

CHAMBERS
THESAURUS

Chambers Thesaurus

A comprehensive
word-finding dictionary

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Preface

What is a thesaurus?

Clearly it is a kind of dictionary; but whereas an ordinary dictionary gives the meanings of a word, a thesaurus supplies alternatives for it. It is the essential companion for anyone who wants to create something satisfying out of words – a quick, convenient source of synonymous and related terms that will help the user to express himself in as precise, succinct, and yet varied a manner as possible.

It is 130 years since Peter Mark Roget published his *Thesaurus*. His purpose was to provide the reader not only with synonyms for a word, but, more generally, with a wide choice of expressions relevant to a particular concept. His method was to classify these within a framework of ideas on seventeenth-century philosophical and scientific principles. This meant that a very full alphabetical index was needed to open up the classified lists to the user. It was probably the complications of this system that ensured the continued popularity of the more 'user-friendly' type of word-finding book already in production in Roget's time – the simple alphabetical list of words, each followed by its own group of synonyms. More recently there has emerged the type of thesaurus that, while preserving the alphabetical arrangements, acknowledges the value of Roget's approach by supplying with each entry related vocabulary on a rather broader, more comprehensive basis than that of mere synonymy.

Chambers Thesaurus belongs to this last type – it contains 18 000 of the commonest, most synonym-rich words in the language, alphabetically listed, each with a plentiful supply of alternative and connected expressions; selected antonyms have also been added wherever appropriate. It has all the recognised usefulness of any thesaurus – but its special advantage is that it draws on the resources of *Chambers English Dictionary*, known to dictionary connoisseurs and word-game enthusiasts alike as a mine of useful, interesting and diverting items of vocabulary.

What are the advantages of a thesaurus?

To a regular thesaurus-user they become ever more apparent. A thesaurus jogs the memory – it offers help to the person struggling to encapsulate his meaning in a forgotten *mot juste* that might remain tantalisingly on the tip of his tongue. It is indispensable to the journalist, writer and reporter. A thesaurus is fun to use, and with the fun comes the opportunity to enhance one's personal command of words and increase one's general knowledge; words that may not be well

known to the reader will trigger off investigations of his dictionary and lead him to explore the remoter corners of the language. Finally, a thesaurus is a tool that the word-gamester – compiler, player or solver – cannot do without.

The thing one notices about a thesaurus is that it rarely yields completely interchangeable alternatives for a word – but this is one of its beauties. What it gives is a list of possibilities that have more or less of a particular ingredient, are more or less formal, are more or less euphonious, that, in short, have more or less of the precise flavour sought by the user. English has its international origins largely to thank for its richness and subtle variety, and a thesaurus of English words, with their diversity of shape, size, sound and association, will surely yield that ideal unmistakably usable expression to fit a particular context.

The bias towards abstract terms in the main text has been balanced by the addition of a section that is a newcomer to this type of thesaurus: an appendix of concrete and technical terms drawn from the *Chambers English Dictionary* and collected alphabetically into categories such as architecture, furniture, vehicles, garments, rhetorical terms, legal terms, anatomical terms. There are also lists of collective nouns, names for collectors and enthusiasts, ranks in the armed forces, and wine-bottle sizes. Such words do not fit readily into synonym lists but may be no less sought-after for that. A list of the categories included appears on the Contents page.

A second appendix contains words listed by suffix. The *Chambers English Dictionary* has been combed to produce exhaustive lists of -ologies, -ocracies, -ographies, -philias, -phobias, -manias, -therapies, -hoods, -doms and some seventy other such groups. This is another innovative and intriguing addition to the standard thesaurus. These two appendices will be invaluable extras not only for the crossword-solver, but for all types of thesaurus-user.

How to use this thesaurus

Little explanation is needed, as the arrangement is deliberately simple. To take the word **ailment** as an example: the part of speech, *n.*, is given, and then a list of related and synonymous words in straightforward alphabetical order – affliction, complaint, disability, disease, disorder, illness, indisposition, infection, infirmity, malady, sickness, weakness. If none of the synonyms will do, many (in this case all) have entries of their own, providing further alternatives. It is the same with the antonyms: at **abiding** the word ‘transient’ is supplied as an antonym; the entry **transient** will give further opposites to ‘abiding’.

Separate parts of speech have separate lists of synonyms: thus at **act**, two distinct lists are provided for the word as noun and as verb; the list for each new part of speech begins on a new line.

There is coverage of phrases too: again at **act**, there are the sub-entries **act up** and **act upon**, each with its lists of synonymous expressions. Some phrases occur as independent entries rather than as sub-entries, and are ordered according to their first word. This means that all the phrases beginning with the word **in**, for example, will be found in an alphabetically arranged group *before* the word **inability**, and the phrase **de trop** must be looked for *before* the word **dead**.

Among the listed synonyms the user will find the occasional abstruse or colourfully unusual word, reflecting the broad coverage of *Chambers English Dictionary*. At **aftermath**, for instance, the words 'lattermath' and 'rowen', which correspond to the original meaning of aftermath (a second crop of grass), are included in the synonym list. As a general policy, however, the editors have excluded dialect and obsolete terms, unless such terms make an appearance in, say, a well-known song, poem or play.

The simple alphabetical arrangement of synonyms means that there is no classification of meanings within an entry, but many words that have strongly distinct senses are given two or more entries. For example, **bear** (carry . . . transport . . . sustain . . . endure . . . weather, etc) and **bear** (breed . . . engender . . . give birth to . . . produce . . . propagate, etc) have been entered as **bear**¹ and **bear**².

It is recommended that the thesaurus should be used in conjunction with a dictionary. *Chambers Concise Dictionary* will be a useful standard companion; the obscurer terms will be found in the fuller *Chambers English Dictionary*.

The editors hope that the reader will get as much enjoyment out of using this thesaurus as they have had in compiling it, and that it will be found to live up to the definition of **thesaurus** in the *Chambers English Dictionary* – 'a treasury, a storehouse of knowledge'.

Acknowledgement

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Thesaurus

Appendix I: classified word-lists

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air and space vehicles; alphabets and writing systems; anatomical; architecture and building; art; canonical hours; cattle breeds; cheeses; chemical elements; cloths, fabrics; coins, currencies; collective nouns; collectors, enthusiasts; colours; confections, dishes, foods; dances; dog breeds; drinks, alcoholic; French Revolutionary calendar; furniture, furnishings; garments, vestments; heraldry; herbs, spices; jewels, gems; Jewish calendar; languages; legal; minerals; musical instruments; parliaments; prosody; ranks in armed forces; rhetoric; titles of rulers; tools; units of measurement; vehicles; vessels, ships; weapons, armour; wine-bottle sizes; zodiac signs.

Appendix II: words listed by suffix

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A

abandon *v.* abdicate, back-pedal, cede, chuck, desert, desist, discontinue, ditch, drop, evacuate, forgo, forsake, give up, jilt, leave, leave behind, leave in the lurch, quit, relinquish, renounce, repudiate, resign, scrap, sink, surrender, vacate, waive, withdraw from, yield.

antonyms continue, persist, support.

n. dash, recklessness, unrestraint, wantonness, wildness.

antonym restraint.

abandoned *adj.* cast aside, cast away, cast out, corrupt, debauched, depraved, derelict, deserted, desolate, discarded, dissipated, dissolute, dropped, forlorn, forsaken, jilted, left, neglected, outcast, profligate, rejected, relinquished, reprobate, scorned, sinful, unoccupied, vacant, wanton, wicked.

antonyms cherished, restrained.

abandonment *n.* apostasy, cession, decampment, dereliction, desertion, desistance, discontinuance, discontinuation, dropping, evacuation, forsaking, giving up, jilting, leaving, neglect, relinquishment, renegation, renunciation, resignation, sacrifice, scraping, surrender, waiver.

abase *v.* belittle, cast down, debase, degrade, demean, discredit, disgrace, dishonour, downgrade, humble, humiliate, lower, malign, mortify, reduce, vitiate.

antonyms elevate, honour.

abacement *n.* belittlement, debasement, degradation, demotion, depravation, deterioration, disgrace, dishonour, downgrading, humbling, humiliation, lowering, mortification, reduction, shame, vitiation.

antonyms elevation, promotion.

abashed *adj.* affronted, ashamed, astounded, bewildered, chagrined, confounded, confused, cowed, discomfited, discomposed, disconcerted, discountenanced, discouraged, dismayed, dum(b)found(ed), embarrassed, floored, humbled, humiliated, mortified, nonplussed, perturbed, shamefaced, taken aback.

antonyms at ease, audacious, composed.

abate *v.* alleviate, appease, attenuate, bate, decline, decrease, deduct, diminish, discount, dull, dwindle, ease, ebb, fade, fail, fall off, lessen, let up, mitigate, moderate, mollify, pacify, quell, rebate, reduce, relieve, remit, sink, slacken, slake, slow, subside, subtract, taper off, wane, weaken.

antonyms increase, strengthen.

abatement *n.* alleviation, allowance, assuagement, attenuation, cessation, decline, decrease, deduction, diminution, discount,

dulling, dwindling, easing, ebb, extenuation, fading, fall-off, lessening, let-up, mitigation, moderation, mollification, palliation, quelling, rebatement, reduction, relief, remission, slackening, slowing, softening, subsidence, subtraction, tapering off, tempering, waning, weakening.

antonyms crescendo, increase.

abbey *n.* abbacy, cloister, convent, friary, monastery, nunnery, priory, seminary.

abbot *n.* abbé, archimandrite, general, head, prior, superior.

abbreviate *v.* abridge, abstract, clip, compress, condense, contract, curtail, cut, digest, epitomise, lessen, précis, reduce, shorten, shrink, summarise, trim, truncate.

antonyms amplify, extend.

abbreviation *n.* abridgement, abstract, abstraction, clipping, compendium, compression, condensation, conspectus, contraction, curtailment, digest, epitome, précis, reduction, résumé, shortening, summarisation, summary, summation, synopsis, trimming, truncation.

antonyms expansion, extension.

abdicate *v.* abandon, abjure, abnegate, cede, demit, forgo, give up, quit, relinquish, renounce, repudiate, resign, retire, surrender, vacate, yield.

abdication *n.* abandonment, abjuration, abnegation, cession, giving up, quitting, relinquishment, renunciation, resignation, retiral, retirement, surrender.

abdomen *n.* belly, bread-basket, corporation, guts, hind-body, midriff, paunch, pot, stomach, tum, tummy, venter.

abdominal *adj.* coeliac, gastric, intestinal, stomachic(al), ventral, ventricular, visceral.

abduct *v.* abduce, appropriate, carry off, kidnap, lay hold of, make off with, rape, run away with, run off with, seduce, seize, snatch, spirit away.

abducted *adj.* appropriated, enlevé, kidnapped, seduced, seized, snatched, stolen.

abduction *n.* appropriation, enlèvement, kidnap, rape, seduction, seizure, theft.

aberrant *adj.* abnormal, anomalous, atypical, corrupt, corrupted, defective, degenerate, depraved, deviant, different, divergent, eccentric, egregious, erroneous, incongruous, irregular, odd, peculiar, perverse, perverted, queer, quirky, rambling, roving, straying, untypical, wandering, wrong.

antonyms normal, straight.

aberration *n.* aberrancy, abnormality, anomaly, defect, delusion, deviation, divergence,

eccentricity, freak, hallucination, illusion, irregularity, lapse, nonconformity, oddity, peculiarity, quirk, rambling, rogue, straying, vagary, wandering.

antonyms conformity.

abet *v.* aid, assist, back, condone, connive, egg on, encourage, goad, help, incite, promote, prompt, sanction, second, spur, succour, support, sustain, uphold, urge.

antonym discourage.

abettor *n.* accessory, accomplice, assistant, associate, backer, confederate, conniver, co-operator, encourager, fautor, fomentor, goad, helper, henchman, inciter, instigator, particeps criminis, prompter, second, supporter.

abeyance *n.* adjournment, deferral, discontinuation, inactivity, intermission, lull, postponement, recess, remission, reservation, suspension, waiting.

antonyms activity, continuation.

abhor *v.* abominate, despise, detest, execrate, hate, loathe, recoil from, shrink from, shudder at, spurn.

antonyms adore, love.

abhorrence *n.* abomination, animosity, aversion, despite, detestation, disgust, distaste, enmity, execration, hate, hatred, horror, loathing, malice, odium, repugnance, revulsion.

antonyms adoration, love.

abhorrent *adj.* abominable, absonant, despicable, detestable, disgusting, distasteful, execrable, hated, hateful, heinous, horrible, horrid, loathsome, nauseating, obnoxious, odious, offensive, repellent, repugnant, repulsive, revolting.

antonym attractive.

abide *v.* accept, bear, brook, continue, endure, last, outlive, persist, put up with, remain, stand, stay, stomach. submit to, suffer, survive, tarry, tolerate.

antonyms dispute, quit.

abide by acknowledge, acquiesce in, adhere to, agree to, carry out, comply with, conform to, discharge, follow, fulfil, go along with, hold to, keep to, obey, observe, stand by, submit to.

abiding *adj.* constant, continual, continuing, continuous, durable, enduring, eternal, everlasting, fast, firm, immortal, immutable, indissoluble, lasting, permanent, persistent, persisting, stable, steadfast, surviving, tenacious, unchangeable, unchanging, unending.

antonyms ephemeral, transient.

ability *n.* adeptness, adroitness, aptitude, capability, capacity, competence, competency, deftness, dexterity, endowment, energy, expertise, expertness, facility, faculty, flair, forte, genius, gift, knack, know-how, long suit, nous, potentiality, power, proficiency, qualification, savoir-faire, savvy, skill, strength, talent, touch.

antonyms inability, incompetence.

abject *adj.* base, contemptible, cringing, debased, degenerate, degraded, deplorable,

despicable, dishonourable, execrable, fawning, forlorn, grovelling, hopeless, humiliating, ignoble, ignominious, low, mean, miserable, outcast, pathetic, pitiable, servile, slavish, sordid, submissive, vile, worthless, wretched.

antonym exalted.

abjuration *n.* abnegation, abstention, denial, disavowal, disclaiming, disclamation, eschewal, forswearing, recantation, refusal, rejection, relinquishment, renunciation, retraction, self-denial.

antonyms agreement, assent, support.

abjure *v.* abandon, abnegate, abstain from, deny, disavow, discard, disclaim, disown, eschew, forsake, forswear, give up, recant, refrain from, reject, relinquish, renege on, renounce, retract.

antonyms agree, assent, support.

ablaze *adj.* afire, aflame, aglow, alight, angry, aroused, blazing, brilliant, burning, enthusiastic, excited, exhilarated, fervent, fiery, flaming, flashing, frenzied, fuming, furious, glaring, gleaming, glowing, ignited, illuminated, impassioned, incandescent, incensed, lighted, luminous, on fire, passionate, radiant, raging, sparkling, stimulated.

able *adj.* accomplished, adept, adequate, adroit, capable, clever, competent, deft, dexterous, effective, efficient, experienced, expert, fere, fit, fitted, gifted, ingenious, masterful, masterly, powerful, practised, proficient, qualified, skilful, skilled, strong, talented.

antonyms incapable, incompetent.

able-bodied *adj.* firm, fit, hale, hardy, healthy, hearty, lusty, powerful, robust, sound, stalwart, staunch, stout, strapping, strong, sturdy, tough, vigorous.

antonyms delicate, infirm.

ablution *n.* bath, bathing, cleansing, lavation, purgation, purging, purification, shower, wash, washing.

abnegate *v.* abandon, abdicate, abjure, abstain from, acquiesce, concede, decline, deny, disallow, eschew, forbear, forgo, forsake, give up, refrain from, reject, relinquish, renounce, sacrifice, submit, surrender, yield.

abnegation abandonment, abjuration, abstinence, acquiescence, continence, disallowance, eschewal, forbearance, giving up, refusal, rejection, relinquishment, renunciation, sacrifice, self-denial, submission, surrender, temperance.

antonyms acceptance, support.

abnormal *adj.* aberrant, anomalous, atypical, curious, deviant, different, divergent, eccentric, erratic, exceptional, extraordinary, irregular, monstrous, odd, paranormal, peculiar, queer, singular, strange, uncanny, uncommon, unexpected, unnatural, untypical, unusual, wayward, weird.

antonyms normal, straight.

abnormality *n.* aberration, anomaly, atypicalness, bizarreness, deformity, deviation, difference, divergence, dysfunction, eccentricity, exception, flaw, irregularity,

monstrosity, oddity, peculiarity, queerness, singularity, strangeness, uncommonness, unexpectedness, unnaturalness, untypicalness, unusualness, weirdness.

antonym normality.

abode *n.* domicile, dwelling, dwelling-place, habitat, habitation, home, house, lodging, pad, place, quarters, residence.

abolish *v.* abrogate, annihilate, annul, blot out, cancel, destroy, do away with, eliminate, end, eradicate, expunge, exterminate, extinguish, extirpate, get rid of, invalidate, kibosh, nullify, obliterate, overthrow, overturn, put an end to, put the kibosh on, quash, repeal, repudiate, rescind, revoke, sink, stamp out, subvert, suppress, terminate, vitiate, void, wipe out.
antonyms continue, retain.

abolition *n.* abolishment, abrogation, annihilation, annulment, cancellation, destruction, dissolution, elimination, end, ending, eradication, expunction, extermination, extinction, extirpation, invalidation, nullification, obliteration, overthrow, overturning, quashing, repeal, repudiation, rescission, revocation, subversion, suppression, termination, vitiation, voiding, withdrawal.
antonyms continuance, retention.

abominable *adj.* abhorrent, accursed, appalling, atrocious, base, beastly, contemptible, despicable, detestable, disgusting, execrable, foul, hateful, heinous, hellish, horrible, horrid, loathsome, nauseating, nauseous, nefarious, nefast, obnoxious, odious, repellent, reprehensible, repugnant, repulsive, revolting, terrible, vile, villainous, wretched.
antonyms delightful, desirable.

abominate *v.* abhor, condemn, despise, detest, execrate, hate, loathe.
antonyms adore, esteem, love.

abomination *n.* abhorrence, anathema, animosity, animus, antipathy, aversion, bête noire, bugbear, curse, detestation, disgrace, disgust, distaste, evil, execration, hate, hatred, horror, hostility, loathing, odium, offence, plague, repugnance, revulsion, torment.
antonyms adoration, delight.

aboriginal *adj.* ancient, autochthonic, autochthonous, domestic, earliest, enchorial, endemic, first, indigenous, native, original, primal, primary, primeval, primitive, primordial, pristine.

aborigine *n.* aboriginal, autochthon, indigene, native, warragal.
antonyms immigrant, incomer.

abort *v.* arrest, call off, check, end, fail, frustrate, halt, miscarry, nullify, stop, terminate, thwart.
antonym continue.

abortion *n.* aborticide, disappointment, failure, fiasco, foeticide, freak, frustration, misadventure, misbirth, miscarriage, monster, monstrosity, termination, thwarting.
antonyms continuation, success.

abortive *adj.* barren, bootless, failed, failing, fruitless, futile, idle, ineffective, ineffectual,

misborn, miscarried, sterile, unavailing, unproductive, unsuccessful, useless, vain.
antonym successful.

abound *v.* be plentiful, brim over, crowd, exuberate, flourish, increase, infest, luxuriate, overflow, proliferate, run riot, superabound, swarm, swell, teem, thrive.
antonym be in short supply.

abounding *adj.* abundant, bountiful, copious, filled, flourishing, flowing, flush, full, lavish, luxuriant, overflowing, plenteous, plentiful, prodigal, profuse, prolific, rank, replete, rich, superabundant, teeming, unstinting.
antonym lacking.

about *prep.* adjacent to, all over, anent, around, as regards, beside, busy with, circa, close to, concerned with, concerning, connected with, encircling, encompassing, engaged on, in respect to, in the matter of, near, nearby, on, over, re, referring to, regarding, relating to, relative to, respecting, round, surrounding, through, throughout, touching, with reference to, with regard to, with respect to.

adv. active, almost, approaching, approximately, around, astir, close to, from place to place, here and there, hither and thither, in motion, in the region of, more or less, nearing, nearly, present, roughly, stirring, to and fro.
about to all but, intending to, on the point of, on the verge of, preparing to, ready to.

about-turn *n.* about-face, apostasy, backtrack, enantiodromia, reversal, right-about (face), turnabout, turn(a)round, ucy, U-turn, volte-face.

above *prep.* atop, before, beyond, exceeding, higher than, in excess of, on top of, over, prior to, superior to, surpassing, upon.
antonyms below, under.

adv. aloft, atop, earlier, heavenwards, in heaven, on high, overhead, supra.
antonym below.

adj. above-mentioned, above-stated, aforementioned, aforesaid, earlier, foregoing, preceding, previous, prior.

above-suspicion above reproach, blameless, guiltless, honourable, innocent, irreproachable, pure, sinless, unimpeachable, virtuous.

above-board *adj.* candid, fair, fair and square, forthright, frank, guileless, honest, honourable, legitimate, on the level, open, overt, reputable, square, straight, straightforward, true, trustworthy, truthful, upright, veracious.

antonyms shady, underhand.

abrade *v.* chafe, erase, erode, file, grind, levigate, rub off, scour, scrape, triturate, wear away, wear down, wear off.

abrasion *n.* abrading, chafe, chafing, erosion, friction, grating, graze, grinding, levigation, rubbing, scouring, scrape, scraping, scratch, scratching, scuff, scuffing, trituration, wearing away, wearing down.

abrasive *adj.* abradant, annoying, attritional, biting, caustic, chafing, erodent, erosive, frictional, galling, grating, hurtful, irritating,

nasty, rough, scraping, scratching, scratchy, scuffling, sharp, unpleasant.

antonyms pleasant, smooth.

abreast *adj.* acquainted, au courant, au fait, conversant, familiar, in the picture, in touch, informed, knowledgeable, on the ball, up to date.

antonyms out of touch, unaware.

abridge *v.* abbreviate, abstract, circumscribe, clip, compress, concentrate, condense, contract, curtail, cut, cut down, decrease, digest, diminish, dock, epitomise, lessen, lop, précis, prune, reduce, shorten, summarise, synopsise, trim, truncate.

antonyms amplify, pad.

abridgement *n.* abbreviation, abrégé, abstract compendium, compression, concentration, condensation, conspectus, contraction, curtailment, cutting, decrease, digest, diminishing, diminution, epitome, lessening, limitation, outline, précis, pruning, reduction, restriction, résumé, shortening, summary, synopsis, truncation.

antonyms expansion, padding.

abroad *adv.* about, at large, away, circulating, current, elsewhere, extensively, far, far and wide, forth, in circulation, in foreign parts, out, out of the country, out-of-doors, outside, overseas, publicly, widely.

abrogate *v.* abolish, annul, cancel, countermand, disannul, discontinue, disenact, dissolve, end, invalidate, nullify, override, overrule, quash, recall, repeal, repudiate, rescind, retract, reverse, revoke, scrap, set aside, terminate, void, withdraw.

antonyms establish, institute.

abrogation *n.* abolition, annulling, annulment, cancellation, countermanding, defeasance, disannulment, discontinuation, ending, invalidation, nullification, overriding, overruling, quashing, repeal, repudiation, rescission, retraction, reversal, revocation, scrapping, setting aside, termination, voiding, withdrawal.

antonyms continuation, retention.

abrupt *adj.* blunt, brief, brisk, broken, brusque, curt, direct, disconnected, discontinuous, discourteous, gruff, hasty, headlong, hurried, impolite, irregular, jerky, precipitate, precipitous, prurient, quick, rapid, rough, rude, sharp, sheer, short, snappy, steep, sudden, surprising, swift, terse, unannounced, unceremonious, uncivil, uneven, unexpected, unforeseen, ungracious.

antonyms ceremonious, expansive, leisurely.

abscond *v.* absquatulate, beat it, bolt, clear out, decamp, disappear, do a bunk, escape, flee, flit, fly, hightail it, levant, make off, quit, run off, scam, skedaddle, skive, take French leave, vamoose.

absconder *n.* absentee, bolter, escapee, levanter, quitter, truant.

absence *n.* absenteism, absent-mindedness, abstraction, dearth, default, defect, deficiency, distraction, inattention, lack, need,

non-appearance, non-attendance, non-existence, omission, paucity, preoccupation, privation, reverie, scarcity, truancy, unavailability, vacancy, vacuity, want.

antonyms existence, presence.

absent *adj.* absent-minded, absorbed, abstracted, away, bemused, blank, daydreaming, distracted, distraitt(e), dreamy, elsewhere, empty, faraway, gone, heedless, inattentive, lacking, missing, musing, non-existent, not present, oblivious, out, preoccupied, truant, unavailable, unaware, unconscious, unheeding, unthinking, vague, wanting, withdrawn, wool-gathering.

antonyms aware, present.

absent-minded *adj.* absent, absorbed, abstracted, bemused, distracted, distraitt(e), dreaming, dreamy, engrossed, faraway, forgetful, heedless, impractical, inattentive, musing, oblivious, otherworldly, pensive, preoccupied, scatterbrained, unaware, unconscious, unheeding, unthinking, withdrawn, wool-gathering.

antonyms matter-of-fact, attentive, practical.

absent-mindedness *n.* absence, absorption, abstraction, distraction, dreaminess, forgetfulness, heedlessness, inattention, muse, preoccupation, unawareness, vacancy, vagueness.

antonym alertness.

absolute *adj.* absolutist, actual, almighty, arbitrary, autarchical, autocratic, autonomous, categorical, certain, complete, conclusive, consummate, decided, decisive, definite, definitive, despotic, dictatorial, downright, entire, exact, exhaustive, final, flawless, free, full, genuine, independent, indubitable, infallible, omnipotent, out-and-out, outright, peremptory, perfect, positive, precise, pure, sheer, sovereign, supreme, sure, terminative, thorough, total, totalitarian, tyrannical, unadulterated, unalloyed, unambiguous, unbounded, unconditional, uncontrolled, undivided, unequivocal, unlimited, unmitigated, unmixed, unqualified, unquestionable, unrestrained, unrestricted, utter.

antonyms conditional, partial.

absolutely *adv.* actually, arbitrarily, autocratically, autonomously, bang, categorically, certainly, completely, conclusively, consummately, dead, decidedly, decisively, definitely, despotically, diametrically, dictatorially, entirely, exactly, exhaustively, finally, fully, genuinely, indubitably, infallibly, peremptorily, perfectly, positively, precisely, purely, sovereignly, supremely, surely, thoroughly, totally, truly, tyrannically, unambiguously, unconditionally, unequivocally, unmitigatedly, unquestionably, unrestrainedly, utterly, wholly.

absolution *n.* acquittal, acquittance, amnesty, compurgation, deliverance, discharge, dispensation, emancipation, exculpation, exemption, exoneration, forgiveness, forgiving, freeing, indulgence, liberation, mercy,

pardon, purgation, redemption, release, remission, thriving, vindication.
antonym condemnation.

absolve *v.* acquit, clear, deliver, discharge, emancipate, exculpate, excuse, exempt, exonerate, forgive, free, justify, let off, liberate, loose, pardon, ransom, redeem, release, remit, set free, shrive, vindicate.
antonym charge.

absorb *v.* adsorb, apprehend, assimilate, captivate, consume, co-opt, devour, digest, drink in, engage, engross, engulf, enthrall, enwrap, exhaust, fascinate, fill (up), fix, grip, hold, imbibe, immerse, incorporate, ingest, involve, monopolise, occupy, osmose, pre-occupy, receive, retain, rivet, soak up, sorb, submerge, suck up, take in, understand, utilise.

antonyms dissipate, exude.

absorbed *adj.* captivated, concentrating, engaged, engrossed, enthralled, fascinated, fixed, gripped, held, immersed, intent, involved, lost, obsessed, occupied, pre-occupied, rapt, riveted, wrapped up.
antonyms bored, distracted.

absorbent *adj.* absorptive, assimilative, blotting, permeable, pervious, porous, receptive, resorbent, retentive, sorbefacient, sorbent, spongy.
antonym impermeable.

absorbing *adj.* amusing, arresting, captivating, compulsive, diverting, engrossing, entertaining, enthralling, fascinating, gripping, interesting, intriguing, preoccupying, riveting, spellbinding, unputdownable.
antonyms boring, off-putting.

absorption *n.* adsorption, assimilation, attentiveness, captivity, concentration, consumption, digestion, engagement, exhaustion, fascination, holding, imbibition, immersion, incorporation, ingestion, intentness, involvement, occupation, osmosis, preoccupation, raptness, soaking up, sucking up.

abstain *v.* avoid, cease, decline, deny, desist, eschew, forbear, forgo, give up, keep from, refrain, refuse, reject, renounce, resist, shun, stop, swear off, withhold.
antonym indulge.

abstemious *adj.* abstinent, ascetic, austere, continent, disciplined, frugal, moderate, restrained, self-denying, self-disciplined, sober, sparing, temperate

antonyms gluttonous, intemperate, luxurious.
abstinence *n.* abstaining, abstinence, avoidance, continence, desistance, eschewal, forbearance, frugality, nephalism, non-indulgence, refraining, refusal, restraint, self-control, self-denial, self-discipline, self-restraint, sobriety.

abstinence *n.* abstemiousness, abstinency, asceticism, avoidance, continence, forbearance, frugality, moderation, nephalism, non-indulgence, refraining, self-denial, self-discipline, self-restraint, soberness, sobriety, teetotalism, temperance.

antonym self-indulgence.

abstinent *adj.* abstaining, abstemious, continent, disciplined, forbearing, frugal, moderate, self-controlled, self-denying, self-disciplined, self-restrained, sober, temperate.

antonyms self-indulgent, voluptuous, wanton.

abstract *adj.* abstruse, academic, arcane, complex, conceptual, deep, discrete, general, generalised, hypothetical, indefinite, intellectual, metaphysical, non-concrete, occult, philosophical, profound, recondite, separate, subtle, theoretic, theoretical, unpractical, unrealistic.

antonym concrete.

n. abbreviation, abridgement, abstractive, compendium, compression, condensation, conspectus, digest, epitome, essence, outline, précis, recapitulation, résumé, summary, synopsis.

v. abbreviate, abridge, compress, condense, detach, digest, dissociate, epitomise, extract, isolate, outline, précis, purloin, remove, separate, shorten, steal, summarise, withdraw.

antonyms expand, insert.

abstracted *adj.* absent, absent-minded, bemused, distraught(e), dreamy, faraway, inattentive, pensive, preoccupied, remote, withdrawn, wool-gathering.

antonyms alert, on the ball.

abstraction *n.* absence, absent-mindedness, absorption, bemusedness, concept, conception, dissociation, distraction, dream, dreaminess, formula, generalisation, generality, hypothesis, idea, inattention, notion, pensiveness, preoccupation, remoteness, separation, theorem, theory, thought, withdrawal, wool-gathering.

abstruse *adj.* abstract, arcane, complex, cryptic, dark, deep, devious, difficult, enigmatic, esoteric, hermetic, hidden, incomprehensible, mysterious, mystical, obscure, occult, perplexing, profound, puzzling, recondite, subtle, tortuous, unfathomable, unobvious, vague.

antonyms concrete, obvious.

absurd *adj.* anomalous, comical, crazy, daft, derisory, fantastic, farcical, foolish, funny, humorous, idiotic, illogical, implausible, incongruous, irrational, laughable, ludicrous, meaningless, nonsensical, paradoxical, preposterous, ridiculous, risible, senseless, silly, stupid, unreasonable, untenable.

antonyms logical, rational, sensible.

absurdity *n.* comicality, craziness, daftness, farce, farcicality, farcicalness, fatuity, fatuousness, folly, foolery, foolishness, idiocy, illogicality, illogicalness, incongruity, irrationality, joke, ludicrousness, meaningless, nonsense, nonsensicality, preposterousness, ridiculousness, senselessness, silliness, stupidity, unreasonableness.

abundance *n.* affluence, ampleness, amplitude, bonanza, bounty, copiousness, exuberance, fortune, fullness, glut, heap, lavishness.

luxuriance, luxuriant, milk and honey, munificence, oodles, opulence, plenitude, plenteousness, plenty, pleroma, plethora, prodigality, profusion, riches, richness, routh, uberty, wealth.

antonyms dearth, scarcity.

abundant *adj.* ample, bounteous, bountiful, copious, exuberant, filled, full, generous, in plenty, lavish, luxuriant, overflowing, plenteous, plentiful, prodigal, profuse, rank, rich, superabundant, teeming, uberous, unstinted, well-provided, well-supplied.

antonyms scarce, sparse.

abuse *v.* batter, calumniate, castigate, curse, damage, deceive, defame, denigrate, disparage, exploit, harm, hurt, ill-treat, impose on, injure, insult, inveigh against, libel, malign, maltreat, manhandle, mar, misapply, miscall, misemploy, misuse, molest, objugate, oppress, oppugn, revile, scold, slander, slate, smear, spoil, swear at, take advantage of, traduce, upbraid, vilify, violate, vituperate, wrong.

antonyms cherish, compliment, praise.

n. affront, blame, calumny, calumny, castigation, censure, contumely, curses, cursing, damage, defamation, denigration, derision, diatribe, disparagement, execration, exploitation, flying, harm, hurt, ill-treatment, imposition, injury, insults, invective, libel, malediction, maltreatment, manhandling, misapplication, misconduct, misdeed, misuse, obloquy, offence, oppression, opprobrium, reproach, revilement, scolding, sin, slander, spoiling, swearing, tirade, traducement, upbraiding, vilification, violation, vitriol, vituperation, wrong, wrong-doing.

antonyms attention, care.

abusive *adj.* brutal, calumniating, calumnious, castigating, censorious, contemptuous, cruel, defamatory, denigrating, derisive, derogatory, destructive, disparaging, harmful, hurtful, injurious, insulting, invective, libellous, maligning, objugatory, offensive, opprobrious, pejorative, reproachful, reviling, rough, rude, scathing, scolding, slanderous, traducing, upbraiding, vilifying, vituperative.

antonym complimentary.

abut *v.* adjoin, border, conjoin, connect, impinge, join, meet, touch, verge.

abysmal *adj.* abyssal, bottomless, boundless, complete, deep, endless, extreme, immeasurable, incalculable, infinite, profound, thorough, unending, unfathomable, vast, yawning.

abyss *n.* abysm, Avernus, barathrum, canyon, chasm, crater, crevasse, depth, fissure, gorge, gulf, pit, profound, swallow, void.

academic *adj.* abstract, bookish, collegiate, conjectural, donnish, educational, erudite, highbrow, hypothetical, impractical, instructional, learned, lettered, literary, notional, pedagogical, scholarly, scholastic, speculative, studious, theoretical, well-read.

n. academe, academician, don, fellow,

lecturer, man of letters, master, pedant, professor, pundit, savant, scholar, scholastic, schoolman, student, tutor.

accede *v.* accept, acquiesce, admit, agree, assent, assume, attain, capitulate, comply, concede, concur, consent, defer, endorse, grant, inherit, submit, succeed (to), yield.

antonyms demur, object.

accelerate *v.* advance, antedate, dispatch, expedite, facilitate, festinate, forward, further, hasten, hurry, pick up speed, precipitate, promote, quicken, speed, speed up, spur, step on the gas, step on the juice, step up, stimulate.

antonyms delay, slow down.

accent *n.* accentuation, arsis, articulation, beat, cadence, emphasis, enunciation, force, ictus, inflection, intensity, intonation, modulation, pitch, pronunciation, pulsation, pulse, rhythm, stress, thesis, timbre, tonality, tone!

v. accentuate, emphasise, stress, underline, underscore.

accentuate *v.* accent, deepen, emphasise, highlight, intensify, italicise, spotlight, strengthen, stress, underline, underscore.

antonyms play down, weaken.

accept *v.* abide by, accede, acknowledge, acquiesce, acquire, admit, adopt, affirm, agree to, approve, assume, avow, bear, believe, bow to, brook, concur with, consent to, co-operate with, defer to, gain, get, have, jump at, obtain, put up with, receive, recognise, secure, stand, stomach, submit to, suffer, swallow, take, take on, tolerate, undertake, wear, yield to.

antonyms demur, reject.

acceptable *adj.* adequate, admissible, agreeable, all right, conventional, correct, delightful, desirable, done, grateful, gratifying, moderate, passable, pleasant, pleasing, satisfactory, standard, suitable, tolerable, U, unexceptionable, unobjectionable, welcome.

antonyms unsatisfactory, unwelcome.

acceptance *n.* accedence, accepting, accession, acknowledgement, acquiescence, acquiring, admission, adoption, affirmation, agreement, approbation, approval, assent, belief, compliance, concession, concurrence, consent, credence, gaining, getting, having, obtaining, OK, permission, ratification, receipt, recognition, seal of approval, securing, stamp of approval, taking, tolerance, toleration, undertaking.

antonyms dissent, refusal.

accepted *adj.* acceptable, acknowledged, admitted, agreed, agreed upon, approved, authorised, common, confirmed, customary, conventional, correct, customary, established, normal, ratified, received, recognised, regular, sanctioned, standard, time-honoured, traditional, universal, unwritten, usual.

antonym unorthodox.

access *n.* adit, admission, admittance, approach, avenue, course, door, entering, entrance,

entrée, entry, gateway, increase, ingress, key, onset, passage, passageway, path, road, upsurge, upsurge.

antonyms egress, outlet.

accessible *adj.* achievable, affable, approachable, at hand, attainable, available, come-at-able, conversable, cordial, exposed, friendly, get-at-able, handy, informal, liable, near, nearby, obtainable, on hand, open, possible, procurable, reachable, ready, sociable, subject, susceptible, vulnerable, wide-open.
antonym inaccessible.

accession *n.* accedence, acceptance, acquiescence, acquisition, addition, agreement, assumption, attaining, attainment, augmentation, concurrence, consent, enlargement, entering upon, extension, increase, installation, purchase, submission, succession, taking over, yielding.

accessory *n.* abettor, accompaniment, accomplice, addition, adjunct, adjuvant, adornment, aid, appendage, assistant, associate, attachment, colleague, component, confederate, conniver, convenience, decoration, embellishment, extension, extra, frill, help, helper, particeps criminis, partner, supplement, trim, trimming.

adj. abetting, additional, adjuvant, adventitious, aiding, ancillary, assisting, auxiliary, contributory, extra, incidental, secondary, subordinate, subsidiary, supplemental, supplementary.

accident *n.* blow, calamity, casualty, chance, collision, contingency, contretemps, crash, disaster, fate, fluke, fortuity, fortune, happenstance, hazard, luck, misadventure, miscarriage, mischance, misfortune, mishap, pile-up, prang, serendipity, shunt.

accidental *adj.* adventitious, adventive, casual, chance, contingent, fluky, fortuitous, haphazard, inadvertent, incidental, random, serendipitous, unanticipated, uncalculated, uncertain, unexpected, unforeseen, unintended, unintentional, unlooked-for, unplanned, unpremeditated, unwitting.

antonyms intentional, premeditated.

accidentally *adv.* adventitiously, bechance, by accident, by chance, by mistake, casually, fortuitously, haphazardly, inadvertently, incidentally, involuntarily, randomly, serendipitously, unconsciously, undesignedly, unexpectedly, unintentionally, unwittingly.
antonym intentionally.

acclaim *v.* announce, applaud, approve, celebrate, cheer, clap, commend, crown, declare, eulogise, exalt, extol, hail, honour, laud, praise, salute, welcome.

antonym demean.

n. acclamation, applause, approbation, approval, celebration, cheering, clapping, commendation, eulogising, eulogy, exaltation, honour, laudation, ovation, plaudits, praise, welcome.

antonyms brickbats, criticism, vituperation.

acclamation *n.* acclaim, edulation, applause,

approbation, bravos, cheer, cheering, cheers, commendation, declaration, éclat, endorsement, enthusiasm, extolment, homage, laudation, ovation, paean, panegyric, plaudit, praise, salutation, shouting, tribute.

antonym disapproval.

acclimatise *v.* accommodate, acculturate, accustom, adapt, adjust, attune, conform, familiarise, find one's legs, get used to, habituate, inure, naturalise.

acclivity *n.* ascent, gradient, hill, rise, rising ground, slope.

accolade *n.* award, honour, kudos, laurels, praise.

accommodate *v.* acclimatise, accustom, adapt, adjust, afford, aid, assist, attune, billet, board, cater for, comply, compose, conform, domicile, entertain, fit, furnish, harbour, harmonise, help, house, lodge, modify, oblige, provide, put up, quarter, reconcile, serve, settle, shelter, supply.

accommodating *adj.* complaisant, considerate, co-operative, friendly, helpful, hospitable, indulgent, kind, obliging, polite, sympathetic, unselfish, willing.

antonym disobliging.

accommodation¹ *n.* adaptation, adjustment, assistance, compliance, composition, compromise, conformity, fitting, harmonisation, harmony, help, modification, reconciliation, settlement.

accommodation² *n.* bed and breakfast, billet, board, digs, domicile, dwelling, harbouring, house, housing, lodgings, quartering, quarters, residence, shelter, sheltering.

accompaniment *n.* accessory, attendance, background, back-up, complement, concomitant, obligato, support, vamp.

accompany *v.* attend, belong to, chaperon, co-exist, coincide, complement, conduct, consort, convoy, escort, follow, go with, occur with, squire, supplement, usher.

accompanying *adj.* accessory, added, additional, appended, associate, associated, attached, attendant, background, complementary, concomitant, concurrent, connected, fellow, joint, related, subsidiary, supplemental, supplementary.

accomplice *n.* abettor, accessory, ally, assistant, associate, coadjutor, collaborator, colleague, confederate, conspirator, helper, helpmate, henchman, mate, particeps criminis, participant, partner, practisant.

accomplish *v.* achieve, attain, bring about, bring off, carry out, compass, complete, conclude, consummate, discharge, do, effect, effectuate, engineer, execute, finish, fulfil, manage, obtain, perform, produce, realise.

accomplished *adj.* adept, adroit, consummate, cultivated, expert, facile, gifted, masterly, polished, practised, professional, proficient, skilful, skilled, talented.

antonym inept.

accomplishment *n.* ability, achievement, act, aptitude, art, attainment, capability, carrying

out, completion, conclusion, consummation, coup, deed, discharge, doing, effecting, execution, exploit, faculty, feat, finishing, forte, fruition, fulfilment, futuration, gift, management, perfection, performance, production, proficiency, realisation, skill, stroke, talent, triumph.

accord *v.* agree, allow, assent, bestow, concede, concur, confer, conform, correspond, endow, fit, give, grant, harmonise, jibe, match, present, render, suit, tally, tender, vouchsafe.
antonym disagree.

n. accordance, agreement, assent, concert, concurrence, conformity, congruence, congruity, consort, correspondence, harmony, rapport, symmetry, sympathy, unanimity, unity.
antonym discord.

accordance *n.* accord, agreement, assent, concert, concurrence, conformity, congruence, consistency, consonance, correspondence, harmony, rapport, sympathy, unanimity.

accordingly *adv.* appropriately, as a result, as requested, consequently, correspondingly, ergo, fitly, hence, in accord with, in accordance, in consequence, properly, so, suitably, therefore, thus.

according to *after*, after the manner of, agreeably to, commensurate with, consistent with, in accordance with, in compliance with, in conformity with, in keeping with, in line with, in obedience to, in proportion, in relation, in the light of, in the manner of, obedient to.

accost *v.* address, approach, button-hole, confront, detain, greet, hail, halt, importune, salute, solicit, stop, waylay.

account *1 n.* advantage, basis, battels, benefit, cause, chronicle, communiqué, concern, consequence, consideration, description, detail, distinction, esteem, estimation, explanation, ground, grounds, history, honour, import, importance, interest, memoir, merit, motive, narration, narrative, note, performance, portrayal, presentation, profit, rank, reason, recital, record, regard, relation, report, reputation, repute, sake, score, significance, sketch, standing, statement, story, tale, use, value, version, worth, write-up.
v. adjudge, appraise, assess, believe, consider, count, deem, esteem, estimate, explain, gauge, hold, judge, rate, reckon, regard, think, value, weigh.

account for *answer for*, clarify, clear up, destroy, elucidate, explain, illuminate, incriminate, justify, kill, put paid to, rationalise, vindicate.

account *2 n.* balance, battels, bill, book, books, charge, check, computation, inventory, invoice, ledger, reckoning, register, score, statement, tab, tally, tick.

accountability *n.* amenability, answerability, blamableness, blameworthiness, chargeability, liability, responsibility.

accountable *adj.* amenable, answerable, blamable, bound, charged with, liable, obligated, obliged, responsible.

accoutrements *n.* adornments, apparel, appurtenances, array, attire, caparison, clothes, clothing, decorations, dress, equipage, equipment, fittings, fixtures, furnishings, garb, gear, habiliments, kit, ornamentation, outfit, paraphernalia, tackle, trappings, traps, trimmings.

accredit *v.* appoint, approve, ascribe, assign, attribute, authorise, certificate, certify, commission, credit, deputate, empower, enable, endorse, entrust, guarantee, license, okay, qualify, recognise, sanction, vouch for.

accredited *adj.* appointed, approved, attested, authorised, certificated, certified, commissioned, deputed, deputised, empowered, endorsed, guaranteed, licensed, official, qualified, recognised, sanctioned, vouched for.

antonym unauthorised.

accretion *n.* accession, accrual, accumulation, addition, amplification, augmentation, coherence, cohesion, enlargement, fusion, growth, increase, increment, supplement.

antonyms decrease, deduction.

accrue *v.* accumulate, amass, arise, be added, build up, collect, emanate, enlarge, ensue, fall due, flow, follow, gather, grow, increase, issue, proceed, redound, result, spring up.

accumulate *v.* accrue, agglomerate, aggregate, amass, assemble, build up, collect, cumulate, gather, grow, hoard, increase, multiply, pile up, stash, stockpile, store.

antonyms diffuse, disseminate.

accumulation *n.* accretion, aggregation, assemblage, augmentation, backlog, build-up, collection, conglomeration, gathering, growth, heap, hoard, increase, mass, pile, reserve, stack, stock, stockpile, store.

accuracy *n.* accurateness, actuality, authenticity, carefulness, closeness, correctness, exactitude, exactness, faithfulness, faultlessness, fidelity, meticulousness, minuteness, niceness, nicety, precision, rigorousness, scrupulosity, scrupulousness, strictness, truth, truthfulness, veracity, veridicality, verity.

antonym inaccuracy.

accurate *adj.* authentic, careful, close, correct, exact, factual, faithful, faultless, just, letter-perfect, mathematical, meticulous, minute, nice, perfect, precise, proper, regular, right, rigorous, scrupulous, sound, spot-on, strict, true, truthful, unerring, veracious, veridical, well-aimed, well-directed, well-judged, word-perfect.

antonyms inaccurate, wrong.

accursed *adj.* abominable, anathematised, bedevilled, bewitched, blighted, condemned, cursed, damned, despicable, detestable, doomed, execrable, foredoomed, hateful, hellish, hopeless, horrible, ill-fated, ill-omened, jinxed, luckless, maledict, ruined, star-crossed, undone, unfortunate, unholy, unlucky, wretched.

antonym blessed.

accusation *n.* accusal, allegation, arraignment, attribution, charge, citation, complaint,

crimination, delation, denunciation, gravamen, impeachment, imputation, incrimination, indictment, plaint, recrimination, threat.

accuse *v.* allege, arraign, attain, attribute, blame, censure, charge, cite, criminate, delate, denounce, impeach, impugn, impute, incriminate, indict, inform against, recriminate, tax.

accustom *v.* acclimatise, acculturate, acquaint, adapt, adjust, discipline, exercise, familiarise, habituate, harden, inure, season, train.

accustomed *adj.* acclimatised, acquainted, adapted, common, confirmed, consuetudinary, conventional, customary, disciplined, established, everyday, exercised, expected, familiar, familiarised, fixed, general, given to, habitual, habituated, in the habit of, inured, normal, ordinary, prevailing, regular, routine, seasoned, set, traditional, trained, used, usual, wonted.

antonym unaccustomed.

ace *n.* adept, champion, dab hand, dabster, expert, genius, maestro, master, nonpareil, star, talent, virtuoso, winner, wizard.

antonyms colt, novice.

adj. brilliant, champion, excellent, expert, fine, first-class, great, masterly, matchless, nonpareil, outstanding, superb, superlative, tiptop, virtuoso.

acerbic *adj.* abrasive, acid, acidulous, acrid, acrimonious, astringent, bitter, brusque, caustic, churlish, corrosive, harsh, incisive, mordant, nasty, rancorous, rude, severe, sharp, sour, stern, tart, trenchant, unfriendly, unkind.

antonym mild.

acerbity *n.* acidity, acidulousness, acidity, acridness, acrimoniousness, acrimony, asperity, astringency, bitterness, brusqueness, causticity, churlishness, harshness, mordacity, mordancy, nastiness, rancour, rudeness, severity, sharpness, sourness, sternness, tartness, trenchancy, unfriendliness, unkindness.

antonym mildness.

ache *v.* agonise, covet, crave, desire, grieve, hanker, hunger, hurt, itch, long, mourn, need, pain, pine, pound, rack, smart, sorrow, suffer, throb, twinge, yearn.

n. anguish, craving, desire, grief, hankering, hunger, hurt, itch, longing, misery, mourning, need, pain, pang, pining, pounding, smart, smarting, soreness, sorrow, suffering, throb, throbbing, yearning.

achieve *v.* accomplish, acquire, attain, bring about, carry out, compass, complete, consummate, do, earn, effect, effectuate, execute, finish, fulfil, gain, get, manage, obtain, perform, procure, produce, reach, realise, score, strike, succeed, win.

antonyms fail, miss.

achievement *n.* accomplishment, acquirement, act, attainment, completion, deed, effort, execution, exploit, feat, fruition, fulfilment,

magnum opus, performance, production, qualification, realisation, stroke, success.

achiever *n.* doer, goer, go-getter, performer, succeder.

acid *adj.* acerbic, acidulous, acrid, astringent, biting, bitter, caustic, corrosive, cutting, harsh, hurtful, ill-natured, incisive, mordant, morose, pungent, sharp, sour, stinging, tart, trenchant, vinegarish, vinegary, vitriolic.

acid test experimentum crucis, proof of the pudding.

acidity *n.* acerbity, acidulousness, acidity, acridness, asperity, astringency, bitterness, causticity, causticness, corrosiveness, harshness, hurtfulness, incisiveness, mordancy, pungency, sharpness, sourness, tartness, trenchancy, vinegariness, vinegarishness.

acidulous *adj.* acerbic, acid, astringent, biting, bitter, caustic, cutting, harsh, incisive, pungent, sharp, sour, tart, vinegarish, vinegary.

antonyms saccharine, sugary, sweet.

acknowledge *v.* accede, accept, acquiesce, address, admit, affirm, agnise, allow, answer, attest, avouch, concede, confess, confirm, declare, endorse, grant, greet, hail, notice, own, profess, react to, recognise, reply to, respond to, return, salute, vouch for, witness, yield.

acknowledged *adj.* accepted, accredited, admitted, affirmed, answered, approved, attested, avowed, conceded, confessed, declared, endorsed, professed, recognised, returned.

acknowledgement *n.* acceptance, accession, acquiescence, addressing, admission, affirmation, allowing, answer, appreciation, confession, credit, declaration, endorsement, gratitude, greeting, hail, hailing, honour, notice, profession, reaction, realisation, recognition, recompense, reply, response, return, salutation, salute, thanks, tribute, yielding.

acme *n.* apex, apogee, climax, crest, crown, culmination, height, high point, maximum, optimum, peak, pinnacle, sublimation, sublimity, summit, top, vertex, zenith.

antonym nadir.

acolyte *n.* acolyth, adherent, admirer, altar boy, assistant, attendant, follower, helper, lackey, slave.

acoustic *adj.* audible, auditory, aural.

acquaint *v.* accustom, advise, announce, apprise, brief, disclose, divulge, enlighten, familiarise, inform, notify, reveal, tell.

acquaintance *n.* associate, association, awareness, chum, cognisance, colleague, companionship, confrère, consociate, contact, conversance, conversancy, experience, familiarity, fellowship, intimacy, knowledge, relationship, understanding.

acquainted *adj.* abreast, conversant, familiar, in the know, informed.

acquiesce *v.* accede, accept, agree, allow, approve, assent, comply, concur, conform, consent, defer, give in, submit, yield.

antonyms disagree, object.

acquiescence *n.* acceptance, accession, agreement, approval, assent, compliance, concurrence, conformity, consent, deference, giving in, obedience, sanction, submission, yielding.
antonyms disagreement, rebelliousness.

acquiescent *adj.* acceding, agreeable, amenable, approving, assenting, biddable, compliant, compliant, concurrent, conforming, consenting, obedient, submissive, yielding.

acquire *v.* achieve, amass, appropriate, attain, buy, collect, cop, earn, gain, gather, get, net, obtain, pick up, procure, realise, receive, secure, win.

antonyms forfeit, forgo, relinquish.

acquirements *n.* accomplishments, achievements, acquisitions, attainments, attributes, culture, erudition, knowledge, learning, mastery, qualifications, skills.

acquisition *n.* accession, achievement, acquest, acquirement, appropriation, attainment, buy, gain, gaining, learning, obtainment, possession, prize, procurement, property, purchase, pursuit, securing, take-over.

acquisitive *adj.* avaricious, avid, covetous, grabbing, grasping, greedy, insatiable, mercenary, possessive, predatory, rapacious, voracious.

antonym generous.

acquisitiveness *n.* avarice, avidity, avidness, covetousness, graspingness, greed, predatoriness, rapaciousness, rapacity, voracity.

acquit *v.* absolve, bear, behave, clear, comport, conduct, deliver, discharge, dismiss, exculpate, excuse, exonerate, free, fulfil, liberate, pay, pay off, perform, release, relieve, repay, reprieve, satisfy, settle, vindicate.

antonym convict.

acquittal *n.* absolution, clearance, compurgation, deliverance, discharge, dismissal, dispensation, exculpation, excusing, exoneration, freeing, liberation, release, relief, reprieve, vindication.

antonym conviction.

acquittance *n.* discharge, dispensation, payment, quittance, release, satisfaction, settlement.

acrid *adj.* acerbic, acid, acrimonious, astringent, biting, bitter, burning, caustic, cutting, empyreumatic, harsh, incisive, irritating, malicious, mordant, nasty, pungent, sarcastic, sardonic, sharp, stinging, trenchant, venomous, virulent, vitriolic.

acridity *n.* acidity, acrimoniouness, acrimony, astringency, bitterness, causticity, empyreuma, harshness, mordancy, sharpness, trenchancy.

acrimonious *adj.* abusive, acerbic, astringent, atrabilious, biting, bitter, caustic, censorious, churlish, crabbed, cutting, ill-tempered, irascible, mordant, peevish, petulant, pungent, rancorous, sarcastic, severe, sharp, spiteful, splenetic, tart, testy, trenchant, virulent, waspish.

antonyms irenic, kindly, peaceable.

acrimony *n.* acerbity, asperity, astringency, bitterness, churlishness, gall, harshness, ill-temper, ill-will, irascibility, mordancy, peevishness, petulance, rancour, resentment, sarcasm, spleen, tartness, trenchancy, virulence, waspishness.

acrobat *n.* aerialist, balancer, contortionist, equilibrist, funambulist, gymnast, somersaulter, stunt-girl, stuntman, tumbler, voltigeur.

act *n.* accomplishment, achievement, action, affectation, attitude, bill, blow, counterfeit, decree, deed, dissimulation, doing, edict, enactment, enterprise, execution, exertion, exploit, fake, feat, feigning, front, gest, gig, law, make-believe, manoeuvre, measure, move, operation, ordinance, performance, pose, posture, pretence, proceeding, resolution, routine, sham, show, sketch, spiel, stance, statute, step, stroke, transaction, turn, undertaking.

v. acquit, act out, affect, assume, bear, behave, carry, carry out, characterise, comport, conduct, counterfeit, dissimulate, do, enact, execute, exert, feign, function, go about, imitate, impersonate, make, mime, mimic, move, operate, perform, personate, personify, play, portray, pose, posture, pretend, put on, react, represent, seem, serve, sham, simulate, strike, take effect, undertake, work.

act up carry on, cause trouble, give bother, give trouble, horse around, make waves, malfunction, mess about, misbehave, muck about, play up, rock the boat.

act (upon) affect, alter, carry out, change, comply with, conform to, execute, follow, fulfil, heed, influence, modify, obey, sway, transform, yield to.

acting *adj.* interim, pro tem, provisional, reserve, stand-by, stop-gap, substitute, supply, surrogate, temporary.

n. affectation, assuming, bluff, characterisation, counterfeiting, dissimulation, dramatics, enacting, feigning, histrionism, histrionics, histrionism, imitating, imitation, impersonation, imposture, melodrama, performance, performing, play-acting, playing, portrayal, portraying, posing, posturing, pretence, pretending, putting on, seeming, shamming, stagecraft, theatre, theatricals.

action *n.* accomplishment, achievement, act, activity, affray, agency, battle, case, cause, clash, combat, conflict, contest, deed, effect, effort, encounter, endeavour, energy, engagement, enterprise, exercise, exertion, exploit, feat, fight, fighting, force, fray, functioning, influence, lawsuit, litigation, liveliness, mechanism, motion, move, movement, operation, performance, power, proceeding, process, prosecution, skirmish, sortie, spirit, stop, stroke, suit, undertaking, vigour, vim, vitality, warfare, work, working, works.