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EDITED BY THE PRINCETON LANGUAGE INSTITUTE
BARBARA ANN KIPFER, PH.D., HEAD LEXICOGRAPHER

— 2151 —
CENTURY
SYNONYM AND
ANTONYM LINDER

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INTRODUCTION

The *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* is designed to provide you with the most accurate, useful lists of synonyms and antonyms available in one volume. The compilation is entirely new, representing an up-to-the minute overview of English vocabulary, meaning, and use as we move toward the 21st century. It contains thousands of word entries, and over 200,000 synonyms and antonyms. The dictionary format and word selection have been chosen to most accurately reflect how writers use a word finder, eliminating the difficulties of other finders and word references by providing a varied list of synonyms and antonyms for each headword.

Successful writers strive to find the most precise words to describe their thoughts. Two marks of a strong piece of writing are the clarity with which ideas and images are expressed and the ability to hold a reader's interest. To achieve these goals, a writer must develop a vocabulary flexible and expansive enough to express fine shades and subtle nuances of meaning.

Using a reference work of synonyms and antonyms provides the opportunity to hone and refine your ideas, and to add color and variety to your vocabulary. Even experienced writers turn to a synonym and antonym finder when the word they have in mind is *not* the one they want to use—the instance may call for a word that is either broader or more specific, conveys a positive tone, or contrasts directly with the original idea. By exposing yourself to the thousands of word alternatives contained within the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder*, you will be able to breathe new life into your writing.

To begin your hunt for a synonym or antonym to a specific

word, simply look up that word within the A to Z arrangement of entries. You will find entries listed in boldface type, followed by the part of speech in brackets, and a concise, italicized definition. Beginning on an entry's next line, look for the extensive alphabetical listing of synonyms, followed by an accompanying list of antonyms. The selection of synonyms and antonyms is diverse, providing you with ample opportunity to decide which word will best suit your needs.

While the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* provides definitions for every headword, it is not the purpose of this work to define synonyms and antonyms; a dictionary is the appropriate tool for learning a word's etymology and meanings. Lack of familiarity with some of the alternatives listed in this book will prove that your research is broadening your vocabulary. Complete the process by turning to a dictionary for definitions of the many interesting and challenging words you discover.

Meanings and connotations are often dependent upon the context within which they are used. Writers fare best when they choose words that most clearly and explicitly signify the image or idea they desire to express. Every time you look up a word, you will find a list of words characterized by a varying degree of connotative similarity or opposition to the boldface entry. Some words within these lists will be exact synonyms and antonyms, while others will be related words which stray slightly from that direct parallel. When turning to the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* to locate an alternative to a specific word, always exercise care and discrimination in arriving at your final decision, making sure your new word will adequately carry the precise nuance you wish to convey.

The very process of browsing through this 21st century selection of compelling word choices will help clarify writers' thoughts providing them with an exciting springboard to new ideas and modes of expression.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Special features distinguish the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* from all previous references, making it the clearcut choice for all writers:

- *Part of speech*

The part of speech—noun, verb, adjective, adverb, or preposition—is listed for every headword. This feature prevents confusion over the proper use of a word.

intrepid [adj]

haggle [v]

- *Headword definitions*

Unlike other finders, the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* gives a concise definition (**cryptic** [adj] *secret; obscure in meaning*) for every main entry, insuring that you understand the word's meaning and use. For a more detailed definition, or a definition of any synonym or antonym, consult a dictionary.

- *Multiple entries for different uses*

Separate entries are presented for each of a headword's common uses. Words taking on several parts of speech (**elaborate** [adj] *intricate; involved* and **elaborate** [v] *make detailed; expand*) and those with several distinct uses of the same form (**glaring** [adj2] *bright, dazzling; flashy*) all have their own synonym and antonym lists.

- *First-time compilation containing new words*

The words you will find in the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* have been collected solely for the purpose of creating an entirely new reference, one that

accurately reflects the way we write and speak American English today. This book includes many new words and uses that have only recently entered the language through a variety of venues and academic disciplines, including:

hermeneutical [adj] *interpretive*

pastiche [n] *work of art formed from disparate sources*

downsize [v] *to decrease in size, especially workforce*

- *Nondiscriminatory word choices*

The *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* will help you rid your writing and speech of biased words and phrases. In particular, all headwords, definitions, synonyms, and antonyms use gender-neutral language, freeing offensive words from their sex-linked connotations.

executive [n] *person who manages organization*

■ **Syn** administrator, boss, businessperson, chief, commander, director, entrepreneur, government, governor, head, hierarchy, industrialist, leader, leadership, management, official, supervisor, tycoon; ■ **Ant** flunky, hired hand, laborer, menial, subordinate, underling, worker.

Whether you're composing a report, paper, letter, speech, or story, the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* will add variety to your writing and help you express yourself more clearly. Utilizing the most advanced linguistic theories, the *21st Century Synonym and Antonym Finder* is the perfect reference for students, teachers, businesspeople, professional writers, and people writing simply for pleasure. It puts writers and speakers in touch with the right word choices for all occasions.

A

abandon [*n*] *careless disregard for consequences* ■ **Syn** freedom, impetuosity, recklessness, spontaneity, thoughtlessness, wantonness, wildness; ■ **Ant** caution, control, deliberation, inhibition, moderation, prudence, repression, restraint, self-restraint, suppression.

abandon [*v*] *leave behind, relinquish* ■ **Syn** abdicate, back out, cast aside, desert, discard, discontinue, ditch, drop, drop out, duck, dump, leave, let go, opt out, pull out, quit, run out on, ship out, stop, surrender, vacate, walk out on, withdraw, yield; ■ **Ant** adopt, cherish, claim, defend, keep, maintain, possess, pursue, retain, support.

abandoned [*adj*] *free from moral restraint; uninhibited* ■ **Syn** depraved, dissolute, immoral, incontinent, licentious, profligate, shameless, sinful, unrestrained, wanton, wicked, wild; ■ **Ant** chaste, controlled, innocent, moral, principled, pure, restrained, upright, virtuous.

abase [*v*] *deprive of self-esteem, confidence* ■ **Syn** belittle, debase, degrade, demean, diminish, disgrace, dishonor, humble, humiliate, lower, mortify, reduce, shame; ■ **Ant** cherish, dignify, elevate, exalt, extol, honor, raise, respect, uplift.

abashed [*adj*] *exhibiting mental discomfort, ill at ease* ■ **Syn** ashamed, bewildered, bugged, chagrined, confounded, confused, crushed, daunted, disconcerted, embarrassed, fazed, fuddled, humbled, humiliated, mortified, rattled, shamed, taken aback; ■ **Ant** at ease, composed, confident, emboldened, heartened, pleased, proud, reassured, undaunted.

abate [*v*] *lessen, grow or cause to grow less* ■ **Syn** allay, cool, decline, decrease, diminish, dull, dwindle, ebb, let go, let up, moderate, quell, recede, reduce, slacken, slow, subdue, subside, taper, taper off, wane; ■ **Ant** amplify, enhance, enlarge, extend, heat up, increase, intensify, magnify, prolong, quicken, revive, rise.

abbreviate [*v*] *shorten*

■ **Syn** abridge, abstract, clip, compress, condense, contract, curtail, cut, cut back,

cut off, digest, pare, prune, reduce, shorten, summarize, take out, trim; ■ **Ant** amplify, elongate, enlarge, expand, extend, increase, inflate, lengthen.

abdicate [*v*] *give up a right, position, or power* ■ **Syn** abandon, abjure, abnegate, cede, demit, drop, forgo, give up, leave, quit, quitclaim, relinquish, renounce, resign, retire, surrender, vacate, waive, withdraw, yield; ■ **Ant** appropriate, arrogate, assert, assume, challenge, claim, defend, defy, hold, maintain, remain, retain, treasure, usurp.

abduct [*v*] *take by force and without permission* ■ **Syn** carry off, grab, kidnap, make off with, remove, seize, snatch; ■ **Ant** free, give up, let go, release, restore, return.

aberrant [*adj*] *not normal; varying from the usual* ■ **Syn** abnormal, atypical, deviant, different, nonstandard, odd, off-base, off-color, peculiar, strange, unusual, weird; ■ **Ant** natural, normal, regular, same, standard, true, typical, usual.

aberration [*n*] *different from that expected* ■ **Syn** departure, deviation, difference, distortion, divergence, diversion, irregularity, lapse, straying, wandering; ■ **Ant** conformity, sameness.

abet [*v*] *assist, help in wrongdoing*

■ **Syn** advocate, back, condone, egg on, encourage, endorse, goad, incite, promote, provoke, sanction, spur, support, urge; ■ **Ant** counter, denounce, deter, discourage, dissuade, frustrate, hinder, impede, obstruct, resist, thwart, undermine.

abeyance [*n*] *being inactive or suspended temporarily* ■ **Syn** deferral, discontinuation, dormancy, inactivity, intermission, latency, pending, postponement, quiescence, recess, remission, suspension, waiting; ■ **Ant** action, activity, continuance, continuation, operation, renewal, revival.

abhor [*v*] *regard with contempt or disgust*

■ **Syn** abominate, despise, detest, disdain, hate, loathe, scorn; ■ **Ant** admire, adore, approve, cherish, delight in, desire, enjoy, like, love, relish, treasure, value.

2 abide / abominable

abide [v1] *live in a certain place*

▪ **Syn** bide, dwell, inhabit, lodge, nest, perch, reside, room, roost, settle, squat, stay; ▪ **Ant** depart, go, journey, leave, migrate, move.

abide [v2] *remain or continue in a state*

▪ **Syn** continue, endure, keep on, last, persevere, persist, remain, survive; ▪ **Ant** leave, quit, refuse, stop.

abiding [adj] *continuing or existing for an indefinite time* ▪ **Syn** constant, continuing, enduring, eternal, everlasting, fast, indissoluble, lasting, permanent, perpetual, persistent, steadfast; ▪ **Ant** ephemeral, fleeting, impermanent, passing, temporary, transient.

ability [n1] *power to act, perform*

▪ **Syn** aptitude, capability, competence, comprehension, dexterity, endowment, faculty, intelligence, might, potentiality, qualification, resourcefulness, skill, strength, talent, understanding; ▪ **Ant** impotence, inability, limitation, paralysis.

ability [n2] *natural or acquired power in a particular activity* ▪ **Syn** adeptness,

adroitness, bent, capability, command, deftness, expertise, genius, handiness, ingenuity, knack, mastery, proficiency, savvy, skill, strength, talent; ▪ **Ant** clumsiness, ignorance, inability, inadequacy, inanity, incapability, incapacity, incompetence, ineptness, stupidity, weakness.

abject [adj] *hopeless and downtrodden*

▪ **Syn** base, contemptible, dejected, forlorn, groveling, hangdog, low, miserable, outcast, pitiable, submissive, wretched; ▪ **Ant** commendable, dignified, esteemed, exalted, excellent, honorable, hopeful, magnificent, noble, proud, worthy.

ablaze [adj1] *very excited*

▪ **Syn** afire, ardent, enthusiastic, fervent, fuming, furious, heated, impassioned, on fire, passionate, raging, stimulated, vehement; ▪ **Ant** dispassionate, dull, unenthusiastic, unexcited.

ablaze [adj2] *brightly illuminated*

▪ **Syn** aflame, aglow, brilliant, flashing, gleaming, glowing, luminous, radiant, refulgent, sparkling; ▪ **Ant** dark, dim.

able [adj1] *capable of performing; having an innate capacity* ▪ **Syn** adept, adroit,

agile, bright, capable, dexterous, effortless, endowed, equipped, facile, good, intelligent, knowing, powerful, ready, smart, strong, worthy; ▪ **Ant** incom-

petent, ineffective, inept, infirm, powerless, unable, useless.

able [adj2] *able to perform well; having a proven capacity* ▪ **Syn** accomplished, agile, brilliant, capable, clever, deft, dex-

terous, effective, efficient, experienced, facile, gifted, ingenious, intelligent, keen, learned, masterful, practiced, proficient, qualified, responsible, savvy, sharp, skillful, talented, trained; ▪ **Ant** delicate, feeble, inept, stupid, unqualified, untrained, weak.

abnegation [n] *denial, renouncement of something* ▪ **Syn** abandonment,

abstinence, continence, eschewal, forbearance, giving up, rejection, relinquishment, renouncement, renunciation, sacrifice, self-denial, temperance; ▪ **Ant** abandonment, acquiescence, admittance, concession, indulgence, surrender, yielding.

abnormal [adj] *different from standard or norm* ▪ **Syn** aberrant, anomalous, atypical, bizarre, curious, deviant, divergent,

eccentric, exceptional, extraordinary, heteroclit, heteromorphic, irregular, odd, peculiar, preternatural, queer, strange, uncommon, unusual, weird; ▪ **Ant** common, conventional, customary, natural, normal, regular, standard, straight, typical, unexceptional, usual.

aboard [adj] *on or in a transportation object* ▪ **Syn** boarded, consigned, embarked, en route, in transit, loaded, on,

on board, traveling; ▪ **Ant** not on, off.

abolish [v] *do away with or put an end to*

▪ **Syn** abate, abrogate, annihilate, annul, cancel, destroy, disestablish, dissolve, eradicate, expunge, extinguish, extirpate, finish, invalidate, kill, negate, nix, nullify, obliterate, overturn, prohibit, put an end to, quash, repeal, rescind, revoke, squelch, stamp out, subvert, supersede, terminate, undo, vitiate, void, wipe out; ▪ **Ant** build, confirm, continue, create, enact, establish, found, institute, legalize, promote, ratify, support, uphold.

abominable [adj] *awful, detestable*

▪ **Syn** abhorrent, atrocious, awful, base, beastly, contemptible, cursed, despicable, disgusting, foul, grim, hateful, heinous, hellish, horrible, horrid, loathsome, nauseating, odious, offensive, repellent, reprehensible, repugnant, repulsive, revolting, rotten, stinking, terrible, vile, wretched; ▪ **Ant** admirable, alluring, ap-

pealing, commendable, delightful, desirable, enjoyable, laudable, likable, lovable, pleasant, respectable, wonderful.

aboriginal [adj] *belonging to a place, existing in a place since prehistory* ■ **Syn** ancient, birth native, earliest, endemic, first, indigenous, native, original, primary, primeval, primitive, primordial; ■ **Ant** alien, foreign, immigrant, newcomer.

abort [v] *stop or cancel something*

■ **Syn** arrest, break off, call it quits, call off, check, cut off, drop, end, fail, halt, interrupt, miscarry, nullify, scrap, scratch, terminate; ■ **Ant** carry through, conclude, continue, execute, finish, follow through, keep.

abortive [adj] *failing to achieve a goal*

■ **Syn** failed, fruitless, futile, ineffective, ineffectual, miscarried, unproductive, unsuccessful, useless, vain, worthless; ■ **Ant** complete, consummated, effectual, efficient, fruitful, productive, successful.

abound [v] *overflow; exist in abundance*

■ **Syn** be plentiful, crowd, flourish, infest, luxuriate, proliferate, run wild, swarm, swell, teem, thrive; ■ **Ant** be deficient, fail, be lacking, be needed, be short, be wanting.

above [prep1] *higher in position*

■ **Syn** atop, beyond, on top of, over, superior to, upon; ■ **Ant** below, beneath, under, underneath.

above [prep2] *more, higher in amount, degree*

■ **Syn** beyond, exceeding, greater than, larger than, more than, over; ■ **Ant** below, deficient, fewer than, less than.

above [prep3] *superior to*

■ **Syn** beyond, exceeding, higher than, surpassing, transcending; ■ **Ant** inferior to, lower than, under.

aboveboard [adj] *candid*

■ **Syn** forthright, frank, honest, open, overt, square, straight, straightforward, true, trustworthy, truthful, veracious; ■ **Ant** deceitful, devious, evasive, lying, shady, underhanded.

abrasive [adj1] *irritating in manner*

■ **Syn** annoying, biting, caustic, cutting, galling, hateful, hurtful, nasty, rough, sharp, unpleasant; ■ **Ant** gentle, healing, likable, mild, pleasant, pleasing, soothing.

abrasive [adj2] *scraping or wearing*

■ **Syn** chafing, cutting, erosive, grinding, polishing, rough, scratching, scuffing.

sharpening, smoothing; ■ **Ant** smooth, softening.

abreast [adj/adv] *up-to-date*

■ **Syn** acquainted, au courant, au fait, contemporary, familiar, informed, in touch, knowledgeable, up, versed; ■ **Ant** lost, out of touch, unaware, uninformed.

abridge [v] *shorten*

■ **Syn** abbreviate, abstract, clip, compress, condense, contract, curtail, cut, decrease, diminish, lessen, narrow, reduce, restrict, slash, summarize, trim, truncate; ■ **Ant** add, amplify, augment, enlarge, expand, extend, increase, lengthen, pad, supplement.

abroad [adj] *in a foreign country*

■ **Syn** away, elsewhere, in foreign lands, in foreign parts, out of the country, overseas, touring, traveling; ■ **Ant** at home, here, nearby, remaining.

abrogate [v] *formally put an end to*

■ **Syn** abate, abolish, annul, cancel, dissolve, invalidate, negate, nix, nullify, quash, reject, renege, repeal, retract, revoke, vitiate, void; ■ **Ant** approve, establish, fix, institute, legalize, ratify, sanction, support.

abrupt [adj1] *rude or brief in manner*

■ **Syn** blunt, brusque, crusty, curt, direct, discourteous, gruff, impetuous, impolite, rough, rude, short, snappy, snippy; ■ **Ant** at ease, calm, civil, courteous, gracious, kind, polite.

abrupt [adj2] *happening suddenly and unexpectedly*

■ **Syn** hasty, hurried, jerky, precipitate, precipitous, quick, rushing, sudden, surprising, unanticipated, unceremonious, unexpected, unforeseen; ■ **Ant** anticipated, deliberate, expansive, expected, gradual, leisurely.

abscond [v] *run away, depart secretly*

■ **Syn** break, decamp, disappear, duck out, escape, fade, flee, get out, leave, make off, pull out, quit, run off, slip, sneak away, steal away, vanish; ■ **Ant** abide, continue, endure, give up, remain, stay, stop, yield.

absent [adj] *not present*

■ **Syn** astray, away, elsewhere, ghost, gone, missing, no-show, removed, truant, vanished; ■ **Ant** attendant, attending, existing, present.

absent-minded [adj] *unaware of events, surroundings*

■ **Syn** absorbed, bemused, distracted, dreamy, engrossed, faraway, heedless, inattentive, lost, oblivious, pre-

4 absolute / abstract

occupied, remote, unconscious, unheeding, unmindful, unobservant, withdrawn; ▪ **Ant** alert, attentive, aware, conscious, heedful, observant, wary, watchful.

absolute [adj1] *without limit*

▪ **Syn** complete, consummate, downright, entire, free, full, infinite, plenary, pure, sheer, supreme, thorough, total, unabridged, unadulterated, unconditional, unlimited, unrestricted, utter; ▪ **Ant** accountable, circumscribed, limited, restricted.

absolute [adj2] *in control or complete authority* ▪ **Syn** arbitrary, authoritarian, autocratic, autonomous, despotic, dictatorial, monocratic, preeminent, sovereign, supreme, totalitarian, tyrannical; ▪ **Ant** accountable, complaisant, compliant, restricted, submissive, tractable, yielding.

absolute [adj3] *certain*

▪ **Syn** actual, categorical, conclusive, consummate, decisive, definite, exact, factual, fixed, genuine, infallible, positive, precise, sure; ▪ **Ant** ambiguous, conditional, dependent, equivocal, indecisive, indefinite, limited, partial, questionable.

absolute [adj4] *excellent, perfect*

▪ **Syn** categorical, complete, faultless, flawless, ideal, impeccable, thorough, ultimate, untarnished; ▪ **Ant** blemished, flawed, imperfect, tarnished.

absolutely [adv1] *certainly, without question* ▪ **Syn** actually, categorically, decidedly, definitely, doubtless, exactly, positively, precisely, really, surely, truly; ▪ **Ant** conditionally, doubtfully, indefinitely, not certainly, not surely, probably, questionably.

absolutely [adv2] *in a complete manner, degree* ▪ **Syn** completely, consummately, entirely, fully, thoroughly, utterly, wholly; ▪ **Ant** fairly, incompletely, partially, partly, somewhat.

absolve [v] *free from responsibility, duty* ▪ **Syn** acquit, bleach, clear, discharge, exculpate, exempt, exonerate, free, go easy on, liberate, pardon, release, relieve, set free, spare, vindicate, whitewash; ▪ **Ant** accuse, bind, blame, charge, condemn, convict, hold, impeach, incriminate, obligate, punish, sentence.

absorb [v1] *physically take in a liquid* ▪ **Syn** blot, consume, devour, drink in, imbibe, ingest, ingurgitate, osmose, soak

up, swallow, take in; ▪ **Ant** disperse, dissipate, eject, emit, exude, spew, vomit.

absorb [v2] *mentally take in information*

▪ **Syn** apprehend, assimilate, comprehend, digest, follow, get, grasp, incorporate, learn, sense, soak up, take in, understand; ▪ **Ant** misapprehend, miss the point, misunderstand, not get.

absorb [v3] *occupy complete attention*

▪ **Syn** captivate, concern, consume, employ, engage, engross, fascinate, fill, hold, immerse, involve, monopolize, obsess, preoccupy, rivet; ▪ **Ant** distract, divert, draw away, sidetrack.

absorbed [adj] *being completely occupied mentally* ▪ **Syn** captivated, consumed, deep in thought, engrossed, fascinated, fixed, held, immersed, intent, lost, preoccupied, rapt; ▪ **Ant** bored, disinterested, distracted, indifferent, uninterested.

absorbent [adj] *capable of physically taking in a liquid* ▪ **Syn** absorptive, bibulous, dry, imbibing, penetrable, permeable, porous, pregnable, retentive, spongy, thirsty; ▪ **Ant** impermeable, impregnable, moistureproof, waterproof, water-repellent, watertight.

abstain [v] *hold back from doing*

▪ **Syn** abjure, abnegate, avoid, cease, constrain, decline, deny oneself, eschew, fast, forbear, forgo, give up, keep from, pass up, quit, refrain, shun, sit out, spurn, starve, withhold; ▪ **Ant** give in, indulge, partake, surrender, use, yield.

abstemious [adj] *restraining behavior or appetite* ▪ **Syn** abstinent, ascetic, austere, continent, frugal, moderate, restraining, self-denying, sober, sparing, temperate; ▪ **Ant** abandoned, gluttonous, greedy, hedonistic, hungry, immoderate, profligate, self-indulgent.

abstinence [n] *restraint from desires, especially physical desires* ▪ **Syn** abnegation, abstemiousness, asceticism, avoidance, chastity, fasting, forbearance, frugality, moderation, renunciation, self-denial, self-restraint, sobriety, teetotalism, temperance; ▪ **Ant** dissipation, drunkenness, excess, indulgence, intemperance, intoxication, revelry, self-indulgence, wantonness.

abstract [adj] *conceptual, theoretical*

▪ **Syn** abstruse, complex, deep, hypothetical, ideal, indefinite, intellectual, philo-

sophical, recondite, transcendental;
 ■ **Ant** actual, concrete, factual, material, objective, physical, real.

abstract [v] *prepare short document from longer one* ■ **Syn** abbreviate, abridge, condense, digest, outline, review, shorten, summarize; ■ **Ant** complete, expand, insert, lengthen, strengthen.

abstruse [adj] *difficult to understand*
 ■ **Syn** abstract, complex, deep, enigmatic, esoteric, intricate, involved, muddy, obscure, perplexing, profound, puzzling, recondite, subtle, unfathomable, vague;
 ■ **Ant** clear, comprehensible, concrete, direct, easy, lucid, obvious, plain, simple.

absurd [adj] *ridiculous, senseless*
 ■ **Syn** batty, crazy, daffy, foolish, freaky, illogical, incongruous, irrational, jokey, loony, ludicrous, nonsensical, nutty, off the wall, preposterous, silly, unreasonable, wacky; ■ **Ant** certain, logical, rational, reasonable, sensible, sound, wise.

abundant [adj] *plentiful, large in number* ■ **Syn** abounding, ample, bountiful, copious, exuberant, full, generous, heavy, lavish, luxuriant, overflowing, plenteous, profuse, rich, sufficient, teeming; ■ **Ant** lacking, meager, rare, scarce, skimpy, sparse.

abuse [v1] *physically hurt or injure*
 ■ **Syn** corrupt, damage, defile, desecrate, harm, ill-treat, impair, manhandle, mar, mishandle, misuse, molest, oppress, persecute, roughhouse, ruin, spoil, taint, victimize, violate; ■ **Ant** cherish, defend, help, preserve, protect, respect.

abuse [v2] *use wrongly*
 ■ **Syn** dissipate, exhaust, misemploy, mishandle, misuse, oppress, overburden, overtax, overwork, prostitute, spoil, squander, taint, waste; ■ **Ant** benefit, care for, esteem, prize, respect, revere.

abuse [v3] *attack with words*
 ■ **Syn** backbite, bad-mouth, bash, berate, castigate, defame, derogate, insult, offend, persecute, pick on, put down, reproach, revile, scold, upbraid, vituperate; ■ **Ant** acclaim, adulate, approve, commend, compliment, extol, laud, praise.

abuse [v4] *take advantage of*
 ■ **Syn** do an injustice to, exploit, impose on, use, wrong; ■ **Ant** cherish, esteem, honor, respect, revere, treasure.

abusive [adj] *exhibiting unkind behavior or words* ■ **Syn** calumniating, castigating,

contumelious, defamatory, derisive, insolent, invective, libelous, maligning, offensive, opprobrious, reproachful, reviling, rude, scathing, scurrilous, sharp-tongued, slanderous, traducing, upbraiding, vilifying, vituperative; ■ **Ant** complimentary, just, kind, respectful.

abysmal [adj] *having great extent; immeasurable* ■ **Syn** bottomless, boundless, complete, deep, endless, extreme, illimitable, incalculable, infinite, profound, thorough, unending, unfathomable, vast; ■ **Ant** fathomable, finite, limited, measurable.

academic [adj1] *relating to schooling, learning* ■ **Syn** bookish, book-learned, college, collegiate, erudite, intellectual, learned, pedantic, scholarly, scholastic, studious, university; ■ **Ant** ignorant, non-studious, unschooled, untaught, untutored.

academic [adj2] *relating to theories, philosophy* ■ **Syn** abstract, conjectural, formalistic, hypothetical, notional, speculative, theoretical; ■ **Ant** common-sense, functional, ordinary, plain, practical, realistic, simple.

accede [v] *agree or consent*
 ■ **Syn** accept, acquiesce, admit, comply, concede, cooperate, endorse, fold, go along with, grant, let, permit, subscribe, yield; ■ **Ant** condemn, demur, denounce, denounce, deny, disallow, oppose, protest, refuse, veto.

accelerate [v] *increase speed, timing*
 ■ **Syn** advance, drive, expedite, further, hasten, hurry, impel, precipitate, quicken, rev up, spur, stimulate; ■ **Ant** brake, decelerate, defer, delay, hinder, impede, postpone, retard, slacken, slow down.

accent [v] *place emphasis, importance on* ■ **Syn** accentuate, draw attention to, emphasize, highlight, intensify, punctuate, stress; ■ **Ant** attenuate, de-emphasize, downplay, lessen, minimize, slight.

accept [v1] *receive something given physically* ■ **Syn** acquire, gain, get, obtain, secure, take, welcome; ■ **Ant** decline, deny, discard, refuse, reject.

accept [v2] *allow into group*
 ■ **Syn** admit, receive, welcome; ■ **Ant** blackball, decline, deny, reject.

accept [v3] *believe*
 ■ **Syn** accede to, acknowledge, affirm, approbate, approve, fancy, favor, hold,

6 accept / accost

hold with, recognize, relish, trust; ■ **Ant** disagree, dispute, reject, renounce, repudiate.

accept [v4] *put up with*

■ **Syn** acknowledge, acquiesce, assent, bear, capitulate, defer to, endure, fit in, go along with, live with, recognize, stand, stomach, submit to, swallow, take, tolerate, yield to; ■ **Ant** demur, disallow, reject.

acceptable [adj] *satisfactory, agreeable*

■ **Syn** adequate, admissible, common, decent, fair, okay, passable, pleasing, respectable, sufficient, tolerable, unobjectionable, welcome; ■ **Ant** disagreeable, disturbing, inadequate, inadmissible, unacceptable, unsatisfactory, unwelcome.

accepted [adj] *generally agreed upon*

■ **Syn** acknowledged, approved, authorized, confirmed, conventional, customary, established, normal, orthodox, popular, preferred, recognized, regular, standard, time-honored, universal, unopposed, usual; ■ **Ant** irregular, questionable, unconventional, unorthodox.

accessible [adj] *approachable; ready for use*

■ **Syn** attainable, available, employable, handy, near, obtainable, open, operative, practicable, public, reachable, unrestricted, usable; ■ **Ant** inaccessible, limited, restricted.

accession [n] *coming to power*

■ **Syn** assumption, attainment, inauguration, induction, investment, succession, taking on, taking over; ■ **Ant** abdication, decline, deposition, fall, impeachment, renunciation, resignation, withdrawal.

accidental [adj] *happening unexpectedly*

■ **Syn** adventitious, chance, contingent, fortuitous, inadvertent, incidental, random, unexpected, unintentional, unplanned; ■ **Ant** decided, designed, essential, intended, intentional, planned, premeditated.

acclaim [v] *give approval*

■ **Syn** applaud, approve, boost, brag, celebrate, cheer, commend, eulogize, exalt, hail, honor, laud, praise, rave, recommend, salute; ■ **Ant** berate, censure, damn, denounce, disapprove, dishonor, vituperate.

accommodate [v1] *make room, lodging available*

■ **Syn** board, contain, domicile, entertain, furnish, harbor, hold, house, quarter, receive, rent, shelter, take in, welcome; ■ **Ant** turn away, turn out.

accommodate [v2] *perform service*

■ **Syn** afford, aid, assist, benefit, comfort, convenience, defer, favor, furnish, gratify, help, humor, indulge, oblige, pamper, please, provide, suit, supply, support, yield; ■ **Ant** bar, block, frustrate, hinder, impede, limit, obstruct, prevent, stop.

accommodating [adj] *willing to help*

■ **Syn** considerate, cooperative, friendly, handy, helpful, hospitable, kind neighborly, obliging, polite; ■ **Ant** alienating, disobliging, estranged.

accompany [v] *go or be with something*

■ **Syn** attend, chaperon, consort, convoy, date, escort, follow, guide, keep company with, look after, squire, take out, usher; ■ **Ant** abandon, desert, forsake, leave, quit, withdraw.

accomplice [n] *helper, especially in committing a crime*

■ **Syn** abettor, accessory, aid, ally, assistant, associate, collaborator, colleague, confederate, conspirator, insider, partner; ■ **Ant** adversary, enemy, opponent.

accomplish [v] *succeed in doing*

■ **Syn** achieve, arrive, attain, bring about, carry out, consummate, effect, finish, fulfill, gain, manage, perform, produce, reach, realize, win; ■ **Ant** abandon, fail, give up, not finish, nullify, relinquish.

accomplished [adj] *skilled in activity*

■ **Syn** able, adept, consummate, cultivated, expert, gifted, masterly, polished, practiced, proficient, sharp, skillful, talented; ■ **Ant** inept, inexperienced, unable.

accord [v] *give approval, grant*

■ **Syn** accede, acquiesce, admit, allow, award, bestow, concede, confer, endow, give, present, render, tender, vouchsafe; ■ **Ant** argue, challenge, deny, disallow, disapprove, oppose, question, refuse, withhold.

accordingly [adv] *in an appropriate, suitable way*

■ **Syn** appropriately, correspondingly, duly, ergo, hence, in respect to, in that event, properly, proportionately, respectively, subsequently, suitably, therefore, thus, under the circumstances; ■ **Ant** inappropriately, unsuitably.

accost [v] *approach for conversation or solicitation*

■ **Syn** address, annoy, bother, call, challenge, confront, cross, dare, entice, face, flag, greet, hail, proposition,

salute, welcome; ▪ **Ant** avoid, dodge, evade, ignore, scorn, shun.

accountable [adj] *responsible for having done* ▪ **Syn** answerable, charged with, culpable, liable, obligated, obliged; ▪ **Ant** blameless, innocent, irresponsible, unaccountable, unreliable, untrustworthy.

accredit [v] *give authorization or control* ▪ **Syn** appoint, approve, authorize, certify, commission, empower, enable, endorse, entrust, guarantee, license, recognize, sanction, vouch for; ▪ **Ant** deny, disapprove, reject.

accrue [v] *increase by addition or growth, often financial* ▪ **Syn** accumulate, amass, build up, collect, enlarge, flow, gather, grow, increase; ▪ **Ant** decrease, lose.

accumulate [v] *gather or amass something* ▪ **Syn** accrue, acquire, aggregate, amalgamate, bring together, cache, collect, compile, cumulate, expand, gain, grow, hoard, increase, mass, procure, profit, stockpile, store up, swell, unite; ▪ **Ant** disperse, dissipate, dwindle, lessen, lose, spend, squander, waste.

accurate [adj1] *precise*

▪ **Syn** concrete, correct, definite, distinct, exact, explicit, factual, matter-of-fact, meticulous, particular, proper, punctilious, punctual, right, rigid, rigorous, scientific, scrupulous, sharp, specific, strict, systematic, true, veracious; ▪ **Ant** careless, faulty, inaccurate, lax, vague.

accurate [adj2] *correct, without error*

▪ **Syn** absolute, authentic, authoritative, certain, conclusive, definitive, exact, final, flawless, genuine, infallible, irrefutable, official, perfect, right, straight, strict, true, truthful, valid, veracious; ▪ **Ant** doubtful, erroneous, false, inaccurate, misleading, mistaken, questionable, untruthful, wrong.

accuse [v] *place blame for wrongdoing, fault* ▪ **Syn** allege, apprehend, arraign, attribute, blame, censure, charge, denounce, file claim, hold accountable, implicate, incriminate, inculcate, indict, libel, litigate, name, prosecute, slander, sue, summon; ▪ **Ant** absolve, exculpate, exonerate, praise, vindicate.

accustomed [adj1] *being prepared for, used to* ▪ **Syn** acclimatized, acquainted, adapted, addicted, confirmed, disciplined, familiar, given to, in the habit,

inured, seasoned, settled in, trained; ▪ **Ant** unaccustomed.

accustomed [adj2] *normal, usual*

▪ **Syn** accepted, chronic, conventional, customary, established, everyday, expected, general, habitual, ordinary, regular, routine, set, traditional; ▪ **Ant** abnormal, unaccustomed, unusual.

ace [adj] *exhibiting expertise in some activity* ▪ **Syn** brilliant, champion, distinguished, excellent, expert, first-rate, great, master, outstanding, superb, virtuoso; ▪ **Ant** inept, unskilled.

acerbity [n1] *bitterness of taste*

▪ **Syn** acidity, astringency, sourness, tartness; ▪ **Ant** mellowness, mildness, sweetness.

acerbity [n2] *harsh speech, behavior*

▪ **Syn** acrimony, asperity, causticity, ill temper, irritability, mordancy, rancor, rudeness, sarcasm, vitriol; ▪ **Ant** kindness, mildness, sweetness.

ache [n] *sore feeling; dull pain*

▪ **Syn** anguish, hurt, misery, pang, pounding, smarting, soreness, spasm, suffering, throb, throbbing, throe, twinge; ▪ **Ant** comfort, ease, health, relief.

achieve [v] *bring to successful conclusion; reach a goal* ▪ **Syn** accomplish, actualize, attain, bring about, complete, consummate, do, end, execute, finish, follow through, fulfill, gain, manage, negotiate, obtain, perform, procure, produce, reach, realize, score, win, work out; ▪ **Ant** fail, fall short, lose, miss.

acid [adj1] *bitter, sour in taste*

▪ **Syn** acerbic, acidulous, biting, piquant, pungent, sharp, tart, vinegary; ▪ **Ant** bland, sweet.

acid [adj2] *having acidic, corrosive properties* ▪ **Syn** acerbic, acrid, anti-alkaline, biting, bleaching, corroding, disintegrative, eating away, eroding, erosive, oxidizing, rusting; ▪ **Ant** alkaline, basic.

acid [adj3] *bitter in words or behavior*

▪ **Syn** acerbic, biting, caustic, cutting, dry, harsh, hateful, mordant, nasty, offensive, sarcastic, sharp, stinging, trenchant, vitriolic; ▪ **Ant** kind, nice.

acidulous [adj1] *bitter, sour*

▪ **Syn** acerb, acerbic, acetous, dry, piquant, sharp, tart; ▪ **Ant** sugary, sweet.

acidulous [adj2] *bitter in speech*

▪ **Syn** biting, cutting, ironical, mocking, sarcastic; ▪ **Ant** kind, nice, sweet.

8 acknowledge / active

acknowledge [v1] *verbally recognize authority* ■ **Syn** accede, accept, acquiesce, approve, certify, defend, defer to, endorse, grant, own, ratify, support, uphold, yield; ■ **Ant** ignore, refuse, renounce, repudiate.

acknowledge [v2] *admit truth or reality of something* ■ **Syn** accede, accept, acquiesce, allow, attest to, avow, concede, confess, declare, grant, own, profess, recognize, yield; ■ **Ant** abjure, contradict, disavow, forswear, renounce.

acknowledge [v3] *take notice of, recognize receipt of something* ■ **Syn** address, answer, get back to, greet, hail, notice, react, remark, reply, respond, return, salute, thank; ■ **Ant** disregard, ignore.

acme [n] *pinnacle of achievement or physical object* ■ **Syn** apogee, capstone, climax, culmination, height, highest point, high point, meridian, optimum, peak, summit, top, ultimate, vertex, zenith; ■ **Ant** nadir.

acquaint [v] *inform oneself or another about something new* ■ **Syn** accustom, advise, apprise, clue, disclose, divulge, enlighten, familiarize, habituate, inform, introduce, make familiar, notify, present, reveal, tell, warn; ■ **Ant** conceal, deceive, falsify, hide, hold back, mislead, misrepresent, withhold.

acquiesce [v] *agree with some reluctance* ■ **Syn** accede, accommodate, adapt, adjust, allow, bow to, come around, comply, consent, give in, go along, pass, reconcile, set, submit, subscribe, yes, yield; ■ **Ant** disagree, dissent, object, protest.

acquiescence [n] *reluctant agreement* ■ **Syn** acceptance, accession, approval, compliance, concurrence, consent, obedience, permission, resignation, submission, yielding; ■ **Ant** disagreement, insubordination, rebellion.

acquire [v] *obtain or receive*

■ **Syn** access, achieve, amass, annex, attain, buy, catch, collect, earn, gain, gather, get, latch onto, pick up, procure, promote, secure, take, take possession, win; ■ **Ant** fail, forfeit, forgo, lose, relinquish, surrender, yield.

acquisitive [adj] *eager to obtain knowledge or things* ■ **Syn** avaricious, covetous, demanding, desirous, grasping, greedy, predatory, prehensile, rapacious; ■ **Ant** abnegating, abstemious, altruistic,

generous, giving, nonpossessive, self-denying, spartan.

acquit [v] *announce removal of blame* ■ **Syn** absolve, clear, deliver, discharge, exculpate, excuse, exonerate, free, let go, let off, liberate, release, relieve, vindicate; ■ **Ant** blame, censure, condemn, convict, damn, denounce, doom, sentence.

acid [adj1] *bitter, sour to taste*

■ **Syn** acid, amaroidal, astringent, biting, burning, caustic, harsh, irritating, pungent, sharp, stinging; ■ **Ant** delicious, palatable, savory, sweet.

acid [adj2] *nasty in behavior or words*

■ **Syn** acrimonious, austere, biting, bitter, caustic, cutting, harsh, mordant, sarcastic, sharp, trenchant, vitriolic; ■ **Ant** amicable, benign, complimentary, kind, nice.

acrimonious [adj] *nasty in behavior or speech* ■ **Syn** acerbic, astringent, biting, bitter, caustic, churlish, indignant, irascible, irate, mordant, peevish, petulant, rancorous, sharp, splenetic, tart, trenchant, wrathful; ■ **Ant** kind, kindly, peaceable.

act [v] *do something*

■ **Syn** accomplish, achieve, begin, carry out, create, develop, enforce, execute, function, labor, maneuver, move, officiate, operate, perpetrate, practice, pursue, respond, serve, take part, take up, undertake; ■ **Ant** abstain, cease, discontinue, give up, halt, hesitate, idle, refrain, stop.

acting [adj] *substituting in a role*

■ **Syn** ad interim, adjutant, alternate, assistant, delegated, deputy, interim, pro tem, pro tempore, provisional, surrogate, temporary; ■ **Ant** permanent.

activate [v] *initiate something; start a function* ■ **Syn** actuate, arouse, call up, energize, impel, mobilize, motivate, move, prompt, propel, rouse, set in motion, start, stimulate, stir, switch on, trigger, turn on; ■ **Ant** arrest, stop.

active [adj1] *having movement*

■ **Syn** alive, astir, bustling, efficacious, functioning, impelling, in process, mobile, moving, operative, progressive, rolling, running, rushing, shifting, traveling, turning, working; ■ **Ant** abeyant, dormant, immobile, inactive, inert, lazy, sluggish.

active [adj2] *very involved in activity*

■ **Syn** aggressive, animated, assiduous,

bustling, busy, dashing, dynamic, energetic, engaged, enlivened, enterprising, forceful, hard-working, industrious, intense, keen, lively, nimble, on the move, persevering, pushing, quick, rapid, ready, resolute, sharp, sly, zealous; **Ant** disinterested, idle, indifferent, lazy, quiescent, quiet.

actor [n] *person who performs, entertains by role-playing* ■ **Syn** artist, bit player, character, entertainer, extra, foil, headliner, impersonator, ingenue, lead, leading man/woman, mime, performer, play-actor, player, soubrette, stand-in, star, thespian, trouser, understudy, walk-on; **Ant** audience, fan.

actual [adj1] *truly existing, real*

■ **Syn** absolute, authentic, categorical, concrete, definite, factual, genuine, hard, indisputable, indubitable, physical, positive, realistic, substantial, tangible, true, undeniable, unquestionable, verified; **Ant** counterfeit, false, fictitious, imaginary, legendary, pretended, unreal.

actual [adj2] *existing at the present time*

■ **Syn** current, exact, existent, extant, live, living, original, prevailing; **Ant** hypothetical, imaginary, nominal, past, reputed, theoretical, unreal.

actuality [n] *something that truly exists, is real* ■ **Syn** achievement, actualization, attainment, fact, materiality, materialization, reality, substance, truth; **Ant** falseness, illusion, make-believe, pretense.

actuate [v] *start a function or action, motivate* ■ **Syn** activate, animate, arouse, cause, drive, energize, excite, impel, incite, inspire, instigate, mobilize, move, prompt, propel, quicken, rouse, spur, stimulate; **Ant** impede, stop.

acumen [n] *ability to understand and reason* ■ **Syn** astuteness, awareness, brilliance, comprehension, cunning, discernment, discrimination, farsightedness, grasp, guile, ingenuity, insight, intellect, intuition, judgment, keenness, perception, perspicacity, sagacity, sharpness, shrewdness, smartness, understanding, vision, wisdom, wit; **Ant** denseness, ignorance, inability, ineptness, obtuseness, stupidity.

acute [adj1] *deeply perceptive*

■ **Syn** astute, clever, discerning, discriminating, incisive, ingenious, intense, intuitive, judicious, keen, observant,

perspicacious, piercing, sensitive, sharp, smart; **Ant** dense, imperceptive, insensitive, obtuse, slow, stupid.

acute [adj2] *very important*

■ **Syn** afflictive, critical, crucial, dangerous, decisive, desperate, dire, essential, grave, serious, severe, sudden, urgent, vital; **Ant** not serious, unimportant.

acute [adj3] *severe, intense*

■ **Syn** cutting, distressing, excruciating, fierce, keen, overwhelming, piercing, poignant, racking, severe, sharp, shooting, stabbing, violent; **Ant** mild, moderate.

adamant [adj1] *unyielding*

■ **Syn** determined, firm, fixed, immovable, inflexible, obdurate, relentless, resolute, rigid, stiff, stubborn, unbending, uncompromising, unrelenting; **Ant** flexible, pliant, submissive, swayable, yielding.

adamant [adj2] *hard like rock*

■ **Syn** adamantine, flinty, impenetrable, indestructible, rock-hard, tough, unbreakable; **Ant** flexible, soft, supple.

adapt [v] *adjust to a different situation or condition* ■ **Syn** acclimate, accustom, alter, change, conform, familiarize, get

used to, harmonize, match, modify, prepare, qualify, readjust, remodel, revise, shape, square, suit, tailor; **Ant** disarrange, dislocate, disorder, disturb, unfit.

adaptable [adj] *able and usually willing to change* ■ **Syn** adjustable, alterable,

compliant, convertible, ductile, easy-going, flexible, malleable, plastic, pliant, resilient, supple, tractable, variable, versatile; **Ant** inflexible, intractable, non-conforming, unadaptable.

add [v1] *simple arithmetical process of increase; accumulation* ■ **Syn** calculate, cast, compute, count up, enumerate, figure, reckon, reckon up, sum, summate, tally, total; **Ant** deduct, subtract.

add [v2] *adjoin, increase; make further comment* ■ **Syn** annex, append, augment, boost, build up, charge up, continue, figure in, hike, include, join together, parlay, reply, say further, speed up, spike, supplement, tag; **Ant** decrease, deduct, diminish, lessen, reduce, remove, withdraw.

addicted [adj] *dependent on something, compulsive* ■ **Syn** attached, dependent, devoted, disposed, fanatic, fond, given

to, habituated, hooked, inclined, obsessed, predisposed, prone, under the influence; ■ *Ant* disinclined, independent, opposed, unaccustomed.

address [v] *devote effort to something*

■ *Syn* apply, attend to, concentrate on, devote oneself to, direct, engage in, focus on, give, take care of, take up, throw, try, turn, turn to, undertake; ■ *Ant* avoid, cut, disregard, ignore, overlook, pass, shun, slight.

adept [adj] *very able*

■ *Syn* accomplished, adroit, capable, deft, dexterous, expert, masterful, proficient, quick, savvy, sharp, skillful, smooth, versed; ■ *Ant* awkward, clumsy, incompetent, inept, unskilled.

adequate [adj] *enough, able*

■ *Syn* acceptable, all right, capable, commensurate, competent, fair, passable, requisite, satisfactory, sufficient, suitable, tolerable, unexceptional, unobjectionable; ■ *Ant* inadequate, inferior, insufficient, unequal, unfit, unqualified, unsuitable, useless.

adequately [adv] *sufficiently*

■ *Syn* acceptably, appropriately, competently, copiously, decently, fairly well, fittingly, modestly, satisfactorily, sufficiently, suitably, to an acceptable degree, tolerably, well enough; ■ *Ant* inadequately, insufficiently, unequally, unsatisfactorily, unsuitably.

adhere [v] *conform to or follow rules exactly*

■ *Syn* abide by, be devoted to, be faithful, be loyal, be true, cleave to, cling, comply, fulfill, heed, keep, maintain, mind, obey, observe, practice, respect, stand by, support; ■ *Ant* disjoin, not conform.

adhere [v2] *stick or become stuck to, either physically or mentally*

■ *Syn* attach, cement, cleave, cling, cohere, fasten, fix, glue, hold fast, paste, stay put, unite; ■ *Ant* loose, loosen, separate, unfasten.

adhesive [adj] *sticking*

■ *Syn* adherent, agglutinant, attaching, clinging, glutinous, gummed, holding, hugging, mucilaginous, pasty, resinous, sticky, tenacious, viscid, viscous, waxy; ■ *Ant* inadhesive, loose, open, separated, slippery.

adieu [n] *parting remark or action*

■ *Syn* adios, congé, farewell, goodbye, leave-taking, parting, so long, valediction; ■ *Ant* greeting, hello.

adjacent [adj] *next to, abutting*

■ *Syn* adjoining, beside, bordering, close, contiguous, near, neighboring, next door, touching; ■ *Ant* apart, away, detached, disconnected, distant, far, faraway, non-adjacent, remote, separate.

adjoin [v] *attach*

■ *Syn* add, affix, annex, append, combine, connect, couple, interconnect, join, link, unite; ■ *Ant* detach.

adjoining [adj] *being next to*

■ *Syn* abutting, adjacent, approximal, bordering on, connecting, conterminous, contiguous, interconnecting, joined, juxtaposed, near, neighboring, touching, verging; ■ *Ant* detached, divided, separate.

adjourn [v] *stop a proceeding*

■ *Syn* curb, defer, delay, discontinue, hold off, hold over, hold up, postpone, prorogue, put off, recess, restrain, shelve, stay, suspend; ■ *Ant* begin, convene, convoke, encourage, further, keep on, open.

adjudicate [v] *formally judge*

■ *Syn* adjudge, arbitrate, decide, determine, mediate, referee, settle; ■ *Ant* defer, ignore, not judge.

adjunct [n] *addition; help*

■ *Syn* accessory, addendum, appendage, appendix, appurtenance, associate, auxiliary, complement, detail, partner, subordinate, supplement; ■ *Ant* detriment, lessening, subtraction.

adjust [v] *become or make prepared, adapted*

■ *Syn* acclimatize, accommodate, accustom, adapt, compose, conform, dispose, fine-tune, fix, habituate, harmonize, modify, order, reconcile, rectify, remodel, suit, tailor, tune; ■ *Ant* confuse, derange, disarrange, disorder, disorganize, upset.

adjust [v2] *mechanically alter, especially to improve*

■ *Syn* align, balance, calibrate, connect, correct, fine-tune, fit, fix, focus, grind, improve, mend, overhaul, polish, put in working order, rectify, regulate, renovate, repair, service, set, sharpen, square, tighten, tune up; ■ *Ant* derange, disarrange, unsuit.

adjust [v3] *bring into agreement or to a standard*

■ *Syn* accord, allocate, arrange, clarify, conclude, conform, coordinate, fine-tune, fix up, grade, methodize, modify, organize, reconcile, regulate, settle, sort, standardize, straighten, systematize, tally; ■ *Ant* confuse, derange, unfit, unsuit.