplification, enlargement, expansion. 3 add; unite, combine.

abstruse *adj.* *Mathematics can be an abstruse subject:* hard to understand, obscure, incomprehensible, unfathomable, complex, complicated, puzzling, perplexing, arcane; subtle.

Ant. simple, direct, easy, obvious, clear, uncomplicated.

absurd *adj.* *It's absurd to believe the earth is flat. The clown wore an absurd costume:* unreasonable, illogical, irrational, preposterous; ridiculous, foolish, stupid, idiotic, asinine, comical, farcical; funny, laughable.

Ant. reasonable, logical, sensible, rational.

absurdity *n.* *His story was sheer absurdity. The absurdities of the monkeys amused us:* nonsense, unreasonableness, unbelievability, inanity, irrationality, ridiculousness;

abundance

falsehood, delusion; foolishness, buffoonery, comicalness, silliness.

Ant. truth; reasonableness; sagacity.

abundance *n.* an abundance of food: ample amount, great supply, full measure, profusion; excess, more than enough, plenty, surplus, glut, plenitude, plethora, surfeit; bounty, wealth, richness.

Ant. scarcity, lack, dearth, scantiness, paucity.

abundant *adj.* an abundant water supply: ample, sufficient, enough, plenty, more than enough, copious, bounteous, bountiful, lavish, replete, galore.

Ant. insufficient, scant, sparse, meager, scarce, skimpy, sparing.

abuse *v.* 1 Good carpenters don't abuse their tools. Stop abusing that dog!: misuse, use improperly, ill-use; mistreat, maltreat, ill-treat; harm, hurt, injure. 2 He abused everyone in a loud voice: insult, speak ill of, berate, carp at, rail at, vilify; speak harshly to, reproach, criticize, censure, bawl out, upbraid; malign, ridicule, slur, denigrate; curse, slander; disparage, inveigh against.

—*n.* 3 an abuse of friendship: misuse, unfair use, improper use, misapplication; exploitation, imposition. 4 Child abuse is a punishable offense: mistreatment, maltreatment, ill-use, cruelty; injury, harming, beating, assault. 5 I'll listen to no more of your abuse!: insulting language, insults, berating, railing, invective, tirade; reproach, criticism, tongue-lashing, scolding, upbraiding, diatribe, carping; disparagement, slander, ridicule, derision, vilification; defamation.

Ant. 1 protect, care for. 2 praise, speak well of, extol, laud. 5 praise, compliment, acclaim; flattery.

abusive *adj.* 1 Please don't use such abusive language: insulting, harsh, vituperative, mean; railing, offensive, obscene, foul-mouthed, vile, rude, gross; derogatory, disparaging, defamatory, scurrilous, critical, censorious, slanderous, reviling, maligning. 2 He was arrested for his abusive treatment of the dog: cruel, improper; harmful, hurtful, injurious.

Ant. 1 laudatory, flattering, complimentary, extolling, courteous, respectful, polite. 2 kind; just.

abut *v.* The two yards abut: meet end to end, meet, join, adjoin, touch; border, be contiguous.

abysmal *adj.* abysmal ignorance: thorough, endless, unending, complete; boundless, profound, extreme, vast, stupendous, immense.

abyss *n.* One slip and you'll fall into the

acceptance

abyss: bottomless pit, vast chasm, crevasse, fissure; void, depth.

Ant. elevation, height; mountain, hill.

academic *adj.* 1 He remembered his academic years: school, scholastic, educational; collegiate, university. 2 an academic mind: scholarly, studious; educated, erudite; pedantic, bookish. 3 an academic high school: general, liberal-arts, scholastic, college-preparatory; nontechnical, nonvocational. 4 How to talk to a Martian is an academic question: theoretical, hypothetical, abstract, conjectural, suppositional; not practical.

Ant. 2 nonscholarly, nonstudious, unschooled, unlettered, unlearned. 3 technical, vocational, trade. 4 practical, realistic, immediate.

accede *v.* The mayor acceded to the demands: consent to, approve, agree to, accept, concur with; concede, yield to, abide by, comply with.

Ant. reject, refuse, disallow, decline; oppose, object to, resist, balk at.

accelerate *v.* 1 The car suddenly accelerated: to go faster, to move faster, speed up, pick up speed, quicken pace. 2 Fertilizer will accelerate the growth of plants: speed up, hurry, quicken, hasten, rush, step up, spur; expedite, further, promote.

Ant. 1, 2 slow, slow down, decelerate. 2 delay, retard, hinder, impede, hamper.

accent *n.* 1 The word "woman" has its accent on the first syllable: stress, emphasis; primary accent, primary stress. 2 to speak with a German accent: pronunciation, enunciation, articulation, manner of speaking, twang, drawl. 3 The room was white with a few red accents: hint, touch, embellishment, detail; ornament, trimming. —*v.* 4 Accent the word on the first syllable: stress, accentuate; give prominence to.

accept *v.* 1 She accepted the invitation: take something offered, receive willingly, receive with favor. 2 I accept your apology. The police accepted his story as true: agree to, consent to, grant as satisfactory, accede to, acknowledge. 3 The boy accepted full responsibility: assume, undertake, acknowledge, admit, avow.

Ant. 1, 2 refuse, reject, decline, spurn, turn down. 3 disown; deny, disavow.

acceptable *adj.* 1 The lawyers found the contract acceptable: capable of being accepted, agreeable, proper, suitable, admissible, satisfactory. 2 His grades are acceptable: adequate, suitable, passable, tolerable; barely satisfactory, Informal so-so.

Ant. 1, 2 unacceptable, unsatisfactory.

acceptance *n.* 1 His acceptance of bribes led to his arrest: accepting, taking, receiv-

accepted

ing; receipt. 2 *The employer gave his acceptance to the suggestions:* approval, consent, agreement, permission, acquiescence; *Informal* O.K. 3 *It took years for Einstein's theory to gain acceptance:* approval, approbation, belief, recognition, acknowledgment.

Ant. 1, 2 rejection, refusal; disapproval. 3 rejection; disavowal.

accepted *adj.* *Money orders are an accepted means of payment:* agreed upon, approved, acceptable, acknowledged, established; common, normal, usual, regular, customary.

access *n.* 1 *Who has access to the vault?:* admittance; entrance, entrée. 2 *Switzerland has access to the sea via the Rhine:* a means of reaching, an approach, passage, passageway, gateway; road, path, way, avenue.

accessible *adj.* 1 *Is the telephone accessible at all time?:* available, ready, at hand, on hand, handy, within reach; obtainable, attainable, reachable. 2 *The principal was always accessible to students:* available, approachable, reachable.

Ant. 1 unavailable, unobtainable, beyond reach. 2 unapproachable, unavailable, inaccessible.

accessory *n.* 1 *This belt makes a beautiful accessory to your dress:* accompaniment, adornment, decoration; complement, detail. 2 *He was convicted as an accessory in the robbery:* accomplice, confederate; associate, cohort; contributor, auxiliary.

accident *n.* 1 *Columbus discovered America by accident:* chance, fluke, happenstance; luck, good fortune. 2 *An ambulance rushed to the accident. a skiing accident:* collision, crash, wreck, smashup; mishap, misadventure; bit of bad luck.

Ant. 1 plan, intention, intent, design.

accidental *adj.* *Our meeting was purely accidental:* unplanned, unintentional, unpremeditated, uncalculated; unexpected, unanticipated, fortuitous; chance, inadvertent.

Ant. planned, intentional, intended, calculated; prepared, designed.

acclaim *v.* 1 *Critics acclaimed the new play:* praise, loudly approve, applaud, cheer, hail; laud, extol, sing the praises of, cheer, compliment; honor, celebrate. —*n.* 2 *The new opera was greeted with acclaim:* great praise, loud approval, applause, plaudits, kudos, bravos, cheering, rejoicing, enthusiasm.

Ant. 1 criticize, denounce, condemn, disapprove, *Informal* pan. 2 criticism, condemnation, disapproval.

acclamation *n.* *The queen received an acclamation from the crowd. He was elected*

accomplished

president of the club by acclamation: ovation, burst of applause, cheering, shout of approval; acclaim; cheers, hurrahs, hosannas.

Ant. booing, hissing; disapproval, denunciation.

acclimate *v.* *You'll soon be acclimated to the cold weather:* get used to, accustom, adapt, adjust, accommodate, inure.

accolade *n.* *the highest accolade a writer can receive:* award, honor, tribute, prize; praise, compliment, commendation, acclaim.

accommodate *v.* 1 *Can you accommodate me with a loan?:* do a kindness for, do a favor for; oblige, help, aid, assist. 2 *This hotel can accommodate 500 guests:* have capacity for, furnish room for, house; entertain; hold, contain; lodge, put up. 3 *accommodate yourself to the situation:* adapt, adjust, fit, accustom; conform, modify; reconcile.

Ant. 1 inconvenience, disoblige.

accommodating *adj.* *She was very accommodating:* obliging, helpful, considerate, kind; polite, courteous; conciliatory, yielding.

Ant. inconsiderate; rude.

accommodation *n.* 1 *What kind of accommodations did you have on the ship?:* rooms, quarters, housing; arrangements. 2 *If we don't reach an accommodation there will be a strike:* compromise, settlement, adjustment; agreement, reconciliation.

accompany *v.* 1 *My daughter accompanied me on the trip:* go in company with, go along with, attend; conduct; escort, convoy, attend. 2 *Suffering accompanies war:* to occur with, go together with, go hand in hand with, go hand in glove with, follow.

accomplice *n.* *an accomplice in the robbery:* confederate, accessory, partner, collaborator, co-conspirator, partner-in-crime, cohort, ally, comrade; assistant, subordinate, helper, abettor.

accomplish *v.* 1 *Edison accomplished what he set out to do:* achieve, succeed at, carry out, do; perform, realize, execute, attain, fulfill. 2 *If you organize your work you'll accomplish more:* do, get done, finish, complete, achieve.

Ant. 1 fail, fall short. 2 leave undone.

accomplished *adj.* 1 *Space flight is an accomplished fact:* existing, realized, effected; established, accepted, proven, proved. 2 *an accomplished pianist:* expert, able, proficient, capable, fine, skilled, skillful; masterly, well-trained, finished, experienced; talented, gifted, brilliant, qualified.

Ant. 1 unrealized, unestablished, unproven. 2 unskilled, incompetent, inept,

accomplishment

inexpert; inexperienced; untalented, amateurish.

accomplishment *n.* 1 *All nations must work for the accomplishment of peace:* achievement, realization, attainment, triumph, victory, fulfillment, success, carrying out. 2 *Developing the supersonic jet was quite an accomplishment:* achievement, feat, success, attainment, exploit, triumph, victory. 3 *Playing the piano is one of her accomplishments:* achievement, feat, skill; talent, gift.

Ant. 1 failure. 2 failure, blunder. 3 lack, deficiency.

accord *v.* 1 *Our views accord on the new tax bill:* agree, concur, conform, correspond, match, jibe; be in tune. 2 *High honors were accorded him:* grant, present, give, bestow, award; allow, cede. —*n.* 3 *Our views are not in accord:* agreement, harmony, accordance, mutual understanding, concurrence, uniformity.

Ant. 1 differ, disagree, conflict, clash. 2 withhold, deny, refuse. 3 conflict, disagreement, dissidence, dissension.

accordingly *adv.* 1 *I'm an adult and expect to be treated accordingly:* in accordance with the fact, correspondingly, suitably. 2 *This furnace is new; accordingly, it should perform perfectly:* therefore, thus, so, hence, wherefore, whereupon, consequently, as a result.

Ant. 1 conversely.

accost *v.* *A beggar accosted me:* hail, call to; greet, address; confront, approach, button-hole, waylay; solicit, make an appeal to.

account *n.* 1 *Give us a full account of your vacation:* description, report; story, history, record, narrative, narration; explanation, version. 2 *The student disobeyed and on this account is being expelled:* reason, cause, grounds, basis, consideration. 3 *These old letters are of no account:* importance, import, worth, significance, consequence, note; use, merit. 4 *household accounts:* financial record, financial statement, books, accounting. —*v.* 5 *He accounts himself lucky:* consider, regard, believe, think, judge, count, deem, hold, take to be; estimate, value. 6 *Can you account for your behavior?:* explain, justify, give a reason for.

accountable *adj.* *You will be held accountable:* liable, answerable, responsible, obligated.

Ant. exempt, innocent.

accountant *n.* *An accountant filled out my tax form:* certified public accountant, CPA; bookkeeper.

accredit *v.* 1 *The new college is fully accredited:* furnish with credentials, certify, li-

acerbity

cense, authorize, sanction, officially recognize. 2 *The invention is accredited to Thomas Edison:* attribute, ascribe, assign, credit.

accretion *n.* *The coral reef was built up by accretion:* increase, addition, increment, augmentation, accumulation, accrual, growth.

Ant. loss, decrease, diminution, shrinkage.

accumulate *v.* *Snow accumulated on the ground. He accumulated a fortune:* gather, gather together, pile up, amass, collect, accrue, assemble; save up, store up, hoard.

Ant. scatter, disperse, distribute.

accumulation *n.* 1 *an accumulation of junk in the attic:* collection, assemblage, conglomeration; mass, heap, pile, hoard, store; pile-up, aggregation, accrual. 2 *The accumulation of rare books is his pastime:* collecting, amassing, gathering; acquiring, hoarding.

Ant. 2 distribution, dispersing, dispersal.

accuracy *n.* *Check your work for accuracy:* accurateness, correctness, freedom from error; exactness, precision; truth, truthfulness, verity.

Ant. error, inaccuracy, incorrectness; lies, lying, fallaciousness.

accurate *adj.* *The drawing is accurate in every detail. He is an accurate mathematician:* correct, without error, unerring, true, truthful, faithful, faultless, exact.

Ant. incorrect, wrong, inaccurate; inexact, faulty.

accusation *n.* *The accusation is untrue. The accusation is grand larceny:* charge, allegation, complaint, citation, indictment.

Ant. reply, answer, rebuttal.

accuse *v.* 1 *accuse someone of murder:* charge, lodge a complaint against, arraign, indict, cite. 2 *accused of laziness:* charge, reproach, take to task, call to account, upbraid; blame.

Ant. 1, 2 reply, answer, plea, rebut.

accustomed *adj.* 1 *Painting barns red is an accustomed practice:* usual, common, normal, regular, general, customary, established, conventional, commonplace, ordinary, familiar, everyday. 2 *Alaskans are accustomed to cold weather:* used to, acclimated, seasoned, acquainted with, in the habit of, given to, habituated, prone.

Ant. 1 unusual, uncommon, rare, strange, unfamiliar, singular, infrequent, peculiar, unconventional. 2 unused, unaccustomed.

acerbity *n.* 1 *to receive uninvited callers with acerbity:* ill-tempered manner, brusqueness, sarcastic irritability, sarcasm, irascibility, nastiness, sharpness. 2 *the acerbity of citrus*

fruit: acidity, sourness, tartness, astringency, acridity.

Ant. 1 good nature, cordiality, good humor, affability.

ache *n.* 1 *A dentist can fix that ache*: pain, throb, twinge, pang, hurt. — *v.* 2 *The blow made my head ache*: hurt, feel pain, be sore, smart, throb. 3 *The child ached for a bicycle*: desire, want, crave, need, hunger, yearn, long for.

achieve *v.* 1 *to achieve a goal*: accomplish, attain, realize, reach, arrive at, fulfill; bring to pass, bring about, carry out, succeed in. 2 *Can anyone achieve perfect happiness?*: attain, obtain, realize, gain, earn, win.

Ant. 1 fail, fall short of. 2 lose.

achievement *n.* 1 *a stunning achievement*: accomplishment, attainment, fulfillment; exploit, feat, act, deed. 2 *Playing the piano is just one of his achievements*: accomplishment, attainment, acquirement.

Ant. 1 failure, defeat.

acid *adj.* 1 *These lemons are more acid than usual*: sour, tart, astringent, sharp, vinegary. 2 *an acid wit*: acerbic, acrimonious, sharp, biting, stinging, cutting, scathing, bitter, acrid, caustic, vitriolic.

Ant. 1 sweet, succulent; pleasant-tasting. 2 gentle, mild; pleasant; friendly, benign.

acknowledge *v.* 1 *to acknowledge defeat*: recognize, accept, admit, own, own up to, allow, concede, concur. 2 *The chair acknowledges the delegate from Ohio*: recognize, take notice of; call upon. 3 *Did he acknowledge your greeting?*: respond to, reply to; express appreciation for, thank for.

Ant. 1 disclaim, reject, deny, disavow. 2, 3 ignore, disregard, slight, reject; deny.

acknowledgment *n.* 1 *He gave her full acknowledgment for her help*: recognition, credit. 2 *his acknowledgment that he stole the money*: affirmation, admission, confession. 3 *Accept our grateful acknowledgment*: thanks, gratitude, appreciation; response, answer, reply.

Ant. 1, 2 denial, disavowal.

acme *n.* *the acme of her career*: height, peak, pinnacle, zenith, high point; crown, crest, apex, culmination.

Ant. depth, low point, bottom, nadir.

acolyte *n.* *Two acolytes attended the priest*: altar boy; novice, ministerial assistant.

acquaint *v.* 1 *Were you acquainted before?*: introduce, make known socially, meet. 2 *Let me acquaint you with the facts*: familiarize, apprise, disclose, reveal, advise, inform, enlighten, make aware.

Ant. 2 hide, conceal; withhold, hold back.

acquaintance *n.* 1 *He's just an acquaintance*: person slightly known, distant friend.

2 *We had a brief acquaintance with her*: friendship, association, dealings. 3 *The curriculum stresses acquaintance with the sciences*: familiarity, awareness, knowledge.

Ant. 1 stranger; good friend. 3 unfamiliarity, ignorance.

acquiesce *v.* 1 *I don't like the idea, but will acquiesce to it*: consent, agree, assent, allow; bow to, yield; admit, concede, comply, concur.

Ant. resist, fight, contest, object, disagree, dissent, demur.

acquire *v.* *to acquire a fortune. to acquire a knowledge of French*: get, obtain, attain, gain, procure; achieve, win.

Ant. lose, be deprived of; relinquish.

acquisition *n.* 1 *the museum's most recent acquisition*: acquirement, procurement, possession, property. 2 *the acquisition of knowledge*: attainment, obtainment, acquirement, procurement.

acquisitive *adj.* *an acquisitive person*: covetous, grasping, greedy, avaricious.

Ant. altruistic; generous.

acquit *v.* 1 *The jury acquitted the defendant*: declare not guilty, declare innocent, clear; exonerate; exculpate, absolve, let off, relieve, set free; exempt, excuse. 2 *to acquit oneself well in any situation*: conduct, behave, comport, act.

Ant. 1 convict, declare guilty; condemn.

acrid *adj.* 1 *acrid smoke*: caustic, harsh, sharp, bitter, burning, stinging, irritating, pungent; smelly, foul-smelling, malodorous. 2 *an acrid sense of humor*: harsh, sharp, biting, acid, nasty, vitriolic; sarcastic, ironic, satirical.

Ant. 1 sweet, pleasing. 2 gentle, sweet, benign.

acrimonious *adj.* *Don't be acrimonious about it*: sarcastic, spiteful, rancorous, bitter, ill-natured, nasty; venomous, vitriolic, caustic, cutting, biting.

Ant. pleasant, agreeable, good-humored, civil, polite.

acrimony *n.* *There was bitter acrimony between the candidates*: ill will, hard feelings, rancor, bitterness; animosity, hostility, spitefulness, antagonism, spite, scorn, animus.

Ant. good will, good feelings.

act *n.* 1 *a careless act*: deed, action, step, move; feat, exploit, accomplishment, achievement. 2 *caught in the act*: action, process of doing. 3 *an act of Congress*: official decision, law, edict, decree, enactment, legislation, bill, resolution, statute, order. 4 *the last act of Romeo and Juliet. His song and dance act was a sensation*: segment of

acting

a play, main division of a play; short performance, routine. 5 *Her sickness is an act to get sympathy*: pretense, pose, posture, fake, affectation, show. —v. 6 *Act now and save money during our sale*: do it, perform, do, function, execute, carry out; commit oneself. 7 *Act your age!* Miss Smith will act as chair: behave, conduct oneself, comport oneself; work, operate, function. 8 *When you see the gift, act surprised*: pretend to be, feign, fake, affect, simulate. 9 *to act the part of Hamlet*: perform, play, portray, enact.

Ant. 1 inactivity, inaction.

acting adj. 1 *She will serve as acting mayor*: temporary, substitute, provisional, officiating, interim. —n. 2 *Acting can be a difficult profession*: dramatics, thespianism, stage playing.

action n. 1 *The action of this crank turns the wheel*: work, effort; effect, influence; movement, motion. 2 *The fire department was called into action*: operation, activity, functioning, performing, performance. 3 *an unpopular action*: act, deed, step, move. 4 *We expect action on our complaint*: activity, work, effort, exertion, movement; committed attention, progress. 5 *The general has seen action in three wars*: combat, battle, fighting. 6 *a boring movie with no action*: movement, excitement, adventure.

Ant. 2 inaction, inactivity.

activate v. *These switches activate the elevator*: start, turn on, actuate, put into action, set going; drive, impel, motivate, energize.

Ant. deactivate, immobilize; stop, turn off.

active adj. 1 *an active teenager, the most active member of the team*: energetic, vigorous, lively, animated, peppy, spirited; busy, on the go, occupied, engaged, industrious, enterprising. 2 *Skiing is an active sport*: strenuous, energetic; vigorous. 3 *an active member of the club, an active volcano*: functioning, actively operative, acting. 4 *an active mind*: alert, quick, vigorous, lively; agile, spry, nimble, sprightly; industrious. **Ant.** 1–4 inactive. 1 torpid, sluggish, idle. 2 sedentary. 3 nonfunctioning; dormant. 4 sluggish, slow, dull.

activity n. 1 *The room was full of activity*: action, movement; enterprise; commotion, hustle, bustle; vivacity, liveliness, animation. 2 *We need a little activity to keep warm*: exercise, exertion, movement. 3 *What activities interest you?*: undertaking, pursuit, enterprise, function, venture, endeavor, project.

Ant. 1 inactivity, torpor, dullness. 2 relaxation, rest.

actor n. 1 *A good actor can play any role*: performer, thespian, dramatic artist,

adaptation

trouper, player. 2 *We are all actors in the drama of life*: participant, doer, functionary.

actual adj. 1 *an actual case*: real, existing, factual, true, genuine, bona fide, authentic. 2 *What is the actual location of the ship?*: real, physical, existent, existing; certain, sure; current, present, prevailing.

Ant. 1 fictional, fictitious, hypothetical, theoretical. 2 probable, conjectured.

actuality n. *In actuality he never liked her at all*: reality, fact, truth, point of fact.

actually adv. *The events depicted did not actually take place*: in fact, really, truly, genuinely, literally.

actuate v. 1 See ACTIVATE. 2 *actuated by greed*: motivate, prompt, cause, induce, stimulate, instigate, drive, impel, trigger; influence, inspire.

Ant. 1 See ACTIVATE.

acumen n. *His business acumen will help the company*: keenness, acuteness, smartness, astuteness; discernment, intelligence, wisdom, judgment; insight.

Ant. obtuseness, dullness, ignorance.

acute adj. 1 *an acute angle*: sharply pointed, sharp, peaked, needle-shaped. 2 *an acute headache, acute appendicitis*: severe, intense, fierce, powerful, very great, very bad, critical; excruciating, distressing, piercing, agonizing. 3 *acute intelligence*: keen, penetrating, piercing, sharp; discriminating, discerning, sensitive.

Ant. 1 obtuse, dull. 2 mild, moderate.

adage n. *"Live and let live" is an old adage*: saying, proverb, maxim, axiom, aphorism, epigram; dictum, truism, platitude, cliché, Informal old saw.

adamant adj. *He's adamant that we follow the rules*: insistent, unyielding, inflexible, fixed, set, firm, immovable, uncompromising, unbending, resolute, determined, obdurate.

Ant. yielding, flexible, pliant, compliant, compromising.

adapt v. 1 *The chameleon adapts to its surroundings by changing color*: adjust, conform, accommodate, assimilate, acculturate, attune to. 2 *The play is adapted from a novel*: reshape, shape, fashion, transform, rework; modify, change, alter.

adaptable adj. 1 *an adaptable person*: flexible, pliant, compliant, open-minded; obliging, accommodating, malleable. 2 *The new auditorium is adaptable for either theatrical or sports events*: usable, serviceable, applicable, accommodative; changeable, adjustable, alterable.

Ant. 1 inflexible, rigid.

adaptation n. 1 *The barn is undergoing adaptation to living quarters*: alteration,

add

modification, remodeling, conversion; adjustment, change. 2 *The TV series is an adaptation of a movie:* altered version, modification, reworking, reshaping.

add *v.* 1 *Let's add up the cost of our purchases:* total, sum up, count up, figure up, compute, calculate, reckon. 2 *Add one more item to the list. May I add a point or two?* include, attach, append, affix, join, tack on. **Ant.** 1 subtract, deduct. 2 remove, eliminate; take, take away.

addendum *n.* *The report has an addendum:* added section, supplement, addition, codicil.

addict *n.* 1 *Addicts must be identified and treated:* drug addict; *Slang* junkie, user. 2 *an opera addict:* devotee, fan, adherent, habitué; *Slang* nut, buff.

addition *n.* 1 *Addition is taught before subtraction:* mathematical summation, totaling, counting up, summing up, reckoning. 2 *The addition of a porch will increase the value of the house:* adding, including, joining, adjoining, annexing, appending, attaching; extending, increasing. 3 *The addition in cost over last year's bill is \$200:* increase, increment; enlargement, extra, additive, expansion. 4 *an addition to the town library:* annex, wing, extension, appendage; adjunct, addendum.

Ant. 1-3 subtraction. 2 subtracting, removing, removal. 3 decrease, reduction.

additional *adj.* *The charge for delivery is additional:* extra, added, added on, supplementary.

addled *adj.* *The witness was addled by the cross-examination:* confused, mixed-up, muddled, befuddled, nonplussed.

address *n.* 1 *Please print your name and address:* street number, city, and state; mailing address, postal address, street address; place of residence, dwelling, place of business. 2 *The Presidential address will be broadcast:* speech, talk, oration. —*v.* 3 *Address this letter:* write for delivery to, put an address on. 4 *The general addressed his troops:* give a formal talk, talk to, speak to, orate, lecture.

adept *adj.* *She's adept at organizational work:* skilled, skillful, expert, accomplished, masterful; good, able, adroit, gifted.

Ant. unskilled, inept, clumsy, awkward.

adequate *adj.* *Our hotel room was adequate:* suitable, satisfactory, sufficient, passable, tolerable; enough. *Informal* so-so. **Ant.** inadequate, unsuitable, unsatisfactory, insufficient.

adhere *v.* 1 *The decal doesn't adhere to the window:* stick, stick fast, hold, cling, cleave; glue; fix, fasten. 2 *He adhered to the faith of*

adjustment

his youth: be faithful, be loyal, be constant, keep, keep to, maintain, abide by.

Ant. 1 come unstuck, come loose. 2 break with, part from, leave.

adherence *n.* 1 *Put more glue on the wallpaper to increase its adherence:* adhesion, adhesiveness, stickiness. 2 *adherence to the rules:* strict observance, attachment, keeping to, obedience; loyalty, fealty, faithfulness, constancy, allegiance, devotion.

Ant. 2 disobedience, disloyalty, unfaithfulness, infidelity.

adherent *n.* 1 *a leader with many adherents:* follower, supporter, disciple; devotee, acolyte, pupil. —*adj.* 2 *Scrape off that adherent substance:* adhesive, sticky, sticking, gummy, viscous, viscid, clinging.

Ant. 1 opponent, detractor.

adhesive *adj.* 1 *Glue is an adhesive substance:* adherent, adhering, sticky, sticking, clinging; mucilaginous. —*n.* 2 *An adhesive will hold these cutouts in place:* sticky substance, adhering substance; glue, paste, rubber cement, cement, epoxy.

Ant. 2 solvent.

ad infinitum *He talks about his job ad infinitum:* ceaselessly, continuously, endlessly, unendingly, unceasingly; limitlessly, boundlessly.

Ant. occasionally, on occasion; never, seldom, infrequently, rarely.

adjacent *adj.* *Our farm is adjacent to yours:* next to, beside, right beside, abutting, bordering, next door to; contiguous with, continuous.

Ant. far from, distant from; separated from.

adjoining *adj.* *adjoining rooms:* joining, joined, touching, connected, contiguous, next-door.

adjourn *v.* 1 *He adjourned the meeting:* recess, suspend, discontinue; close, end, dismiss, dissolve. 2 *They adjourned to the living room:* repair, remove, withdraw, move.

Ant. 1 convene, be in session; assemble, gather, continue. 2 remain, stay.

adjudge *v.* *The justices adjudged the case:* decide, determine, consider, adjudicate, settle, rule, rule on; decree, pronounce.

adjunct *n.* *Railroads can be an adjunct to military operations:* accessory, supplement, complement, auxiliary part, subsidiary, secondary feature.

adjust *v.* 1 *Please adjust the thermostat:* set, fix, regulate, change, order. 2 *My eyes haven't adjusted to the dark:* accustom, acclimate, accommodate, adapt; fix, alter, modify, regulate.

adjustment *n.* 1 *These eyeglasses need adjustment:* adjusting, alignment, straighten-

adjutant

ing; fixing, regulating, modification, alteration; reconciliation, rectification. 2 *This knob on the TV set is the vertical adjust-ment*: control, regulator, adjusting device; setting. 3 *a period of adjustment*: settling in, settlement, acclimation, adapting.

adjutant *n.* *The general chose the major as his adjutant*: assisting staff officer, aide, assistant, right-hand man, right hand, aide-de-camp.

ad-lib *n.* 1 *The comedian's ad-libs were funny*: extemporaneous wisecrack, improvisation. —*v.* 2 *If you forget your speech, just ad-lib*: improvise, extemporize, speak extemporaneously, speak off the cuff, speak impromptu, *Slang* wing it.

administer *v.* 1 *to administer a large corpora-tion*: manage, run, direct, govern, super-vise, superintend, preside over. 2 *Adminis-ter the salve with a swab*: dispense, apply, give.

administration *n.* 1 *the administration of justice*: administering, application, execu-tion, management; dispensation. 2 *an execu-tive experienced in administration*: man-agement, superintendence, leadership, overseeing, governing, government. 3 *The teachers are responsible to the administra-tion*: officers, executives; governing body, management, managerial organization, government.

administrative *adj.* *an administrative problem*: executive, managerial, manage-ment, organizational.

admirable *adj.* *His honesty is admirable*: worthy of admiration, commendable, praiseworthy, laudable.

Ant. deplorable, reprehensible.

admiration *n.* *admiration for his courage*: high regard, high opinion, esteem; veneration, approval, respect.

Ant. low regard, disdain.

admire *v.* 1 *I admire your courage*: view with approval, hold in high regard, hold in es-teem, think highly of, esteem, praise, value, prize.

Ant. hold in low regard, view with disap-proval, disdain.

admissible *adj.* *admissible evidence*: capa-ble of being admitted, permitted, allowed, allowable, permissible, acceptable, admitta-ble.

Ant. inadmissible, unacceptable.

admission *n.* 1 *Admission is limited to in-vited guests*: admittance, permission to enter, entry, entrance, entrée, access. 2 *Ad-mission is \$3.00*: price of admission, en-trance fee; ticket; fee. 3 *an admission of*

adore

guilt: acknowledgment, confession, profes-sion, declaration.

Ant. 3 denial, disavowal.

admit *v.* 1 *Please admit the guests. Ten new lawyers were admitted to the bar*: let in, allow to enter, let enter, give access to, grant entrance; appoint, induct; receive. 2 *Did the thief admit his guilt?*: acknowl-edge, confess, profess, *Informal* own up.

Ant. 1 exclude, keep out. 2 deny, disavow.

admixture *n.* *an admixture of ingredients*: blend, amalgam, combination, composite, amalgamation, mixture, intermingling, commingling, commixture; conglomeration, jumble, potpourri.

admonish *v.* 1 *Admonish the guards to be on the alert*: warn, caution, put on guard; advise, enjoin. 2 *The preacher admonished him*: reprove, censure, reprimand, rebuke, reproach, remonstrate, chasten, scold, up-braid, criticize, take to task.

Ant. 2 praise, compliment, commend.

admonition *n.* *The judge gave the careless driver an admonition: drive slowly*: reprimand, mild reproof, scolding, reproach, re-buke; warning, chiding, cautionary re-minder, advice.

Ant. compliment, commendation, pat on the back.

ado *n.* *much ado about nothing*: bustle, com-motion, stir, bother, flurry, pother, fuss; to-do, turmoil, agitation, tumult, uproar, furor.

adolescent *n.* 1 *Most adolescents will finish high school*: teenager, teen, young teen, young man or woman, youth, schoolboy, schoolgirl. —*adj.* 2 *The script is adolescent*: for a teenager, befitting a teenager, not adult; immature, sophomoric, puerile, juve-nile; callow; youthful; childish, babyish.

Ant. 1 adult; child. 2 grownup, mature.

adopt *v.* 1 *Many childless couples adopt chil-dren*: become the legal parent of, take as one's own child. 2 *The schools must adopt new methods of teaching*: formally approve, accept, take up, follow, embrace, espouse; utilize, employ, use.

Ant. 2 give up, cast aside, cast off; spurn, forswear, reject.

adorable *adj.* *The little girl was adorable. an adorable dress*: lovable, delightful, precious, darling; appealing, charming, captivating, fetching, irresistible.

Ant. unlovable, hard to like, despicable; unappealing.

adoration *n.* *the adoration of God*: worship, worshiping, glorification, exaltation, veneration, adulation, devotion; honor, idoliza-tion.

Ant. blasphemy, reviling, execration.

adore *v.* 1 *He adores his wife. I adore your*