

- **♦ bard** poet
- ◆ barefaced shameless and noticeable; blatant; bold; unconcealed; having no covering on the face; Ex. barefaced lie
- unregenerate making no attempt to change one's bad practices
- **◆ baroque** highly ornate
- Q barrage barrier laid down by artillery fire; overwhelm- ing profusion; large number of questions or statements; Ex. a barrage of criticism
- Q barrister counselor-at-law or lawyer in the higher court of law; CF. bar
- ▼ solicitor lawyer in the lower court of law
- Q barterer trader; V. barter: trade; exchange good for other goods rather than money
- **♦ bask** luxuriate; take pleasure in warmth
- **Vluxuriate** take pleasure in great comfort
- bastion stronghold; something seen as a source of protection; Ex. the last bastion of male chauvinism
- **▲ bate** let down; lessen the force of; moderate; restrain; Ex. with bated breath; CF. abate
- **♦ bauble** trinket; cheap jewel; trifle
- ▲ bawdy indecent; obscene; about sex in a rude funny way; CF. bawd
- **♦ beatific** giving or showing bliss; blissful

- ♥ bliss complete happiness; ADJ. blissful
- **◆ beatitude** blessedness; state of great happiness
- mystic of hidden meaning and spiritual power; Ex. mystic ceremonies; N. CF. mysticism
- **♦ bedizen** dress with vulgar finery
- **▼ finery** beautiful clothes for a special occasion
- **♦ bedraggle** wetthoroughly; ADJ. bedraggled: draggled
- **♦ beeline** direct quick route
- **♦ befuddle** confuse thoroughly
- ▼ fuddle make stupid or confused as with alcholic drink;

  N. in a fuddle: confused
- Q beget father; become the father of; produce; give rise to
- begrudge envy; give or allow unwillingly; grudge; Ex. We shouldn't begrudge him his success.
- **▼ grudge** deep feeling of dislike; Ex. grudge fight; V.
- ♠ beguile deceive; mislead or delude; cheat; pass time pleasantly; charm or attract; Ex. beguiling smile
- behemoth huge creature; something of monstrous size or power
- beholden obligated; indebted; owing thanks; obliged or indebted from gratitude
- ◆ behoove(behove) be suited to; be incumbent upon; be right and necessary; Ex. It behooves one to do.
- belabor harp on; dwell on tediously; explain or go over excessively or to a ridiculous degree; assail verbally; beat severely; attack physically
- **♦ belated** delayed
- ▲ beleaguer besiege or attack (with an army); harass; be-set
- ♠ belie contradict; give a false impression; disguise; Ex. The poor sales belied our high hopes; Ex. Her smile belies her true feeling of displeasure.
- Q belittle disparage; depreciate
- Q bellicose warlike
- Q belligerent quarrelsome
- **bemoan** lament; moan for; express sorrow or disap- proval of
- **♦ bemused** confused; lost in thought; preoccupied
- Q benediction blessing
- Q benefactor gift giver; patron; person who does good or who gives money for a good purpose
- Q beneficent kindly; doing good
- Q beneficial helpful; useful; advantageous
- Q beneficiary person entitled to benefits or proceeds of an insurance policy or will
- ♠ benefit advantage; anything that brings helpl, advantage, or profit; money provided by the government to the people; fund-raising public entertainment; Ex. un-employment benefit; V: receive benefits; be beneficial to; give benefits
- Q benevolent generous; charitable; having a wish to do good

- Q benign kindly; favorable; not malignant (disease); Ex. benign tumor
- Q benison blessing
- Q bent determined; Ex. bent on advancing in the busi-ness; N: natural talent or inclination
- Q bequeath leave to someone by means of a will; hand down in his will; N. bequest
- ♠ berate scold strongly
- ▲ bereavement state of being deprived of something valuable or beloved; state of being bereaved or bereft
- **♦ bereaved** deprived of (someone beloved through death)
- **♦ bereft** deprived of (something valuable); lacking
- ▲ berserk mad with violent anger; frenzied; madly ex-cited
- Q **beseech** beg; plead with
- **♦ beset** harass or trouble from all directions; hem in
- hem surround tightly so that movement is impossible; Ex. hem in: N.
- Q **besiege** surround with armed forces; harass (with re- quests); annoy continually
- **♦ besmirch** soil; defile; make dirty
- **◆ bestial** beastlike; brutal; inhuman; very cruel
- O bestow confer
- **◆ betoken** signify; indicate; be a sign of
- **▼ token** outward sign; Ex. a token of our gratitude
- betray be unfaithful; reveal (unconsciously or unwill- ingly); Ex. Her trembling hands betray her anxiety.
- **♦ betroth** become engaged to marry
- **♦ bevy** large group; Ex. a bevy of starlets
- Q bicameral two-chambered as a legislative body
- Q bicker quarrel
- Q biennial every two years
- **♦ bifurcated** divided into two branches; forked
- **♦ bigotry** stubborn intolerance
- **▼ bigot** one who is intolerant (in matters of religion or pol- itics)
- ▼ intolerant not willing to accept ways of thinking different from one's own; CF. tolerant; CF. tolerate
- ★ bilious suffering from indigestion; sick from having too much bile; irritable; easily irritated
- ♠ bilk swindle; cheat
- **♦ billowing** swelling out in waves; surging
- billow large wave of water; a great swell or surge (of smoke);
   V: surge, swell, roll in billows
- swell long wave of water that moves continuously without breaking; V.
- **▼ surge** powerful movement of or like a wave; V.
- **♠ bivouac** temporary encampment; camp without tents; V.

- Q bizarre fantastic; violently contrasting; noticeably odd; strikingly unconventional
- **♦ blanch** bleach; whiten; make white or pale
- bland soothing or mild (food); agreeable; causing no trouble or offence
- **♦ blandishment** flattery
- ▲ blare loud or harsh roar or screech; dazzling blaze of light
- **▼ screech** unpleasant high sharp sound; shriek; V.
- dazzle make blind with a sudden intense light; amaze; fill with wonder
- ◆ blasé bored with pleasure or dissipation; uninterested or bored
- ▲ blasphemy irreverence; sacrilege; cursing; bad lan- guage about God or holy things; V. blasphem; ADJ. blas- phemous; CF. sacrilege
- ▲ blatant extremely (offensively) obvious; loudly offensive;
  Ex. blatant lie; N. blatancy
- ▲ bleak cold or cheerless; frigid; unlikely to be favorable; depressing
- **♦ blighted** suffering from a disease; destroyed
- ♥ blight plant disease; V: infect with blight; ruin; destroy
- **♦ blithe(blithesome)** gay; joyous
- ♠ bloated (unpleasantly) swollen or puffed as with water or air
- **♦ blowhard** talkative boaster; braggart
- **♦ bludgeon** club; heavy-headed weapon; V.
- ◆ bluff pretense (of strength); deception; high cliff; ADJ: rough but good-natured

## 7

- Q blunder error; stupid mistake
- **♦ blurt** utter impulsively from nervousness or excitement
- ♠ bluster blow in heavy gusts; threaten emptily; bully; speak in a noisy or bullying manner; CF. breeze, gust, gale
- **♥ bully** one who is habitually cruel to weaker people; V.
- Q bode foreshadow; portend
- Q **bogus** counterfeit; not authentic; intentionally false; Ex. bogus interview
- **♦ bohemian** unconventional (in an artistic way)
- Q boisterous violent; rough; noisy
- **♦ bolster** support; reinforce
- ◆ bolt door bar; fastening pin or screw; length of fabric; large roll of cloth; V: dash or dart off; fasten (a door); gobble down
- **▼ dart** move or throw suddenly and quickly
- **♥ gobble** eat very quickly
- ◆ bombardment attack (as with missiles or bombs); V. bombard
- **♦ bombastic** pompous; using inflated language

- **♥ bombast** grandiloquent, pompous speech
- **♦ boon** blessing; benefit; something very helpful
- **♦ boorish** rude; insensitive
- **♥ boor** rude, insensitive person
- **♦ bouillon** clear beef (or meat) soup
- ◆ bountiful generous; graciously generous; showing bounty
- **▼ gracious** kind in a generous way (to someone less im- portant)
- Q **bourgeois** middle class; selfishly materialistic; too interested in material possessions
- Q bovine cowlike; placid and dull; slow-thinking; calm
- **♦ bowdlerize** expurgate; CF. Thomas Bowdler
- **♦ brackish** somewhat saline
- **♦ braggadocio** boasting
- **♥ brag** boast
- **♦ braggart** boaster; bragger
- **♦ brandish** wave around (a weapon); flourish
- bravado swagger; assumed air of defiance; false show of bravery
- **▼ swagger** walk or behave with an over-confident manner
- **♦ brawn** human muscle; muscular strength; sturdiness
- **♥ brawny** muscular; having well-developed muscles
- **♥ sturdy** strong and firm (in the body)
- ◆ brazen insolent; without shame; bold; Ex. brazen lie; V: face with bold self-assurance or with unshamed confidence
- **♥ brawl** noisy quarrel
- ♠ breach breaking of contract or duty; fissure or gap; opening; V
- O breadth width: extent
- Q brevity conciseness; shortness of duration
- ◆ brindled tawny or grayish with streaks or spots (of an- imals)
- **▼ tawny** brownish yellow
- **♦ bristling** rising like bristles; showing irritation
- **♥ bristle** short stiff hair; V: (hair or fur) stand up stiffly
- ♠ brittle hard but easily broken; difficult; unstable; Ex. brittle situation
- **♦ broach** introduce as a subject; moot; open up
- **♦ brocade** rich, figured(patterned) fabric
- Q brochure pamphlet
- **♦ brooch** ornamental clasp; pin
- **♥ clasp** hold firmly within arms
- ◆ brook tolerate; endure; Ex. brook no interference; N: small stream
- **♦ browbeat** bully; intimidate
- browse graze; feed on growing grass; skim or glance at casually

- ▼ graze (of an animal) feed on growing grass; cause (an animal) to feed on grass; scrape (esp. the skin) or touch lightly in passing; brush; Ex. We can't graze the cattle till summer; N: surface wound
- ▼ skim read or glance through quickly; touch lightly in passing; brush; remove from the surface of a liquid
- ◆ brunt main impact or shock (of an attack or blow); Ex. brunt of the argument
- brusque blunt; abrupt; curt; not wanting to waste time being nice
- ♠ buccaneer pirate
- **♦ bucolic** rustic; pastoral
- ◆ buffet strike forcefully; slap; batter; knock out; N: table with food set out for people to server themselves; meal at which people help themselves to food that's been set
- ▼ slap hit quickly with the flat part of the hand; N. CF. smack
- **♦ buffoonery** clowning
- **♥ buffoon** stupid person; clown
- **♥ clown** act stupidly; play the fool; N.
- **♦ bugaboo** bugbear; object of baseless terror
- **♦ bullion** gold and silver in the form of bars
- bulwark strong wall built for defense; earthwork or other strong defense; person who defends
- bungle mismanage; blunder; botch; blow; spoil by clumsy behavior
- **♥ botch** mismanage; blow
- Q **buoyant** able to float; cheerful and optimistic; N. buoyancy; Ex. buoyancy of wood/water/American market
- Q bureaucracy overregulated administrative system marked by red tape; ADJ. bureaucratic
- ▲ burgeon grow rapidly; grow forth; send out buds; Ex. burgeoning computer industry; CF. bludgeon
- ▲ burlesque give an imitation that ridicules; imitate mockingly
- **♦ burnish** make shiny by rubbing; polish
- ▲ buttress support; prop up; N. stationary structure to support wall; Ex. flying buttress
- **♥ prop** support placed under or against something; V.
- **♦ buxom** full-bosomed; plump; jolly
- **▼ plump** pleasantly fat; nicely rounded
- cabal small group of persons secretly united to promote their own interests
- Q cache hiding place; V.
- Q cacophonous discordant; inharmonious; N. cacophony: unpleasant mixture of loud sounds
- Q cadaver corpse; dead human body
- Q cadaverous like a corpse; pale
- cadence rhythmic rise and fall (of words or sounds); beat; regular beat of sound; rhythm

- cajole persuade by praise or false promise; coax; whee- dle
- **♥ coax** persuade by flattery
- Q calamity disaster; misery
- Q calculated deliberately planned; likely
- **♦ caldron(cauldron)** large kettle
- caliber ability; quality; diameter of the inside of a round cylinder; Ex. work of very high caliber
- Q calligraphy beautiful writing; excellent penmanship
- callous hardened; unfeeling; without sympathy for the sufferings of others; unkind
- **▼ callus** area of thick hard skin
- **♠ callow** youthful; immature; inexperienced
- **◆ calorific** heat-producing; N. calorie
- Q calumny malicious misrepresentation; slander
- **♠ camaraderie** good-fellowship; CF. comrade
- cameo shell or jewel carved in relief; star's special appearance in a minor role in a film
- **♠ canard** unfounded false rumor; exaggerated false report
- **♠ candor** frankness; open honesty; ADJ. candid
- **◆ canine** related to dogs; doglike
- **◆ canker** any ulcerous sore; ulcer; any evil; CF. cancer
- ▼ ulcer sore place appearing on the skin inside or outside the body; Ex. stomach ulcer; ADJ. ulcerous; V. ulcerate
- **◆ canny** shrewd in money matters; thrifty
- ♠ cant insincere speech or expression of piety; jargon of thieves; special words used by a particular group of people
- Q cantankerous ill-humored; irritable
- ▲ cantata story set to music to be sung by a chorus (shorter than an oratorio)
- **◆ canter** slow gallop; V. CF. trot

## 8

- **★ canto** division of a long poem
- canvass determine or seek opinions, votes, etc.; go through (a region) to solicit votes or orders; conduct a survey; N.
- Q capacious spacious
- ★ capacity mental or physical ability; role; position or duty; ability to accommodate; Ex. in my capacity as president
- ▲ capillary having a very fine bore; resembling a hair; fine and slender; Ex. capillary attraction; N: very fine hair- like tube; CF. capillarity
- **◆ capitulate** surrender; give up all resistance
- Q caprice whim; sudden change of mind without any real cause
- Q capricious unpredictable; fickle
- Q caption title; chapter heading; text under illustration

- **◆ captious** faultfinding; too critical
- **★ carafe** glass water bottle; decanter
- carapace shell covering the back (of a turtle, tortoise, crab, etc.)
- carat(karat) unit of weight for precious stones; measure of the purity of gold
- **★** carcinogenic causing cancer; N. carcinogen
- cardinal chief; most important; N: priest; cardinal num-ber: number that shows quantity rather thatn order
- Q cardiologist doctor specializing in ailments of the heart
- careen lurch; sway from side to side; move with irregu-lar swinging movement; stagger
- **♥ career** rush wildly; go at full speed
- sway swing from side to side; influence (someone) to change one's opinion; N.
- Q caricature distortion; burlesque
- Q carillon a set of bells (often in a tower) capable of being played
- Q carnage destruction of life; slaughter; killing of large numbers of people or animals
- Q carnal fleshly; sensual; concerning the desires of the body
- Q carnivorous meat-eating; N. carnivore; CF. herbivore
- **★ carousal** drunken revel; V. carouse
- carping petty criticism; fault-finding; fretful complaining; quibble
- **★ carrion** rotting flesh of a dead body; CF. vulture
- **★ cartographer** map-maker
- Q cascade small waterfall
- ▲ caste one of the hereditary classes in Hindu society; so-cial stratification; prestige
- Q castigation punishment; severe criticism or disapproval
- Q casualty serious or fatal accident; person killed or wounded in an accident or battle
- casual happening by chance; irregular; occasional; informal; showing or feeling little interest; Ex. casual reader/labor/remark
- cataclysm deluge; upheaval; earthquake; violent and sudden event or change
- catalyst agent which brings about a chemical change while it remains unaffected and unchanged; CF. catal- ysis
- Q catapult slingshot; hurling machine; V: fire from cata-pult
- **▼ hurl** throw forcefully; shout out violently
- cataract great waterfall; eye abnormality (causing a gradual loss of eyesight)
- Q catastrophe calamity; disaster
- catcall shout of disapproval or displeasure (made at the theater or a sports match); boo; V.

- catechism book for religious instruction in question- andanswer form; religious instruction by question and answer; V. catechize
- Q categorical without exceptions; made without any doubt in mind; unqualified; absolute
- qualify reach a necessary standard; limit the meaning of something stated
- Q catharsis purging or cleansing of any passage of the body; purging and weakening of strong emotions as a result of experiencing a dramatic work of art
- Q cathartic purgative; medicine that causes the bowels to empty; ADJ.
- ▲ catholic (of likings and interests) universal; general; broad; including many different parts; wide-ranging liberal; Ex. catholic opinions/tastes
- ◆ caucus private meeting of a group of people in a polit- ical party to select officers or determine policy; CF. the Caucus club of Boston
- caulk(calk) make watertight (by blocking up cracks as in a ship)
- Q causal implying a cause-and-effect relationship; N. causality
- Q caustic burning; corrosive; able to burn by chemical action; sarcastically biting; (of remarks) intended to hurt; bitter; harmful; OP. harmless
- ▲ cauterize burn (a wound or snakebite, etc.) with hot iron or caustic substance to stop bleeding and prevent infection
- cavalcade procession of riders or horse-drawn car- riages; parade; CF. cavalry
- ♠ cavalier casual and offhand; arrogant; N: knight
- cavil quibble; make frivolous objections; find fault unnecessarily
- ♠ cede yield (title or territory) to (esp. after losing a war); surrender formally; N. cession
- Q celerity speed; rapidity
- Q celestial heavenly
- ♥ hereafter life after death
- **▼ afterlife** life after death; later part of one's life
- ★ celibate abstaining from sexual intercourse; unmarried;
  N. celibacy
- Q **censor** (in ancient Rome) overseer of morals (also taking the census); person who eliminates inappropriate mat-ter; V.
- **★ censorious** severely critical
- Q censure blame; criticize; express strong disapproval; N: severe criticism; strong disapproval
- Q centaur mythical figure, half man and half horse
- Q **centigrade** denoting a widely used temperature scale (basically same as Celsius)
- Q centrifugal radiating; departing from the center
- Q centrifuge machine that separates substances by whirling them
- Q centripetal tending toward the center

- Q **centurion** Roman army officer (commanding a company of about 100 soldiers)
- Q **cerebral** pertaining to the brain or intellect; intellectual rather than emotional; CF. cerebrum
- Q cerebration thought; working of the brain
- ♠ ceremonious marked by formality; extremely formal and polite; CF. ceremony: conventional social courtesy
- **▼ unceremonious** not done politely without due formali- ties
- **♦ certitude** certainty
- Q cessation stoppage
- **◆ cession** yielding to another; ceding
- ♠ chafe warm by rubbing; make sore by rubbing; N.
- ♠ chaff worthless products of an endeavor; husk(outer seed cover) separated from grain; Ex. separate the wheat from the chaff
- **♦ chaffing** bantering; joking
- chagrin annoyance and disappointment; vexation (caused by humiliation or injured pride)
- **♦ chalice** goblet; consecrated cup
- Q chameleon lizard that changes color in different situations



- Q **champion** support militantly; fight for; N: person who fights for or supports strongly (a principle, movement, person, etc.)
- championship position of champion; defense or sup-port; competition held to determine a champion
- Q chaotic in utter disorder
- Q **charisma** divine gift; great popular charm or appeal; magnetism

