

500 College Words

P - Z

by

Michael Buckhoff

When reading passages for pleasure, for work, or for university coursework, you will encounter unfamiliar vocabulary. In these situations, you should try to understand the new word by looking at the context in which it is used. Examples, appositives, punctuation, the conjunction “or,” clauses, referents, “be” verb, contrasts, and other words in the sentence are contextual clues which may help you to understand a new word.

EXAMPLE

Examples in the form of a word or phrase may help to explain the meaning of a word: as, case in point, for instance, for example, in fact, like, specifically, such as, and to illustrate.

This outcome is a reflection of strong sense of **solidarity** within the corporate peasant community; for instance, this solidarity is apparent in the tendency for almost every man ***to remain within his village over his lifetime.***

The meaning of solidarity is identified by the example that most men remain within their village during their lifetime; therefore, you can guess that solidarity means *having an identity or coincidence of interests, purposes, or sympathies among members of a certain group.*

APPOSITIVES

In some cases, an appositive [a noun or noun phrase which is set off by commas and which modifies another noun] can help you to identify the meaning of an unknown word.

Whether psychology should be classified as a biological or social science was a contentious issue among scholars until 1960, after which time it was increasingly described as a ***behavioral science; the science of the behavior of organisms.***

The meaning of “behavioral science” is identified by its appositive, “the science of the behavioral science.”

PUNCTUATION

Punctuation marks can be used to set off a word which is used to identify another word. Some useful punctuation marks that might help you to understand the meaning of an unknown word are the following:

brackets []

commas ,

dashes –

double quotation marks “ ”

parentheses ()

single quotation marks ‘ ’

If the *wire is bent into a coil, called a solenoid*, the magnetic fields of the individual loops combine to produce a strong field through the core of the coil. The meaning of “solenoid” which is set off by commas is identified by the definition which precedes it: “wire is bent into a coil.”

THE CONJUNCTION “OR”

Sometimes “or” and a synonym immediately comes after an unknown word or phrase.

Haliaeetus leucocephalus, or the Bald Eagle, is one of two eagles in North America and the only exclusively North American eagle.

The meaning of the words “Haliaeetus leucocephalus” are identified by the words “the Bald Eagle” following the word “or.”

CLAUSES

Adjective clauses and their connectors (i.e., that, when, where, which, who, and whom) may be used to identify words.

Both the *electric generator, which makes electricity widely available*, and the *electric motor, which converts electricity to useful mechanical work*, are based on these effects.

The meaning of “electric generator” is identified by the adjective clause: “which makes electricity widely available.” Similarly, the meaning of electric motor is identified by its adjective clause: “which converts electricity to useful mechanical work.”

REFERENTS

Referents are words to refer to other words in a sentence or paragraph. The referent may refer to a previous word or one which follows it.

It is one of the more remarkable feats of American literature, how a young man who never graduated from high school, never received a college degree, living in a small town in the poorest state in the nation, all the while balancing a growing family of dependents and impending financial ruin, could during the Great Depression write *a series of novels* all set in the same small Southern county — *As I Lay Dying, Light in August*, and above all, *Absalom, Absalom!* — that would one day be recognized as among the greatest novels ever written by an American.

“*As I Lay Dying, Light in August*” and “*Absalom, Absalom*” can be identified by their referent “a series of novels.”

“BE” VERB

The object, which is referred to as the subject complement and which comes after the verb “be,” may be used to identify the subject.

The Great Horned Owl Bubo virginianus is one of Canada's commonest *large birds of prey*.

The meaning of “The Great Horned Owl Bubo virginianus” is identified by “large birds

of prey,” which comes after “is.”

CONTRASTS

Sometimes, the meaning of vocabulary words can be understood because they are in contrast to another word in the sentence. Some words to show contrast are the following:

although
but
despite
even though
however
in contrast
in spite of
instead
nevertheless
on the other hand
on the contrary
or
still
unlike
yet

Tsunamis are **unlike wind-generated waves**, which many of us may have observed on a local lake or at a coastal beach, in that they are characterized as **shallow-water waves**, with long periods and wave lengths.

Tsunamis are understood to be “shallow-water waves” because they in contrast to “wind-generated waves.”

OTHER WORDS IN THE SENTENCE

Other words in a sentence may also help you to understand the meaning of vocabulary words.

Sponges are the simplest grade of **multi-celled animals**. In general, sponges have **open-topped, sack-like bodies** which are **fixed to the sea floor**. Water is pulled through the body, and food is filtered out.

By using other words in the sentences as contextual clues, you can guess that a “sponge” is a “multi-celled animal” which is “fixed to the sea floor.”

Reading strategy

When encountering an unfamiliar vocabulary word, try the following:

1. Read the sentence preceding the unfamiliar vocabulary word, read the sentence, inside of which the unfamiliar word is being used, and read the sentence following the unfamiliar word.
2. Look for context clues to help you understand the meaning of the word.
3. Look for examples, appositives, punctuation, the conjunction “or,” clauses, referents, “be” verb, and contrast statements as clues to help you understand the unfamiliar word.

Instructions for mastering the vocabulary words

When you come across a word you do not know on the “500 College Level Words” list, quickly write it down onto a 3 x 5 inch notecard (use one word on each notecard). On the back of the notecard, write down the meaning of the word and any other information (i.e., pronunciation, part of speech, sample sentence, origin of word) that might help you to remember that word.

You can build your vocabulary by studying your notecards regularly. Write sentences using the new words. Add synonyms and antonyms to your notecards everyday. Little by little you will begin to increase your knowledge of informal, formal, and academic vocabulary.

1. peculiarity (noun) peculiar behavior; a distinctive element
Demographic **peculiarities** reveal a pattern of upward marriage or hypergamy which is quite different from endogamy and reflects an acknowledged status difference among communities.

2. peg (verb) to establish the identification of
Today's most sophisticated forecast models cannot **peg** mountain convection well enough to assess how it might trigger storm complexes downstream.

3. pelt (noun) the skin of an animal
Many hunters and fur traders sought money in beaver and otter **pelts**, and deer and buffalo skins.

4. penance (noun) act of self-punishment as reparation for guilt, sins, etc.
As **penance** for their sins, some religions require their members to engage in certain embarrassing rituals before they can receive forgiveness.

5. peninsula (noun) a piece of land jutting out into the water and connected with a larger body of land with an isthmus
Jamestown, Virginia, founded during the latter half of the seventeenth century, was built on a **peninsula**.

6. peppered (verb) to direct a concentrated outpouring, as of missiles, words, or blows
The military outpost was **peppered** with machine gun fire continuously for three hours.

7. percentage (noun) rate or proportion percent
Binet discovered that the **percentage** of subnormal children stayed about the same if he took the ratio between the child's "mental age" and "chronological age" instead of the difference between the two.

8. perception (noun) the condition of being aware; that which exists in the mind as the product of careful mental activity
The cognition and **perception** program represents a very diverse group of faculty and students with research interests in all areas of cognitive science, including sensation, perception, motor performance, attention, memory, learning, language, reasoning, problem solving, and decision making.

9. perch (adjective) a resting place or vantage point; a roost for a bird
When feeding in a field, crows usually post a sentinel on a lofty **perch** to sound a warning if any danger should approach.

10. peril (noun) exposure to the risk of being injured, destroyed, or lost

With the falloff in old-style agriculture, the region's remarkably diverse plant community, including many rare wildflower species, is also in **peril**.

11. peripheral (adjective) of minor importance; marginal

Cervantes's book was read as a parody of novels of chivalry until the Romantics revealed its true importance as a novel. Part one interpolates **peripheral** episodes into the main plot.

12. perish (verb) to cease living

At least 80 and perhaps hundreds of people **perished** in the deadliest historical eruption to occur in what is now Hawaii.

13. permeate (verb) to diffuse through or penetrate something

Hot, humid weather **permeated** the East on Thursday, and many areas of the central United States received rain.

14. perpendicular to (adjective) at right angles to the horizon or to level ground

Since lift always occurs **perpendicular to** the surface of the wing, the lift acts at an angle and the plane turns accordingly.

15. persecution (noun) very painful punishment

Some people with mental disorders have a tendency toward self-**persecution**, self-sabotage, and even violence.

16. persistent (adjective) insistently continuous; of long duration

After **persistent** rumors of a deep underground lake somewhere in a cave in East Tennessee, a large body of water now named the Lost Sea was discovered in 1905.

17. persnickety (adjective) fussy about small details: fastidious

Some common complaints about usage strike me as too **persnickety**, but I'm just discussing mistakes in English that happen to bother me.

18. personalize (verb) to make personal, which is characterized by a close and thorough acquaintance

To **personalize** a business relationship can be effective in many cultures.

19. perspective (noun) that which is or can be seen; mental view of the relative importance of things

Although few occupations include "sociologist" in their title at the bachelor's level, the sociological **perspective** is excellent preparation for a wide variety of occupations.

20. pervasive (adjective) widespread; occurring quite often

Over one half million people in the U.S. today have autism or some form of **pervasive** developmental disorder.

21. pest (noun) something resembling a pest in destructiveness; *especially* : a plant or animal detrimental to humans or human concerns (as agriculture or livestock production) "Disgusting," "dirty," and "**pest**" are just some of the words we associate with the very unpopular insect, the cockroach.

22. phenomenal (adjective) so remarkable as to elicit disbelief

Few in the music world were prepared for the **phenomenal** success in 1983 of Michael Jackson's Thriller produced by Quincy Jones.

23. phobia (noun) having a fear of something

People who have a lot of **phobias** will also be characterized as having unusually high stress levels.

24. phony (adjective) unreal, fake, pretend

Multiple Personality Disorder was being thrown into disrepute by many people giving **phony** demonstrations of alter switching during television talk shows.

25. phrase (noun) to convey in language or words of a particular form

It would seem socially unacceptable utter the following **phrase** to a co-worker: "You are ugly?"

26. physiologist (noun) one who studies the functions of the living organisms and their living parts

The first studies done with classical conditioning were performed by Ivan Pavlov, a Russian **physiologist**.

27. pier (noun) a structure extending into navigable water for use as a landing place or promenade or to protect or form a harbor

Seaweeds, or algae, some of which attach themselves to stationary objects such as rocks or **piers** by the suction of organs called holdfasts, do not have roots like higher land plants.

28. pigment (noun) something that imparts color

Many seaweeds and other plants that do not appear to be green also have chlorophyll and therefore can convert the sun's energy into food. In these plants, the greenness is hidden by other **pigments**.

29. pilgrimage (noun) a journey to a shrine or sacred place

King emphasized the goal of black voting rights when he spoke at the Lincoln Memorial during the 1957 Prayer **Pilgrimage** for Freedom.

30. pinpoint (verb) to look for and discover; to establish the identification of

In cores from Antarctica and Greenland, researchers have **pinpointed** the beginning of atomic bomb testing in the mid_1950s.

31. pipeline (noun) a line of pipe with pumps, valves, and control devices for conveying liquids, gases, or finely divided solids

Diamonds were formed under extreme heat and pressure at our Earth's core. They traveled to the surface through volcanic **pipelines** known as kimberlite during the Earth's formation.

32. pivotal (adjective) vitally important, crucial

The difference is that these kids were already playing a **pivotal** role in the shaping of that culture, being the first generation to grow up with a Life on the Internet.

33. placebo (noun) an inert or harmless substance used especially in the controlled experiments testing the effectiveness of another substance

The research compared results of the crushed-body treatment with the results of immunotherapy that used insect venom and also the results of a **placebo**.

34. plug (verb) to make unsuitable for passage or progress by obstruction

Acne starts when greasy secretions from the skin's sebaceous glands **plug** the tiny openings for hair follicles up.

35. plausible (adjective) worthy of being believed

Believing that he had a **plausible** alibi the day his wife was murdered, investigators let the suspect go home with no charges being filed.

36. playwright (noun) a person who writes plays

William Shakespeare, famous for the tragedy "Romeo and Juliet," was one of the greatest **playwrights** to

ever exist.

37. plume (noun) an open and mobile column of smoke, exhaust gases, or blowing snow
Great **plumes** of smoke were seen in the horizon.

38. poach (verb) to take game or fish by illegal methods
Chinese folk medicines utilize almost every part of the tiger's body, leading to widespread **poaching** of these animals.

39. pocketbook (noun) financial resources: income
Our recommendations will help you build a system that fits both your needs and your **pocketbook**.

40. polygyny (noun) marriage in which a spouse of either sex may have more than one mate at the same time
Polygyny is allowable in Islamic tradition but is prohibited in Turkish law.

41. polyp (noun) a projecting mass of swollen and hypertrophied or tumorous membrane; a coelenterate that has typically a hollow cylindrical body closed and surrounded by tentacles armed with nematocysts
The ability that humans have to change the earth's surface is rivaled only by colonies of tiny coral **polyps**, which over millions of years form massive coral reefs of limestone.

42. pomp (noun) a ceremonial or festival display as a train of followers or a pageant
The four-day visit, aimed at patching up differences between the two countries over issues such as the Iraq war, will be laden with state events and royal **pomp** such as Tuesday evening's state banquet in Putin's honor.

43. pool (noun) an aggregation of the interests or property of different persons made to further a joint undertaking by subjecting them to the same control and a common liability
Over one's working life, that may be true, but a bachelor's degree, for example, could be a minimum prerequisite that keeps you from being screened out of the applicant **pool**.

44. ponder (verb) to consider carefully and at length
Program directors and staff **ponder** the disruptive dynamism of these new healthcare reforms. In a short time, the reforms might well be a dynamic instability in the care and networking of patients with cardiovascular diseases.

45. portfolio (noun) the securities held by an investor : the commercial paper held by financial house such as a bank
It's a good bet rates will rise if the prime rate increases, since the lender's cost of doing business will be higher. Or they may change if the lender sells its **portfolio** of customers to another bank.

46. portion (noun) one of the parts into which something is divided
In 1848, the Virginia **portion** of land donated as part of the District of Columbia was returned to that state.

47. pose (verb) to present for attention or consideration; to put or set forth
As researchers continue to search the skies for objects that **pose** an impact risk, they are also beginning discussions on how to deflect an object on a collision course with Earth.

48. possession (noun) those articles which belong to someone
Junko left most of her **possessions** with her parents before leaving to the United States.

49. post (noun) an office or position to which a person is appointed
He steadily advanced at the UN, holding **posts** in budget, personnel, and refugee affairs.

50. postpone (verb) to put off until a later time
The exam was **postponed** until the next week.

51. posturing (noun) the act of representing oneself in a given character or as other than what one is
Political **posturing** is quite common in presidential elections.

52. power plant (noun) a building or complex in which electricity is produced
Atmospheric carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxides from coal_ and oil_burning **power plants**, cars, and other fossil_fuel_burning sources have climbed along with the world population, with as yet unknown effects on the climate system.

53. prairie (noun) a large area of level or rolling land in the Mississippi River valley that has deep fertile soil, a cover of tall coarse grasses, and few trees
The Midwestern part of the United States is characterized by vast **prairies**, rich agricultural farmland, and intense thunderstorms.

54. precipitate (verb) something brought about by a cause
In 1861_1862, Federal forces pushing southward from St. Louis captured Forts Henry and Donelson on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers, which **precipitated** the Battle of Shiloh.

55. precise (adjective) clearly, fully, and sometimes emphatically expressed
To maintain flexibility, stretching must be performed at least everyday (every 36 hours to be **precise**).

56. preconceived (adjective) to form an opinion prior to actual knowledge or experience
The Battle of Shiloh would change all **preconceived** notions that the Civil War would be short_lived.

57. precursor (noun) a forerunner; one that proceeds and indicates the approach of another
If language evolved by gradual Darwinian natural selection, we must be able to find some **precursor** of it in our closest relatives, the chimpanzees.

58. predator (noun) one that preys, destroys, or devours
Sea lions, seals, and sharks are natural **predators** of the salmon.

59. predecessor (noun) one that precedes; *especially* : a person who has previously occupied a position or office to which another has succeeded
Scientists have unearthed three 160,000_year_old human skulls in Ethiopia that are the oldest known and best_preserved fossils of modern humans' immediate **predecessors**.

60. preface (noun) a short section of preliminary remarks
Renaissance books established the convention of the **preface** that is found in most books of today.

61. preliminary (adjective)
Avian (bird) mortality is being studied currently to determine if industrial wind turbine farms contribute to the demise of large birds of prey such as golden and bald eagles. **Preliminary** results indicate that avian mortality is specific to the site (if it's on a flyway), not the turbines in general.

62. prescribed (adjective) relating to setting forth expressly and authoritatively
Not only have national parks been thinking about this option, private land_owners have been debating **prescribed** burning as well.

63. presumably (adverb) according to a tentative assumption
While a psychologist openly shares psychological principles to promote treatment, psychics use psychology as a personal tool to manipulate the client, known as the sitter, **presumably** for the sitter's own good.
64. prevalence (noun) the quality or condition of being usual
Its **prevalence** rate makes autism one of the most common developmental disabilities.
65. prey (noun) one that is made to suffer injury, loss, or death
Venom is then injected into the **prey** by an opening near the tip of the fang.
66. primarily (adverb) for the greater or larger part; mostly
Sulfates, which originate **primarily** in coal_fired power plants, started rising around 1900.
67. primate (noun) any of an order of mammals comprising man together with the apes, monkeys, and related forms
Allelomimetic behavior is highly developed among **primates**, where it has the principal function of providing warning against predators.
68. primitive (adjective) of or pertaining to early stages in the evolution of human culture
In **primitive** times, there were no televisions, radios, or microwaves.
69. principal (adjective) most important, influential, or significant
William Faulkner's **principal** residence during the next several months was near Paris, France, just around the corner from the Luxembourg Gardens, where he spent much of his time; his written description of the gardens would later be revised for the closing of his novel Sanctuary.
70. principle (noun) a broad and basic rule or truth
The best philosophy I can convey about how to avoid problems is the **principle** of the three red flags, which states that most accidents are not the result of an unavoidable "karmic-cannonball," but rather are the predictable outcome of a series of related events.
71. prior to (verb) going before; just gone by or elapsed
No one else had gone to college **prior to** his entering Harvard.
72. probable (adjective) likely to happen or to be true; based on probability or presumption
The Ontario report found a **probable** link between firefighting and cancer even though the evidence was inconsistent.
73. probe (verb) to study in order to acquire information
The committee **probed** more into the allegations of whether or not he had engaged in insider trading.
74. procedure (noun) an official or prescribed course of action; a method used in dealing with something
For those unfamiliar with the term, cold reading is the description of the personality, characteristics, features, past experiences and sometimes the future of a person without the use of standard psychological or other formal diagnostic **procedures**.
75. proclamation (noun) a public statement; the act of announcing
Dubbed the Emancipation **Proclamation**, the law decreed that all slaves were free men.
76. precocious (adjective) exhibiting mature qualities at an unusually early age

A recent study in Norway suggests that wild salmon lose out to sexually **precocious** fish-farm invaders when breeding in rivers.

77. procurement (noun) the act of getting possession of : obtaining by particular care and effort

Most organ **procurement** organizations offer programs that forward letters from organ recipients to the families of organ donors.

78. profound (adjective) beyond the understanding of the average mind
It is a complex story within the healthcare scheme of technological modernization that has one **profound** and simple reality: there will not be enough money to pay for the healthcare costs of this country.

79. progeny (noun) a group consisting of those descended directly from the same parents or ancestors
John Adams's marriage of 54 years to this wise, learned, strong_willed, passionate, and patriotic woman began the brilliant phase of Adams family history that produced their son John Quincy, his son Charles Francis, his sons Henry and Brooks, and numerous other distinguished **progeny**.

80. project (verb) a rough or tentative calculation
The costs of advances in modern medical technology and services have been **projected** between \$1.5 to \$2.3 trillion.

81. prolific (adjective) characterized by great productivity
Ebay, an Internet company allowing people to buy and sell products Online, is one of the most **prolific** businesses in recent history.

82. prolonged (adjective) of long duration; extending tediously beyond a standard duration
In 1772, Archbishop von Schrattenbach died, to be succeeded by Hieronymus von Colloredo. The latter, at first sympathetic to the Mozarts, later became irritated by Wolfgang's **prolonged** absences and stubborn ways.

83. prominent (adjective) widely known and esteemed
Thompson and Allen are respectively touted as **prominent** west coast and east coast movie producers.

84. promisingly (adverb) of, or relating to indicative of future success
Mozart's career in Vienna began **promisingly**, and he was soon commissioned to write The Abduction from the Seraglio (1782).

85. promote (verb) to make known the positive features of a product; to provide favorable publicity for
While a psychologist openly shares psychological principles to **promote** treatment, psychics use psychology as a personal tool to manipulate the client, known as the sitter, presumably for the sitter's own good.

86. prone (adjective) having or showing a tendency or likelihood
More areas in the world were **prone** to drought than those in the past.

87. propagate (verb) to bring into existence and foster the development of; increase
Because the rate at which a wave loses its energy is inversely related to its wave length, tsunamis not only **propagate** at high speeds, they can also travel great, transoceanic distances with limited energy losses.

88. propel (verb) to force to move or advance with or as if with blows or pressure
After a person chews and swallows, the food is **propelled** down the ten inches of esophagus and into the stomach.
89. propeller (noun) revolving shaft with blades, especially for propelling a ship or airplane
As the plane uses jet engines, or even a **propeller** in some cases, to move itself forward, air rushes by the wing.
90. propensity (noun) an inclination or tendency to something
Sakalutan women show a low rate of remaining within their villages (just over 50%) and a high **propensity** to marry men in other locations.
91. proponent (noun) one who supports or champions an activity, institution, etc.
Morehouse College president Benjamin Mays and other **proponents** of Christian social activism influenced King's decision after his junior year at Morehouse to become a minister and thereby serve society.
92. proportion (noun) satisfying arrangement marked by even distribution of elements, as in a design
The cut of a diamond refers to its **proportions**.
93. prospector (noun) one who searches for something, especially valuable minerals: gold, silver, and diamonds.
In the mid_1870s, gold was discovered, and press reports brought a rush of **prospectors** to California.
94. prosperity (noun) steady good fortune or financial security; a state of health, happiness, and prosperity
Many gay couples are enjoying a higher level of economic **prosperity** than the average American and don't feel constrained in any way by a lack of marriage rights.
95. protagonist (noun) the main performer in a theatrical production
Given to reading books of chivalry, the **protagonist** Alonso Quijano, influenced by the exploits of his heroes, loses his mind and decides to become a knight, go out in search of adventure, and impose justice according to the code of the knights errant.
96. protruding (adjective) to curve outward past the normal or usual limit
An anorexic person has **protruding** ribs and resembles a skeleton, yet usually denies being thin.
97. proverb (noun) a usually familiar statement expressing an observation or principle generally accepted as wise or true
Many Biblical **proverbs** are used in Western culture as informative verses by which a person can effectively govern his life.
98. provision (verb) to provide as of supplies; to be prepared beforehand
This species nests in the ground and **provisions** its nest with cicadas.
99. prowess (noun) distinguished bravery; *especially* : military valor and skill; extraordinary ability
It was in England, at the Crystal Palace--the popular name for the first World's Fair, held in London in 1851--that America's industrial and technological **prowess** was first widely recognized.
100. prowl (verb) to roam over in a predatory manner; to move about or wander stealthily in or as if in search of prey
At sea, large ships with heavy gear **prowl** in search of fish.

101. psychic (noun) considered to have powers such as telepathy [paranormal communication of thoughts, especially with the deceased] or clairvoyance [being to able to tell the future beyond the normal sensory contact]

In the majority of cases, sitters go to **psychics** to address a personal problem, whether it's travel, health, expectations, sex, career, ambitions, or money.

102. psychoanalysis (noun) a method of treating emotional disorders that emphasizes the importance of a patient's talking freely about himself while under the treatment and especially about childhood experiences and about his dreams

Dr. Sigmund Freud developed a new mental treatment which he named **psychoanalysis**.

103. psychotic (adjective) being insane or mad

Many murderers are **psychotic**, and they have no remorse about killing their victims.

104. pulse (noun) to make rhythmic contractions, sounds, or movements

In 1993, Angelou wrote and delivered a poem, "On The **Pulse** of the Morning," at the inauguration for President Bill Clinton at his request.

105. pummel (verb) to strike repeatedly by heavy blows so as to cause damage

Gov. Jeb Bush on Tuesday declared a state of emergency for seven southwestern Florida counties which were **pummeled** by torrential rain.

106. pump (verb) to remove a liquid by a steady, gradual process

Some cities are now **pumping** water which has lain in underground storage for more than 25,000 years.

107. pungent (adjective) affecting the organs of taste or smell with a strong and often harsh sensation; so sharp as to cause mental pain

In a **pungent** diary, vivid letters, learned tracts, and patriotic speeches he revealed himself as a quintessential Puritan, patriarch of an illustrious family, tough_minded philosopher of the republic, sage, and sometimes a vain, stubborn, and vitriolic partisan.

108. pupil (noun) one who is being educated, student

It is fairly certain that Cervantes was a **pupil** of Lóópez de Hoyos in Madrid.

109. push (noun) a vigorous effort to attain an end, drive

Back in the early 1960's when the fishery was really developing quite strongly, there was a **push** from both industry and government to make sure that things were going to be sustainable.

110. pursue (verb) to follow another; to move behind another in the same direction

His attempts to measure intelligence caught on and were **pursued** by others.

111. quantitatively (adverb) relating to or involving the measurement of quantity or amount

It is difficult to quantitatively

112. quartet (noun) a composition of four performers; any group of four

The great piano concertos and the string **quartets** dedicated to his "dear friend" Josef Haydn were also composed during this period.

113. quasi- (prefix) seemingly; not really; almost

Chimpanzees require massive regimented teaching sequences contrived by humans to acquire quite rudimentary abilities, mostly limited to a small number of signs, strung together in repetitive, **quasi_random** sequences, used with the intent of requesting food or tickling.

114. radioactivity (noun) the emission of ionizing radiation or particles caused by the spontaneous disintegration of atomic nuclei

Each layer of ice in a core corresponds to a single year--or sometimes even a single season--and most everything that fell in the snow that year remains behind, including wind-blown dust, ash, atmospheric gases, even **radioactivity**.

115. raid (verb) to attack in order to steal, destroy, or conquer
Crows sometimes **raid** the nests and eat the eggs and the young of smaller birds.

116. rally (verb) with reference to troops bring or come together again so as to continue fighting
In a last effort to regain control of Shiloh, the confederate troops **rallied** against the union soldiers in a three day raging battle.

117. ramble (verb) to move aimlessly from place to place; to explore idly
NASA launches the first of two golf_cart_size rovers that will **ramble** across the rocky, red soil of Mars and drill for evidence that the Red Planet once had enough water to support life.

118. ramshackle (noun) appearing ready to collapse; carelessly or loosely constructed
Both are lonely in their **ramshackle** surroundings and, over a series of gin rummy games, they become acquainted.

119. range (noun) the area of variation between limits on a particular scale: the car's outside my price range
Flexibility is the ability to move joints freely through their full **range** of motion.

120. rarity(noun) the state or quality of being far beyond what is usual, normal, or customary
If the inclusions are not visible to the naked eye, a higher clarity does not really improve the appearance of a diamond but rather the **rarity** and price

121. ratchet (verb) to cause to move by steps or degrees -- usually used with *up* or down
Since Sept. 11, Beijing has **ratcheted** up its bluster against Xinjiang's Uighur separatists.

122. rate-slashing (adjective) to reduce sharply
The Fed started its rate-**slashing** campaign in 2001, and by January 2002, the average interest rate on credit cards had fallen by more than 2 percentage points. But then they began a steady creep upward.

123. ratio (noun) the quantitative relation between two amounts showing the number of times one value contains or is contained within the other
Mercury is the only body in the solar system known to have an orbital/rotational resonance with a **ratio** other than 1:1.

124. raw (adjective) uncooked; in its natural state, not processed
The chlorophyll captures the light energy and uses this energy to build carbohydrates from simple **raw** materials (water, carbon dioxide and minerals).

125. ravenous (adjective) desiring or craving food
Ladybugs, those polka-dotted little beetles, have a **ravenous** appetite for aphids and other insects, which is why they can be used in place of insecticides in the citrus industry of California.

126. acquaint (verb) to re-familiarize oneself with someone or something; to cause to know about or be aware of something or someone which was once familiar
Page through the text and/or your notebook to **reacquaint** yourself with the important points.

127. readily (adverb) without hesitation, willingly; without difficulty, easily

The developments in Rhythm and Blues of the mid and late 1980's are **readily** evident, especially the pervasive influence of hip-hop.

128. reality (noun) the state of things as they actually exist, as opposed to an idealistic or notional idea of them

Cervantes's work, a keen critique of the literature of his time, presented the clash between **reality** and the ideals which Don Quijote sought to revive, and at the same time originated the theme of the clairvoyance of insanity.

129. realize (verb) become fully aware of as a fact; understand clearly

Although they loved Vinland, they **realized** there would always be trouble living with the Indians.

130. rear (verb) to take care of and educate [a child]

The life cycle of insects is so short that many generations can be **reared** each year.

131. recall (verb) remember; cause one to remember or think of; officially order to return

She/he may detect Multiple Personality Disorder as a result of the sudden appearance of new possessions that they cannot **recall** having purchased withdrawals from their bank account signed for in a strange handwriting, friends and family referring to past events of which they are not aware.

132. recede (verb) move back or farther away; gradually diminish

Fortunately, after three days of Sunshine and no rain, the floods from the American River **receded** back into its banks.

133. receptor (noun) a cell or group of cells that receive stimuli; sense organ

Although the vibration **receptor** on the spider's leg seems most sensitive to frequencies above 1,000 hertz, previous research had indicated that vibrations induced by trapped prey never exceeded that frequency.

134. recipient (noun) a person who receives something.

Similar to city states of antiquity (e.g. Athens, Rome, Carthage) or medieval times (e.g. the Hanseatic League), except that modern citistates engage in instant electronic communication and capital transfer, and are the chief **recipients** of world population growth.

135. reciprocity (noun) the practice of exchanging things with others for mutual benefit

It is important that a relationship be friendly and express group **reciprocity**.

136. recitation (noun) musical declamation of the kind usual in the narrative and dialogue parts of opera and oratorio

The program included songs and **recitations** of well-loved poems.

137. reclaiming (verb) retrieve or recover; bring (waste land or land formerly under water) under cultivation

Until we can discover an inexpensive system for **reclaiming** sea water, we must all work together to make sure there is fresh clean water for the next generations.

138. recombining (verb) to put together again into one mass so that the constituent parts are more or less homogeneous

By **recombining** the atoms of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen in different combinations, the plant creates the different carbohydrates.

139. reconstitute (verb) to form or make up again or anew
U.S. officials emphasized this was not evidence Iraq had a nuclear weapon -- but it was evidence the Iraqis concealed plans to **reconstitute** their nuclear program as soon as the world was no longer looking.

140. recovered (verb) return to a normal state of health, mind, or strength
Therapists believe that the appropriate therapy involves the recovery of childhood abuse memories, through **recovered** memory therapy re-integration of the alters into the dominant personality.

141. rectangular (adjective) a plane figure with four straight sides and four right angles, and with unequal adjacent sides
Betsy Johnson lives in a humble three bedroom **rectangular** shaped house.

142. recycled (adjective) into reusable material; use again
To save paper, one should consider buying books made only with **recycled** paper.

143. redact (verb) to put in writing; to select or adapt for publication
Court documents related to the guardian's medical plan for J.D.S. are **redacted** and do not disclose when and where the young woman will be taken to give birth.

144. redeem (verb) to free from a lien by payment of an amount secured thereby; to remove the obligation of by payment
By **redeeming** this debt early, we continue with our stated policy to further reduce the company's total debt position.

145. reflexive (adjective) acting or happening without apparent forethought, prompting, or planning
Because the dogs' salivation is **reflexive**, Pavlov decided to analyze how the dogs learned to associate the bell with being fed.

146. reform (verb) make changes in something in order to improve it; cause to abandon an immoral or criminal lifestyle
In a short time, the **reforms** might well be a dynamic instability in the care and networking of patients with cardiovascular diseases.

147. refract (verb) to cause to move, especially at an angle; to bend
Sound waves traveling upward may be **refracted** by the difference in temperature and redirected toward the ground.

148. refrain from (verb) stop oneself from doing something
He **refrained from** hitting him back.

149. regardless of (adverb) despite the prevailing circumstances
For example, some argue that **regardless** of any individual's desire to get married, the community as a whole should support official recognition of their right to do so.

150. regenerate (verb) regrow new tissue; bring new and more vigorous life to an area or institution
But Davis and Trier have found that mesoscale convective vortexes play a key role in helping storms **regenerate** over two or more days.

151. regime (noun) a government in power
He said the European Union would extend its ban on visits by Myanmar officials, warning that further pressure would follow "unless the **regime** moves rapidly to restore civilian rule and democracy."

152. regiment (noun) a permanent unit of an army, typically divided into several smaller units and often into two battalions; a large number of people or things

William Tecumseh Sherman, division commander, was quoted saying to reporters, "Take your **regiment** to Ohio. No enemy is nearer than Corinth."

153. region (noun) an area of a country or the world having definable characteristics but not always fixed boundaries; an administrative district of a city or country
Arnold speculated that the polar **regions** might have areas that are permanently shadowed, hence permanently cold.

154. regulatory (verb) control or maintain the rate or speed of a machine or process; control or supervise by means of rules and regulations
Some alters create new alters as needed. Others perform a system **regulatory** function; they determine which alter will be in charge at a given time.

155. regurgitate (verb) to throw or pour back or out from or as if from a cavity
California condors are scavengers, eating dead animals and carcasses left by hunters. Some condors will **regurgitate** their food if they feel threatened.

156. rehabilitation (verb) restore to health or normal life by training and therapy after imprisonment, addiction, or illness
Cardiac **rehabilitation** professionals find themselves increasingly drawn into discussions about healthcare reform, particularly when it relates to cost-containment.

157. rehearse (verb) to do or perform repeatedly so as to master
The bride and the groom usually **rehearse** their wedding ceremony before the actual day of the wedding.

158. relative (adjective) considered in relation or in proportion to something else; existing or possessing a characteristic only in comparison to something else: months of **relative** calm ended in April.
The precise composition, and **relative** proportions of that dust and gas, hold clues to the materials and physical conditions present in the frigid outer regions of the solar system where comets are formed.

159. remarkable (adjective) extraordinary or striking.
Leopold was a successful composer and violinist and assistant concertmaster at the Salzburg court, whose archbishop, Sigismund von Schrattenbach, encouraged the activities of Leopold and his **remarkable** children.

160. remedy (noun) a medicine, application, or treatment that relieves or cures a disease
So we wanted to see how it measured in its latest marketing claims -- as an anti-aging **remedy** for men in their 40s," says Conrad Earnest, PhD, of the Cooper Institute Centers for Integrative Health Research in Dallas.

161. reminiscent of (adjective) tending to remind one of something; absorbed in memories
Going fishing by the lake last week was **reminiscent of** the times when I went fishing as a child.

162. remnants (noun) a small remaining quantity; a piece of cloth left when the greater part has been used or sold; a surviving trace
Deep into the jungles of Guatemala are the **remnants** of a civilization which existed more than a 1,000 years ago.

163. remote (adjective) far away in space or time; situated far from the main centers of population
Death Valley, one of the **remotest** areas in California, boasts summertime temperatures which are among some of the hottest in the world.

164. renaissance (noun) the revival of art and literature under the influence of classical

models in the 14th 16th centuries; a revival of or renewed interest in something
 Los trabajos is the best evidence not only of the survival of Greek novelistic themes but also of the survival of forms and ideas of the Spanish novel of the second **Renaissance**.

165. render (verb) to present a lifelike image of
 X-rays differentiate between bone and air, hence **rendering** the liver, the pancreas and certain other organs invisible.

166. renown (noun) the state of being famous.
 He quickly became **renowned** for his religious theme paintings which were popular with the art buying public.

167. rent (verb) to separate one part of a substance or object from another: tear;
 often used with *apart*
 The colossal impact must have nearly **rent** the young Earth apart.

168. repercussion (noun) a remote or indirect consequence of some action
 Another group doesn't want to risk **repercussions** while perhaps another group just doesn't care one way or the other.

169. repetition (noun) the action or an instance of repeating or being repeated; a thing that repeats another
 This would be a weight lifter performing multiple **repetitions** of a light weight.

170. replete (adjective) fully or abundantly provided or filled
 Gateway threw in a near library of primers for mastering the ins and outs of video editing. One, **replete** with colorful illustrations, shows you how to capture, create, and share movies.

171. repulsion (noun) the force with which bodies, particles, or like forces repel one another
 However, astronomers had found no evidence that the universe had ever been a different size. So Einstein added a *cosmological constant* to the theory. That term represented a **repulsion** (pushing away) of every point in space by the surrounding points, acting against gravitational attraction.

172. rescue (verb) save from a dangerous or distressing situation
 The easiest way to **rescue** yourself is to not get into trouble in the first place.

173. reservoir (noun) a large natural or artificial lake used as a source of water supply; a place where fluid collects, especially in rock strata or in the body.
 If this is the case, the water builds up behind the dam and spreads out to form an artificial lake or **reservoir**.

174. residence (noun) the fact of residing somewhere; the place where a person resides; a person's home
 His principal **residence** during the next several months was near Paris, France, just around the corner from the Luxembourg Gardens, where he spent much of his time; his written description of the gardens would later be revised for the closing of his novel Sanctuary.

175. resolve (verb) settle or find a solution to; decide firmly on a course of action
 After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the United States **resolved** to enter World War II.

176. resonance (noun) the quality of being resonant; physics: the reinforcement or prolongation of sound by reflection or synchronous vibration.
 It is now known that Mercury rotates three times in two of its years. Mercury is the only body in the solar system known to have an orbital/rotational **resonance** with a ratio other than 1:1.

177. respectively (adverb) separately or individually and in the order already mentioned

Authors Jones and Dewey are **respectively** touted as prominent west coast and east coast psychics.

178. respiration (noun) the action of breathing; a single breath
Warm ups prepare your body for the exercise ahead by increasing heart rate and **respiration**, and thus supplying energy (heat, oxygen) to the cells.

179. resume (verb) begin again or continue after a pause or interruption
At that point the Sun would stop, briefly reverse course, and stop again before **resuming** its path toward the horizon and decreasing in apparent size.

180. retain (verb) continue to have; keep possession of; absorb and continue to hold
In-marriage also has the effect of **retaining** property within family lines, especially where women are allowed to inherit.

181. retard (adjective) less advanced in mental, physical, or social development than is usual for one's age
Binet was commissioned by the government in France to make recommendations about how to educate **retarded** children.

182. retinue (noun) a group of advisers or assistants accompanying an important person
In 1569 he went to Italy as part of Cardenal Acquaviva's **retinue** and after signing up as a soldier in 1570 fought in the battle of Lepanto aboard the galley Marquesa.

183. retrieve (verb) get or bring back
The long cylinders of ancient ice that they **retrieve** provide a dazzlingly detailed record of what was happening in the world over the past several ice ages.

184. revenue (adjective) relating to the total income produced by a given source
Resellers intent on building a steady **revenue** stream continue to fill backrooms with assembly tools, components and test gear to turn out house-branded computer equipment.

185. revere (verb) respect or admire deeply
He continued to be **revered** after his death from a fall while painting in 1682.

186. reverse (verb) move backwards; make something the opposite of what it was
It would seem socially unacceptable if the phrases above were **reversed**.

187. revise (verb) examine and improve or amend text; reconsider and alter an opinion or judgement
A brief description of the invention, planning and drafting, middle draft peer review, final draft, and **revised** final draft stages will be explained by various students whom I have asked to speak today.

188. revitalize (verb) to give new life or vigor to
Natural flooding of rivers **revitalizes** the habitats of many plants and animals and enriches soils for planting.

189. rigid (adjective) incapable of changing or being modified
Intense heat changes the nature of clay so that it becomes stony and **rigid**.

190. rigorous (adjective) not deviating from correctness, accuracy, or completeness
The standards of validity for experimental research are so **rigorous** that it may take a researcher several years to get his results published in a scholarly journal.

191. rim (noun) the upper or outer edge of something more or less circular
The bicyclists raced around the southern rim of the Grand Canyon

192. rip (verb) to separate or pull apart by force

To fully exterminate an ant colony, they must be located and treated—and in some cases, walls must be **ripped** open.

193. ripple (noun) a small wave or series of waves; a gentle rising and falling sound that spreads through a group of people
Muscular contractions cause a **ripple**-like movement that carries the contents down the small intestine - somewhat like a conveyor belt.

194. risk (noun) a situation involving exposure to danger
Another group doesn't want to **risk** repercussions while perhaps another group just doesn't care one way or the other.

195. ritual (noun) a religious or solemn ceremony involving a series of actions performed according to a set order
Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD) specialists generally believe that people with MPD may experience any of the following: depression, mood swings, suicidal tendencies, sleep disorders, panic attacks and phobias, alcohol and drug abuse, compulsions and **rituals**, psychotic-like symptoms, and eating disorders.

196. rivet (noun) a headed pin or bolt used for uniting two or more pieces by passing the shank through a hole in each piece and then beating or pressing down the plain end so as to make a second head
Second only to iron and steel, aluminum is used in the construction of lawn chairs, baseball bats, air and space vehicles, and even the **rivets** that hold them together.

197. root (noun) a rhizome; a plant on to which another variety is grafted
Born in Atlanta on January 15, 1929, King's **roots** were in the African-American Baptist church.

198. rotate (verb) move in a circle round an axis
It is now known that Mercury **rotates** three times in two of its years.

199. rotation (noun) the action or process of rotating
The Moon's axis of **rotation** is nearly perpendicular to the plane of its orbit around the Sun, so the Sun always appears at or near the horizon in the polar regions of the Moon.

200. rough (adjective) having an uneven or irregular surface, not smooth or level; approximate
While these data are at best **rough** estimates, there is one certainty -- we spent only a tiny percentage of the \$800 billion on prevention .

201. route (noun) a way or course taken in getting from a starting point to a destination
Grapevine Canyon is one of the three eastern exit **routes** from the Valley, and the location of Scotty's Castle.

202. routine (noun) a sequence of actions regularly followed; a fixed unvarying program
This is important in sports such as track and field and football, as well as **routine** activities such as lifting groceries or moving furniture.

203. rubbish (noun) waste material; refuse or litter
It lays its eggs in **rubbish** heaps, rotting trees trunks, sawdust, and other vegetative matter.

204. rubble (noun) broken fragments, especially of a building
During the San Francisco earthquake at the beginning of the 20th century, many buildings were reduced to nothing more but a pile of **rubble**.

205. rudimentary (adjective) involving or limited to basic principles

To show why the chimpanzees signaling system is not homologous to human language, Zachary says that chimpanzees require massive regimented teaching sequences contrived by humans to acquire quite **rudimentary** abilities, mostly limited to a small number of signs, strung together in repetitive, quasi-random sequences, used with the intent of requesting food or tickling.

206. rule out (verb) to keep from being admitted, included, or considered
Eventually, experimental tests by Army Majors William Gorgas and Walter Reed **ruled out** dirt and poor sanitation conditions as causes of Yellow Fever, and a mosquito was the suspected carrier.

207. run (verb) to do in a formal manner or according to prescribed ritual: do
Picking up on Safronov's general ideas, Hartmann and Davis **ran** calculations of the rate of growth of the 2nd-largest, 3rd largest, etc., bodies in the general vicinity of Earth, as the Earth itself was growing.

208. runoff (noun) the portion of precipitation on land that ultimately reaches streams often with dissolved or suspended material
"It's been a rough spring, just an extraordinary amount of rainfall," said Ray Bowman, spokesman for the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management. "The ground is completely saturated, so everything is **runoff**. We could have flash floods just about any time."

209. rural (adjective) relating to or characteristic of the countryside rather than the town
Marriage patterns in **rural** Turkey are noticeably influenced by endogamous preferences within both villages and kinship groups.

210. rush (verb) move or act with urgent haste; transport or produce with urgent haste
In the mid-1870s, gold was discovered, and press reports brought a **rush** of prospectors.

211. rustle (verb) to act or move with energy or speed; to forage food
The big ears of a bat detect the returning echoes, as well as the sounds of prey, such as insects **rustling** in the leaves.

212. sabotage (noun) a deliberate and underhanded effort to defeat or do harm to an endeavor
To **sabotage** his friend's grades, John's roommate accused him of cheating on a Philosophy exam.

213. sacred (adjective) regarded with particular reverence or respect
In 1772, von Colloredo retained Wolfgang as concertmaster at a token salary. In this capacity Mozart composed a large number of **sacred** and secular works.

214. safeguard (verb) to make safe, to protect
Putin's tough stand was seen by analysts as an attempt to protect Russian interests in Iraq -- Moscow wants to **safeguard** its multi-billion dollar debt payments and contracts signed with Baghdad in existence before the war.

215. sail (verb) to move swiftly through the water through the use of boat
Thorvald Eiriksson, son of Eirik the Red, **sailed** from Greenland to the New World which he had been told about by his brother Leif.

216. salivate (verb) to produce an abnormal flow of saliva—the result of secretion of water in the mouth
Pavlov noticed that the dogs in his laboratory **salivated** not only when they ate their food, but also before they had taken a bite.

217. sanctioned by (verb) adhering to beliefs or practices approved by authority or

tradition

Many same-sex couples participate in their own ceremonies, **sanctioned by** their friends, families and spiritual communities.

218. sanctuary (noun) a sacred or holy place; the state of being protected or safeguarded, as from danger or hardship

William Faulkner's written description of the gardens would later be revised for the closing of his novel **Sanctuary**.

219. sanitation (noun) the act or process of being readily kept in cleanliness

Nearly three-fifths of the 4.8 billion people in developing countries lack basic **sanitation**, almost a third have no access to clean water, a quarter lack adequate housing, and a fifth lack access to modern health services.

220. satire (noun) a work, as a novel or play, that exposes folly by the use of humor or irony

Political **satire**, found in newspapers across the US, aims at prominent leaders such as the president, governors, and leaders of congress.

221. savage (verb) so intense as to cause extreme suffering

During the early 1940's, Germany created many **savage** labor camps which were not liberated by the allies until 1945.

222. scarce (adjective) not enough to meet a demand or requirement

Recently, wind power has become an appealing alternative to fossil_based fuels, especially in countries with **scarce** petroleum and ample wind.

223. scarecrow (noun) an object usually suggesting a human figure that is set up to scare birds

Some farmers put up **scarecrows** to keep crows from invading their cornfields.

224. scatter (verb) to cause to separate and go in various directions

Immigrants who have recently moved into the United States are **scattered** among the 50 states.

225. scavenger (noun) an organism that feeds habitually on garbage or dead and putrefying flesh

New research casts T_Rex dinosaurs as little more than a **scavenger**, hunting out the kills of other carnivores and stealing them.

226. scenario (noun) a sequence of events especially when imagined; *especially* : an account or synopsis of a possible course of action or events

NASA is likely to launch its first space shuttle since the Columbia tragedy in the first three months of next year and expects to announce a launch date in about six weeks, a top space agency official said on Wednesday. That **scenario** would mean a one_year stand down after the Feb. 1 Columbia crash, compared to a nearly three_year wait following the 1986 Challenger accident.

227. score (musical) an arrangement of music for a specific performance medium

In 1971, she wrote the original screenplay and musical **score** for the film Georgia, Georgia, and was both author and executive producer of a five-part television miniseries "Three Way Choice."

228. scabble (noun) a repeated scratching or clawing

Three fossil skulls recovered from the windswept **scabble** of Ethiopia's dry and barren Afar rift valley lend archaeological credence to the theory that modern humans evolved in Africa before spreading around

the world.

229. scribble (verb) to write hastily or carelessly without regard to legibility of thought
Check the meaning of unfamiliar words if they seem to be key words. In that case, if the author uses them more than once, **scribble** a brief definition at the bottom of the page or at the end of the essay.

230. scrutiny (noun) the act of examining carefully
Despite this fact, the mission had to pass **scrutiny** from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for violations of the space agency's "planetary protection" rules.

231. searingly (adverb) at a manner of having damage by or as if by fire
As a large group of Keoua's warriors traveling with their families passed the crater of Kilauea Volcano, there was a sudden explosive eruption of **searingly** hot ash and gas.

232. seaweed (noun) a mass of growth of marine plants
Many **seaweeds** and other plants that do not appear to be green also have chlorophyll and therefore can convert the sun's energy into food.

233. secretion (noun) a product of secretion, i.e. saliva, from an animal or plant
It is here that the final process of digestion and nutrient absorption takes place from the two gallons of food, liquid and digestive **secretions** processed each day.

234. secular (adjective) not religious in subject matter, form, or use
Mozart composed a large number of sacred and **secular** works.

235. secured (verb) to render certain
Adams helped draft the Declaration of Independence, **secured** its unanimous adoption in Congress, and wrote his wife on July 3, 1776, that "the most memorable Epoch in the History of America has begun."

236. sediment (noun) the matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid; material deposited by water, wind, or glaciers
The rover, Opportunity, and its sister rover, Spirit, which was launched earlier this month, will act as robotic geologists during their three months of exploration. They will send back images of **sediment** and mineral deposits that can help scientists determine whether there was ever enough water on Mars to sustain life.

237. seek out (verb) to strive toward a goal; to try to find
As effective as the methods I am about to outline in this lecture are, you are still advised to **seek out** for yourself other or even devise new methods to help your flexibility.

238. segregation (noun) the policy or practice of excluding a minority group from full freedom or participation in a society
On December 5, 1955, five days after Montgomery civil rights activist Rosa Parks refused to obey the city's rules mandating **segregation** on buses, black residents launched a bus boycott.

239. selective (adjective) able to recognize small differences or draw fine distinctions
Sir Francis Galton, a cousin of Charles Darwin, was interested in the measurement of intelligence because he wanted to increase it through **selective** breeding.

240. self-esteem (noun) a sense of one's own dignity or worth
Face refers to the respect that an individual has for him or herself, and maintaining "**self-esteem**" in public or in private situations.

241. semiaquatic (adjective) frequently but not living completely in water
As penguins adapted to marine life, their wings changed to flippers and their feathers to a waterproof covering, hence suiting the birds to a **semiaquatic** existence.

242. sensation (noun) the capacity for or an act of responding to a stimulus
Cognitive Psychology is concerned with mental processes and their effects on human behavior and focuses on phenomena such as: **sensation**, perception, motor control, attention, memory, learning, language, reasoning, problem solving, and decision making.

243. sentinel (noun) something or someone that watches over
When feeding in a field, crows usually post a **sentinel** on a lofty perch to sound a warning if any danger should approach.

244. serendipitous (adjective) characterized by the faculty of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for
Until modern methods of oil prospecting were put into place, most oil strikes were **serendipitous**.

245. set apart (verb) to make noticeable or different
But every metro area that's **set apart** geographically — a Houston, a Denver, a Burlington, Vermont — qualifies as a citistate too.

246. settle (verb) to take up permanent residence in a certain area
After this incident, the colonists decided to return to Greenland rather than **settle** in Vinland.

247. severely (adjective) with a gloomy, harsh manner or appearance
The hot weather in Palm Springs had **severely** tired the bicyclists.

248. sexist (adjective) having prejudice or discrimination, especially against women, on the grounds of sex
On the other hand, there are those who decry marriage as a **sexist** and patriarchal institution that should be avoided at all costs.

249. shack (noun) a room or similar enclosed structure for a particular person or use
They're getting people [as contestants] who watch the show already, not someone from a **shack** in Kampala.

250. shadow (verb) to shelter, especially from light
Some scientists have speculated that the polar regions of the moon might have areas that are permanently **shadowed**, hence permanently cold. The water might accumulate there.

251. shaft (noun) a vertical or inclined opening of uniform and limited cross section made for finding or mining ore, raising water, or ventilating underground workings (as in a cave); a vertical opening or passage through the floors of a building
Josiah Hornblower came over with the engine to assemble and install it at the mine, where Schuyler hoped to use it to pump water from the **shafts**.

252. sharpen (verb) to give a sharp edge to; to improve the intellect of someone
A student who doubles his reading speed **sharpens** his mind, hence becoming more mentally efficient.

253. sharply (adverb) severely, suddenly, harshly, abruptly
Chimpanzees require massive regimented teaching sequences contrived by humans to acquire quite rudimentary abilities, mostly limited to a small number of signs, strung together in repetitive, quasi_random sequences, used with the intent of requesting food or tickling. This contrasts **sharply** with human children, who pick up thousands of words spontaneously, combine them in structured sequences where every word

has a determinate role, respect the word order of the adult language, and use sentences for a variety of purposes such as commenting on interesting objects.

254. shatter (verb) to cause the complete ruin or wreckage of; to split into fragments by a blow

By sailing into the New World, Christopher Columbus **shattered** the belief that the world was flat.

255. shoaling (adjective) referring to an area of shallow water

Consequently, as the tsunami's speed diminishes as it travels into shallower water, its height grows. Because of this **shoaling** effect, a tsunami, imperceptible at sea, may grow to be several meters or more in height near the coast.

256. shortchange (verb) to give less than the correct amount of change to; to deprive of or give less than something due

Emotionally and physically depleted caregivers may **shortchange** their own needs, risking burnout, poor health and depression.

257. short-haul (adjective) transporting or carrying someone or something over a relatively short distance

Due to the popularity of trains in European cities, airlines are halting or reducing **short-haul** service and focusing more on the longer runs.

258. showcasing (adjective) presenting, especially attractively, to the general attention of someone

Denver, **showcasing** its snowcapped Rocky Mountains and lush vegetation, is one of the most beautiful cities for this time of the year.

259. shrink (verb) to reduce in size by or as if by drawing together

The neutron star continues to **shrink** until it finally becomes a black hole.

260. shroud (verb) to cut off from view: obscure

Fog **shrouded** parts of the California coast between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

261. sideshow (noun) an incidental diversion or spectacle

As irritating as they are, the subsidies, which mostly take the form of government loans, are a **sideshow** to the main contest, as Bombardier and Embraer jockey for position in a market that, while stagnant today, is expected to explode with demand.

262. siege (noun) a military blockade of a city or fortified place to compel it to surrender

Rebels pulled out of the city Friday after a four-day **siege** by artillery and rockets, and after fighting that left an estimated 500 civilians dead.

263. signature (adjective) describing a tune, musical number, or sound effect or in television a characteristic used to identify a program, entertainer, or orchestra

The film widely regarded as Wood Allen's best, with Diane Keaton's **signature** role, "Annie Hall," plays at 7:30 p.m. at the Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences.

264. sizzling (adjective) marked by much heat

In July, the Sahara Desert is characterized by **sizzling** days and sultry nights.

265. skepticism (noun) a lack of conviction or certainty

His continued **skepticism**, however, shaped his subsequent theological studies at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania, and at Boston University, where he received a doctorate in systematic

theology in 1955.

266. skim (verb) to pass quickly and lightly through
Part of maintaining a pool is to **skim** the surface daily for leaves, drowned insects, and other forms of debris.

267. skyward (adverb) moving toward the sky; going in an upward direction
After the countdown, the space shuttle explosively launched itself **skyward** and ultimately reached speeds of 25,000 miles per hour while in orbit.

268. slab (noun) a relatively long, straight, rigid piece of metal or other solid material
There are many different types of avalanches, but the one that worries us the most is the **slab** avalanche, in which a mass of cohesive snow releases as a unit.

269. slant (verb) to move from true vertical or horizontal
In the Sierra Nevada mountain range, trees growing at altitudes of at least 9,000 feet **slant** away from the prevailing Northern winds.

270. slender (adjective) having little flesh or fat on the body
Running five miles a day helps to create a **slender** body.

271. slightly (adverb) with little significance; moderately
Temperature variations on Mercury are the most extreme in the solar system ranging from 90 K to 700 K. The temperature on Venus is **slightly** hotter but very stable.

272. slip (verb) to shift or be shifted out of place
Around the margins of the Pacific Ocean, for example, denser oceanic plates **slip** under continental plates in a process known as subduction.

273. slump (noun) a period of poor or losing play by a team or individual
Derek Jeter and Alfonso Soriano continued their **slumps** at the top of the order, going a combined 0_for_8.

274. smack (verb) to strike so as to produce a sharp slap or blow
At some point in the geological future a large chunk of rock and ice will **smack** into Earth and destroy life as we know it.

275. smashing (verb) to deliver a powerful blow suddenly and sharply so as to cause something to split into fragments
Michael A'Hearn will lead a team that's planning to find out what's inside comet Tempel 1 by **smashing** into it with a 771-pound copper "hammer" ___ the biggest they could loft into space.

276. smattering (noun) a small scattered number or amount
Even though only a **smattering** of digital programming is currently available, digital televisions will eventually become the norm, as surely as color replaced black-and-white.

277. sober (adjective) marked by sedate or gravely or earnestly thoughtful character or demeanor; marked by temperance, moderation, or seriousness It is almost certain that Earth will be hit by an asteroid large enough to exterminate a large percentage of our planet's life, including possibly over a billion people. This is a cold, **sober**, scientific fact, according to Andrea Milani, a researcher at the University of Pisa in Italy.

278. societal (adjective) relating to society
Over the past 30 years, same-sex couples have sought **societal** recognition of their families.

279. sociological (adjective) relating to the systematic study of the development, structure, interaction, and collective behavior of organized groups of human beings
Sociological research influences the way we think about work and organizational life, and enables us to

discover new knowledge.

280. sodomy (noun) copulation with a member of the same sex or with an animal; noncoital and especially anal or oral copulation with a member of the opposite sex Issues still before the court which could be decided Thursday include a Texas ban on **sodomy**, a corporate free speech case involving Nike, and the case of a death row inmate who claims his lawyers botched the case.

281. solidarity(noun) an identity or coincidence of interests, purposes, or sympathies among the members of a group
This outcome is a reflection of strong sense of **solidarity** within the corporate peasant community, also apparent in the tendency for almost every man to remain within his village over his lifetime.

282. soil (noun) the upper layer of earth that may be dug or plowed and in which plants grow
The volcanic **soil** in Hawaii is fertile, and the warm climate makes it possible to grow crops all year around.

283. solder (verb) to become united or repaired by or as if by a metal or metallic alloy used when melted to join metallic surfaces; especially : an alloy of lead and tin so used
Responsible for generating all images on your monitor, the graphics subsystem ships in PCs either as a removable expansion board or as a chip **soldered** permanently to the motherboard.

284. sooth (verb) to bring comfort, solace, or reassurance to
A rise in lodging and housing costs pushed underlying U.S. inflation up in May at the fastest rate in nine months, the government said on Tuesday in a report that **soothed** deflation fears.

285. soothsayer (noun) a person who predicts the future by magical, intuitive, or more rational means
An agitated Montezuma demanded that his **soothsayers** explain the meaning of these dire signs and was told that they prophesied the destruction of his kingdom.

286. sophisticated (adjective) experienced in the ways of the world; lacking natural simplicity
Even today's most **sophisticated** forecast models cannot peg mountain convection well enough to assess how it might trigger storm complexes downstream.

287. soundness (noun) the condition of being free from defects or flaws
To cure means to restore to health, **soundness**, or normality.

288. span (verb) a specific length of time characterized by the occurrence of certain conditions or events
His career **spans** nearly all types of popular music from jazz to rock to dance and all genres between.

289. spark (noun) a hot glowing particle struck from a larger mass
If fires are always suppressed, dense underbrush soon becomes so abundant that a simple **spark** can start a fire within minutes.

290. spawned (verb) to give rise to a particular development; to cause to come into existence
A growing trend toward emphasis on neural aspects of various cognitive processes has **spawned** what is referred to as the Cognitive Neuropsychology track, with students studying jointly in cognitive and in clinical neuropsychology.

291. specialized (adjective) designed or fitted to one particular purpose or occupation
One should look for an entry_level job, gain experience through internships, and watch for opportunities of **specialized** training or advanced education.

292. specimen (noun) one that is representative of a group or class
The live Western Diamondback rattlesnake on display in this aquarium is a perfect **specimen** for us to examine in today's biology class.

293. speck (noun) a small discoloration or spot especially from stain or decay; a very small amount
The other, a composite of four wide_angle images, shows the moon as a **speck** just as it sets below the Martian horizon.

294. spec (abbreviation) short for specification
From CPUs to RAM to optical storage, we'll break down the jargon--and tell you which **specs** are most important to your purchase.

295. spectacular (adjective) an impressive exhibition
Their eruptions are typically characterized by the relatively quiet outflow of very fluid lava and by sometimes **spectacular** lava fountains.

296. spectrum (noun) a continuous range or sequence
She continues to produce a wide **spectrum** of music and is truly a musical treasure.

297. speculation (noun) the act or process of thinking, reasoning, or theorizing
Many **speculations** exist about the origin and composition of dark matter.

298. speedily (adverb) at a high rate of speed
Anxious to finish since it was the last day of class, the students **speedily** completed the exam.

299. spell (noun) a rather short period
A **spell** of freezing weather before the onset of Winter is usually enough to kill any remaining mosquitos or larvae.

300. spike (noun) an usually high and sharply defined maximum
In cores from Antarctica and Greenland, researchers have pinpointed the beginning of atomic_bomb testing in the mid_1950s. They have also identified a **spike** representing fallout from stepped_up atmospheric testing that took place just prior to the 1963 Test Ban Treaty, which allowed for underground tests only.

301. splendid (adjective) particularly excellent
When he returned to Salzburg he was given the position of court organist (1779) and produced a **splendid** series of church works, including the famous Coronation Mass.

302. splotch (noun) a blend of the word spot and blotch; a small area visibly different (as in color, finish, or material) from the surrounding area
Prior to joining the Smithsonian, Langley had spent many years documenting the cyclic appearance of dark **splotches** on the sun—now referred to as sunspots—and had traveled across the world to observe total solar eclipses.

303. spontaneously (adverb) on impulse without a prior plan
This contrasts sharply with human children, who pick up thousands of words **spontaneously**.

304. sprawling (adjective) to spread or grow outward
The rising costs of housing in Los Angeles has caused a **sprawling** metropolis of interconnected cities in the inland areas of Southern California.

305. spread out (verb) to extend over a wide area
The temperature will drop in the envelope as well, as the particles become so **spread out** that they no

longer are colliding enough to create tremendous heat.

306. springboard (noun) a point of departure; a jumping-off place
A degree in psychology is an excellent **springboard** for entering the world of business, industry, and organizations.

307. squeeze (verb) to extract liquid by applying pressure
When venom is **squeezed** out of the gland by muscles, it enters the fang through an opening at the upper end.

308. stability (noun) reliability in withstanding pressure, force, or stress
Some soil and rock types are more prone to land sliding than others, and landowners should determine the inherent geologic **stability** of their property before beginning construction activities.

309. stack up (verb) to add up; to measure up
The trick to the principle of the three red flags is to recognize when these events are beginning to **stack up** and work against you.

310. stake (noun) at issue : in jeopardy
Primary and secondary schools have a **stake** because, to create diverse classrooms, some of the nation's 15,000 districts use race in setting attendance policies and school boundaries.

311. stance (noun) intellectual or emotional attitude
Japan has been one of the few developed countries willing to engage directly with Myanmar and the aid warning is being seen as a significant toughening of its **stance**.

312. stand with (verb) to be united with; to bring or come together into a united whole
Sitting Bull and the Sioux realized they could not defeat the army alone, and they must **stand with** other tribes.

313. standardize (verb) to bring into conformity with a standard
Traditionally diamonds and gemstones were weighed against these seeds until the system was **standardized**, and one carat was fixed at 0.2 grams.

314. starch (noun) a white odorless tasteless granular or powdery complex carbohydrate that is the chief storage form of carbohydrates in plants is an important foodstuff, and is used also in adhesives and sizes, in laundering, and in pharmacy and medicine
Starch and cellulose are complex carbohydrates is an important foodstuff

315. startlingly (adverb) causing momentary fright, surprise, or astonishment
The aftermath of the battle, with thousands of dead soldiers spread along the landscape, reflected a **startlingly** realistic picture of the horrors of war.

316. starvation (noun) the act of going for an extended period of time without food
Anorexia nervosa is a pattern of self **starvation** and is most common among well educated girls who experience a lot of pressure to be thin.

317. statesman (noun) a person actively involved in the principles or art of government
In addition to being a great **statesman**, Thomas Jefferson is also known for his scientific works and inventions.

318. static (adjective) showing little change
The political atmosphere of this country is far from being **static**.

319. statistically (adverb) of, or relating to, or employing the principles of statistics

Possible causative agents for brain cancer in firefighters include vinyl chloride, acrylonitrile and formaldehyde.

Studies show an elevated (but so far not **statistically** significant) risk of lymphatic and haematopoietic cancers for most firefighters.

320. status (noun) the level of credit or respect at which a person or thing is regarded by others

Someone once remarked "a language is a dialect with an army," meaning that only the identity of a modern state can give a form of speech that **status**.

321. steadier (adjective) consistently reliable, especially in the face of external pressures

There has been a **steadier** increase in crime in the inner cities this year than that of previous years.

322. steeple (noun) a tall structure usually having a small spire at the top and surmounting a church tower

With at least 2,500 supporters crammed into a brick-lined town square, the **steeple** of a Unitarian church behind him, the former Vermont governor pledged to speak "for a new American century and a new generation of Americans."

323. steer (verb) to control the course of

What they may not remember is that this was the war that **steered** the United States to center stage as a world power.

324. stem (noun) the main body or stalk of a plant

Like other rodents, the gerbil lives in semiarid regions and prefers to eat the roots and **stems** of a variety of plants.

325. stepchild (noun) a child of one's wife or husband by a former marriage

Remote sensing, a **stepchild** of the space age, is prying out many of Earth's innermost secrets.

326. stepped-up (adjective) to become greater in number, amount, or intensity

Scientists have identified a spike representing fallout from **stepped_up** atmospheric testing that took place just prior to the 1963 Test Ban Treaty, which allowed for underground tests only.

327. stifling (adjective) oppressive due to a lack of fresh air

Due to noxious smog, there is a **stifling** heat in the Inland Empire during the Summer

328. stigmata (noun) bodily marks or pains resembling the wounds of the crucified

Christ and sometimes accompanying religious ecstasy

St. Francis is depicted wearing a brown habit worn by Franciscan Monks and by the **stigmata** over the heart.

329. stimulate (verb) to arouse to action; to elicit a strong emotional response from

Studies have proven that using one's vocal cords **stimulates** natural memory.

330. stipulate (verb) to demand an express term in an agreement -- used with *for*

The General has **stipulated** that there will be no weapons after 72 hours," said the spokesman for the international force, Colonel Gerard Dubois. "Weapons that remain in Bunia will be confiscated," he told reporters in Bunia.

331. stock (noun) the original as a person, race, language, or animal from which others derive: source

The low-cost technology pioneered by Seahorse Ireland could be transferred to poorer parts of the world

where seahorse **stocks** are fast becoming depleted.

332. strenuous (adjective) marked by vigorous physical exertion; requiring great effort
As an individual gets older, he starts to lose his ability to perform **strenuous** activities such as running or swimming.

333. stretching (verb)
Increasing body heat also reduces the risk of muscular damage when stretching that can happen to 'cold' muscles.

334. striated (verb) to mark with a line or band of different color or texture
To the east of the Amargosa Range is the Amargosa Desert, **striated** by the wide washes of the Amargosa River which intermittently flows south from Beatty, Nevada, through Death Valley Junction, curving to the west and then north to enter Death Valley below Jubilee Pass.

335. strife (noun) a state of disagreement and disharmony
The late 1780's were years of great **strife** on the Island of Hawaii. Kamehameha, who later became the first king of the Hawaiian Islands, was at war with his rival Keoua.

336. strike (noun) to set upon with violence force
More important, the records allow researchers to predict the impact of significant events__from volcanic eruptions to global warming__that could **strike** us today.

337. strip (verb) to remove clothing, covering, or surface matter from; to deprive of possessions
But the Economic Policy Institute (EPI) says the new rules would **strip** overtime from millions of other middle-income jobholders.

338. stroke (noun) sudden diminution or loss of consciousness, sensation, and voluntary motion caused by rupture or obstruction (as by a clot) of an artery of the brain
Insufficient angiogenesis can occur following **stroke**.

339. stumble (verb) to make an error
Too many job seekers **stumble** through interviews as if the questions are coming out of left field.

340. subdivisions (noun) one of the parts into which something is divided
Another way of identifying the thesis is to ask, "What is the unifying principle of this essay"? or "What idea does everything in this essay talk about"? or "Under what single main statement could all the **subdivisions** fit"?

341. subdue (verb) to make or become less severe or extreme
Intent on using the land for raising cattle and growing crops, early pioneers did not **subdue** nature's rawness.

342. subliminal (adjective) existing or functioning outside the area of conscious awareness
In 1957, a controversy developed in the United States over **subliminal** stimuli in which a movie theater over a period of six weeks flashed messages for 1/3,000 of a second: "Hungry? Eat popcorn!" A sixty percent increase in the sale of popcorn was reported.

343. submerged (adjective) being beneath the surface or the bottom of a liquid
The most distinguished feature of the Atlantic is the mid-ocean ridge, a gigantic **submerged** mountain range larger in area than the Alps and the Himalayas combined.

344. subsequent (adjective) following something else in time
His continued skepticism, however, shaped his **subsequent** theological studies at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania, and at Boston University, where he received a doctorate in systematic theology in 1955.

345. subside (verb) to become less active or intense
When large areas of the sea floor elevate or **subside**, a tsunami can be created.

346. subsidy (noun) a grant by a government to a private person or company to assist an enterprise deemed advantageous to the public
The rivalry involves two of the best-run companies in the hemisphere, yet each side protests that the other doesn't play fair because it relies on taxpayer **subsidies**.

347. subsistent (noun) the minimum as of food and shelter necessary to support life
Subsistent farming, in which a family is completely self-reliant, has decreased rapidly since the advent of the industrial revolution.

348. substitute for (verb) one that takes the place of another; to give up in return for something else
Although these maps are valuable for the general location of unstable areas, they can not be **substituted for** a careful on site investigation.

349. subtle (adjective) so slight as to be difficult to notice or appreciate
The **subtle** differences indicating the onset of a flu or cold may be difficult to distinguish.

350. sue (verb) to institute or subject to legal proceedings
Even if a murder suspect is found innocent of all charges in a criminal court, he or she may be **sued** in a civil court for a large sum of money.

351. suffocating (adjective) so powerful as to stop the breathing of
In 1912, Garret Morgan invented what is now called a gas mask; the then called "Safety Hood and Smoke Protector" contained enough air to allow someone to stay in a room full of **suffocating** gases and smoke from fifteen to twenty minutes.

352. sugary (adjective) having or suggesting the taste of sugar
The digestive system changes the large carbohydrates in mashed potatoes into **sugary** glucose.

353. suicidal (adjective) having the tendency to take one's own life voluntarily and intentionally
People with Multiple Personality Disorder may experience any of the following: depression, mood swings, **suicidal** tendencies, and sleep disorders.

354. sum up (verb) to recapitulate the salient facts of
There are four types of politeness strategies, described by Brown and Levinson, that **sum up** human "politeness" behavior: Bald On Record, Negative Politeness, Positive Politeness, and Off-Record-Indirect Strategy.

355. summon (verb) to demand to appear, come, or assemble
Summoned by von Colloredo to Vienna in 1781, he was dismissed after a series of arguments.

356. superimpose (verb) to place or lay over or above something
With conventional two-dimensional X-ray pictures, things at different depths are **superimposed**, causing potential confusion to the viewer.

357. supernatural (adjective) of or relating to an order of existence beyond the visible observable universe; especially of or relating to God or a god, demigod, spirit, or devil But in spite of their

supernatural powers, many gods, goddesses, and heroes of mythology have human characteristics.

358. supersonic (adjective) of, being, or relating to speeds from one to five times the speed of sound in air

The idea of a **supersonic** passenger plane gained momentum in the 1950s, after Chuck Yeager's 1947 blast through the sound barrier.

359. superstition (noun) irrational fear of the unknown

Due to events which sometimes cannot be explained, communities have developed **superstitions** which have been passed from one generation to the next.

360. suppress (verb) to hold something in check

If fires are always **suppressed**, dense underbrush soon becomes so abundant that a simple spark can start a fire within minutes.

361. supremacy (noun) the condition or fact of being dominant

After Admiral Nelson won a victory at Trafalgar, Spain in 1805, England established a naval **supremacy** that would last for 100 hundred years.

362. surpass (verb) to be greater or better than; to go beyond the limits of

The Grand Canyon, a long narrow gorge in Arizona, **surpasses** in its enormity and beauty any other geological wonder in the United States.

363. surrender (verb) to undergo capture, defeat, or ruin

As the battles continued, many of Sitting Bull's followers **surrendered**.

364. surveillance (noun) close watch kept over someone or something as by a detective

The Pentagon is developing an urban **surveillance** system that would use computers and thousands of cameras to track, record and analyze the movement of every vehicle in a foreign city.

365. survey (verb) to look over; to view broadly or from a height

Before a person reads a book, he/she should **survey** the chapter, the title, headings, and subheadings, captions under pictures, charts, graphs or maps.

366. sustaining (adjective) to keep in a condition of good repair, efficiency, or use

An abundant supply of water on the Moon would make establishment of a self **sustaining** lunar colony much more feasible and less expensive than presently thought.

367. sustenance (noun) the means to support life

During the early colonial years in America, many people traveled on horseback and relied on corn for **sustenance**.

368. swallowing (noun) the act of causing food to pass from the mouth into the stomach

Our larynxes are low in our throats, and our vocal tracts have a sharp right angle bend that creates two independently_modifiable resonant cavities (the mouth and the pharynx or throat) that defines a large two_dimensional range of vowel sounds, which is physiological design making breathing, **swallowing**, and chewing less efficient.

369. swamp (noun) a usually low-lying area of waterlogged ground and standing water

All lakes undergo an aging process, in which a crystal clear lake becomes a **swamp** full of plant growth called algae.

370. swell (verb) to make or become greater or larger

The wind_generated **swell** one sees at a California beach, for example, spawned by a storm out in the Pacific and rhythmically rolling in, one wave after another, might have a period of about 10 seconds and a wave length of 150 m.

371. sweeping (adjective) marked by wholesale and indiscriminate inclusion:
extensive

In a victory for President Bush, both houses of Congress approved **sweeping** Medicare legislation early Friday to give seniors a prescription drug benefit while creating a broad new role for private insurance in the government_run program.

372. switch (noun) device for making and breaking the connection in an electrical circuit

In several famous and controversial demonstrations, chimpanzees have been taught to use some hand_signs based on American Sign Language, to manipulate colored **switches** or tokens, and to understand some spoken commands.

373. symbiotic (adjective) the intimate living together of two dissimilar organisms in a mutually beneficial relationship; a cooperative relationship

Giraffes have a **symbiotic** relationship with tickbirds. These small birds ride on the giraffe's back, eating pesky insects off of its skin. In return for food, the birds serve as an early warning signal, alerting giraffes to any approaching predators with a loud chirp.

374. sympathetic (adjective) cognizant of and comprehending the needs, problems, and views of others

The latter, at first **sympathetic** to the Mozarts, later became irritated by Wolfgang's prolonged absences and stubborn ways.

375. synthesize (verb) to combine and adapt in order to attain a particular effect

Martin Luther King, Jr., **synthesized** ideas drawn from many different cultural traditions. Born in Atlanta on January 15, 1929, King's roots were in the African_American Baptist church.

376. tableau (noun) a graphic description or representation

A small introductory gallery shows 18th- and 19th-century electrostatic apparatus, including a globe machine probably designed by Benjamin Franklin, several leyden jars for storing electric charges, and a twin-plate generator of about 1800 in an active **tableau** of a parlor game called the electric kiss.

377. tackle (verb) to start work on vigorously

After getting detailed instructions from their professor, the students went to the library to **tackle** their research project.

378. tactile (adjective) discernible by touch

The octopus has two separate areas for storage in its brain: one for visual memories, the other for **tactile** memories.

379. tagger (noun) one who makes an inscription or drawing made on some public surface such as a rock or wall

In the graffiti wars in Philadelphia, the city is winning. **Taggers** are turning their talents to painting murals -- 1,200 to date -- which not only decorate, but revitalize these urban neighborhoods.

380. tailored (adjective) made to individual specifications

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, writing for the majority, rejected the arguments made by the administration of U.S. President George W. Bush that affirmative action policies should be voided, noting that the U.S. Constitution "does not prohibit the law school's narrowly **tailored** use of race in admissions."

381. tamper (verb) to interfere so as to weaken or change for the worse--used with "with"

Jackson and Cleveland pleaded guilty to tampering with evidence and agreed to testify.

382. tangle (noun) a complicated situation or problem

That way we avoid all those political **tangles** that have nothing to do with degrees of difference between languages.

383. teetotaling (adjective) characterized as having complete abstinence from alcoholic drinks "We trust state and local officials," Peters said, suggesting it doesn't make sense to promote pedestrian safety for South Dakota's wide-open spaces or drunken-driving programs in largely **teetotaling** Utah.

384. temperate (adjective) used to describe a climate that has a range of temperatures within moderate limits

Situated close to the Pacific Ocean, San Diego has a **temperate** climate with temperatures ranging from 60 - 75 degrees F.

385. tempting (adjective) causing craving or desire to arise

It is **tempting** to think that if language evolved by gradual Darwinian natural selection, we must be able to find some precursor of it in our closest relatives, the chimpanzees.

386. tendency (noun) a way that somebody or something typically behaves or is likely to react or behave

Some people with mental disorders have a **tendency** toward self-persecution, self-sabotage, and even violence.

387. tender (noun) something offered, as in money

Gold and silver were declared as legal **tender**, and as such were used for all payments.

388. tentative (adj) likely to have many later changes before it becomes final and complete

Today, we believe science is testable, explanatory, and **tentative**.

389. terrify (verb) to make somebody feel very frightened or alarmed

They represent a **terrifying** and destructive force that kills more than two out of every five Americans.

390. textbook example (noun phrase) one by which others are compared; a standard of comparison

Hawai'i's volcanoes have, therefore, become the **textbook example** of nonexplosive volcanism, and the term "Hawaiian type" is used to refer to such eruptions.

391. theatrical (adjective) full of exaggerated or false emotion

Starting with the Retablo de maese Pedro, Cervantes demonstrates a mastery of **theatrical** illusion which, absent from part one, becomes another narrative function in part two.

392. theocracy (noun) government of a state by immediate divine guidance or by officials who are regarded as divinely guided The Puritan government of Massachusetts in the 1600's and 1700's has been called a **theocracy**.

393. theological (adjective) of, or relating to the study of God and his relation to the world

His continued skepticism, however, shaped his subsequent **theological** studies at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania, and at Boston University, where he received a doctorate in systematic

theology in 1955.

394. theoretical (adjective) about, involving, or based on a belief used as the basis for action

The causes of crime can be explained through through several **theoretical** perspectives.

395. therapists (adjective) somebody trained to treat disease, disorders, or injuries, especially somebody who uses methods other than drugs and surgery

According to **therapists** who specialize in Multiple Personality Disorder, the host (the victim/survivor's basic personality) is not necessarily aware of the existence of these alters.

396. thermal (noun) a rising body of warm air

When a hang-glider gets caught in a **thermal**, his aircraft will spiral upward for hundreds of feet.

397. thermonuclear (adjective) of or relating to the transformations in the nucleus of atoms of low atomic weight as hydrogen that require a very high temperature for their inception as in the hydrogen bomb or in the sun

Fusion produces the energy of the sun and other stars and the explosive force of **thermonuclear** weapons.

398. thesis (noun) a proposition advanced as an argument

The **thesis** of a reading passage determines the structure, so the structure, once a reader begins to sense it, can lead him to the thesis.

399. thievery (noun) stealing something from a person or place

In Roman mythology, Mercury is the god of commerce, travel and **thievery**, the Roman counterpart of the Greek god Hermes, the messenger of the Gods.

400. thoroughfare (noun) a course affording passage from one place to another

Situated close to busy **thoroughfares**, McDonald's make its profits on high volume and quick turnover.

401. thrall (noun) to make a slave of

Twenty thousand years ago, the Earth was held in **thrall** by a relentless ice age.

402. threats (noun) the expression of a deliberate intention to cause harm or pain

If such a multi_day sequence could be forecast, valuable lead time might be gained on flooding **threats**.

403. threshold (noun) a level, point, or value above which something is true or will take place and below which it is not or will not

Supporters and opponents alike agree the income **threshold** needs to be raised.

404. thrive (verb) to fare well; to grow rapidly and luxuriantly

Many businesses **thrived** while William Jefferson Clinton was President of the United States.

405. tide (noun) something suggestive of running water

When it finally reaches the coast, a tsunami may appear as a rapidly rising or falling **tide**, a series of breaking waves, or even a bore.

406. tier (noun) a row, rank, or layer of articles; *especially*: one of two or more rows, levels, or ranks arranged one above another; a group of political or geographical divisions that form a row across the map

The middle **tier** is serious candidates who have yet to catch fire: Joe Lieberman (despite high name recognition in the polls), John Edwards (despite financial support from his fellow trial lawyers and some creative speeches about specific issues) and Bob Graham.

407. tilt (verb) to slant or cause something to slant
Unstable areas may sometimes be identified by trees or telephone poles **tilted** at odd angles, or by curved tree trunks.

408. tip (verb) to move from true vertical or horizontal; to shift the balance of power or influence
After one of several indecisive battles, probably in 1790, the balance was suddenly **tipped** in favor of Kamehameha when a natural disaster struck.

409. tissue (noun) organic body material in animals and plants made up of large numbers of cells that are similar in form and function and their related intercellular substances
They enter the heart of the palms and feed on the tender **tissues** within.

410. titter (noun) the act of laughing in a nervous, affected, or partly suppressed manner
The aim of this site is to help you avoid low grades, lost employment opportunities, lost business, and **titters** of amusement at the way you write or speak.

411. token (noun) something that represents, expresses, or is a symbol of something else
In several famous and controversial demonstrations, chimpanzees have been taught some hand_signs based on American Sign Language, to manipulate colored switches or **tokens**, and to understand some spoken commands.

412. tolerance (noun) the acceptance of the differing views of other people, for example, in religious or political matters, and fairness toward the people who hold these different views
The Constitution guarantees religious **tolerance**, which is why many people decided to settle in America.

413. toll (noun) a grievous or ruinous price—*especially* : cost in life or health
By that time, she said, age and an assassination attempt had taken its **toll** on the man who once proclaimed, "Segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever."

414. ton (noun) unit of weight equivalent to 2,000 pounds
Some of the wagons, on which the early pioneers depended, were capable of carrying up to eight **tons** of supplies.

415. topography (noun) the features on the surface of a particular area of land
Things such as wind, temperature, relative humidity, **topography**, and fuel levels all need to be taken into account.

416. torch (noun) a stick of wood dipped in wax or with one end wrapped in combustible material, set on fire and carried, especially in the past, as a source of light
Forestry officials used drip **torches** to start the fire, avoiding large logs on the ground that were home to small animals.

417. torrential (adjective) relating to large amounts of liquids such as water or lava
Sometimes a slow_moving sequence of mesoscale convective systems will extend over several days, causing **torrential** rains over a large area.

418. torture (noun) excruciating punishment; the act of subjecting another to extreme physical cruelty, as in punishing
The Sun Dance was a type of self_**torture** which included a loss of consciousness.

419. totality (noun) the state of being complete or total
At its worst, it could cause some to disagree with the **totality** of the comments.

420. tout (verb) to praise or recommend somebody or something enthusiastically
Jones and Dewey are respectively **touted** as prominent west coast and east coast psychics.

421. toxin (noun) a poison produced by a living organism, especially bacteria, capable of causing disease and also of stimulating the production within the body of antibodies to counter their effects

General causes for primary brain cancer can include a prior head injury, infections, exposure to chemical **toxins** such as insecticides and fungicides and exposure to radiation such as microwave or radio frequencies.

422. tract (noun) system of body parts or organs that collectively serve some purpose
Vomiting and diarrhea are dangerous and can cause damage to the digestive **tract**.

423. traction (noun) a pulling force exerted on something
The developing world is slower to catch on, but a movement by astronomers and geoscientists in South Africa to establish a National Working Group to assess NEO impact risk and mitigation is gaining **traction**.

424. trait (noun) a distinctive element
A unique **trait** to the Sperm Whale is that it can dive down deep into the ocean for long periods of time.

425. trance (noun) a state in which somebody is dazed or stunned or in some other way unaware of the environment and unable to respond to stimuli
Specialists generally believe that people with Multiple Personality Disorder may experience any of the following: depression, mood swings, suicidal tendencies, sleep disorders, headaches, amnesia, time loss, **trances**, and 'out of body experiences.

426. transform (verb) to change people or things completely, especially improving their appearance or usefulness
The pupae will require another 1.5 to 2 months before it **transforms** into an adult and becomes a threat to the palms.

427. transplantation (noun) the act of moving something from one place into another
The **transplantation** of a pig heart into a human body revolutionized modern surgical medicine.

428. trap (verb) to prevent air, gas, heat, or a fluid from escaping
Gases **trapped** in ice cores show the dramatic impact that human activities have had on the planet since the Industrial Revolution.

429. trauma (noun) an extremely distressing experience that causes severe emotional shock and may have long-lasting psychological effects
Since the 1970s, therapists who believe in the reality of Multiple Personality Disorder generally believe it to be caused by very severe abuse during childhood violence so extreme that the child cannot absorb the **trauma** in its entirety.

430. tread (verb) to step or walk on or over
West Africa promised a peace force of at least 5,000 troops for Liberia if warring sides halt fighting, and France suggested Saturday it was open to contributing troops _ stepping in where the United States, Liberia's colonial_era founder, has so far declined to **tread**.

431. treadmill (noun) an automatic machine allowing runners to run in place
Because of the intense cold and snow, Minnesota long distance runners often use **treadmills** during the winter.

432. treaty (noun) a formal contract or agreement negotiated between countries or other political entities
They have also identified a spike representing fallout from stepped_up atmospheric testing that took place just prior to the 1963 Test Ban **Treaty**, which allowed for underground tests only.

433. trek (verb) to make one's way arduously

The students had been missing since Saturday, when they **trekked** into the woods after visiting the telescope.

434. tremendous (adjective) extremely large, powerful, or great

The fusion process released **tremendous** amounts of heat and light which could then combat the compressing force of gravity; eventually, the two forces reached equilibrium.

435. trend (noun) a general tendency, movement, or direction

A growing **trend** toward emphasis on neural aspects of various cognitive processes has spawned what is referred to as the Cognitive Neuropsychology track, with students studying jointly in cognitive and in clinical neuropsychology.

436. tribe (noun) a group of people sharing a common ancestry

Sitting Bull and the Sioux realized they could not defeat the army alone, and they must stand with other **tribes**.

437. tributary (noun) channeling material, supplies, into something more inclusive

Many **tributaries** flow into the Mississippi River, making it one of the longest rivers in the world.

438. trigger (verb) to set something off, bring something about, or make something happen

Slab and other avalanches can be hard or soft, wet or dry and can be **triggered** naturally or artificially.

439. triumph (verb) to conquer or win a victory over, as in battle or a competition

During the Civil War, the Union Army **triumphed** over the Confederate Army in the bloodiest battle ever fought in American History.

440. trough (noun) a long shallow often v-shaped receptacle for the drinking water or feed of domestic animals

In the 17th century, the Conestoga wagon had a **trough** attached to its rear end, so the horses could feed.

441. trounce (verb) to render totally ineffective by decisive defeat

The San Antonio Spurs **trounced** the Los Angeles Lakers in the playoffs.

442. tsunami (noun) a long high sea wave caused by an earthquake on the ocean floor

Tsunamis are unlike wind-generated waves, which many of us may have observed on a local lake or at a coastal beach, in that they are characterized as shallow-water waves, with long periods and wave lengths.

443. turmoil (noun) a state or condition of extreme confusion, agitation, or commotion

To escape the escalating **turmoil**, Church headquarters moved from New York to Ohio, then to Missouri, and later to Illinois.

444. twilight (noun) the period between afternoon and nighttime

It recommended that drivers turn on their headlights at the first sign of **twilight**.

445. ubiquitous (adjective) ever present in all places

The Coconut Palm, considered to some as the Tree of Life, is a **ubiquitous** species to the Pacific Islands.

446. ultracold (adjective) marked by an extremely low temperature

To reduce the number of other effects that could create similar signals, physicists shield the detector and keep it **ultracold**.

447. ultrafast (adjective) marked by an extremely high rate of speed

A hydroelectric dam is built in mountainous land, where the water will have a steep drop that will build up pressure to keep the turbines turning **ultrafast**.

448. ultraviolet (adjective) situated beyond the visible spectrum at its violet end — used of radiation having a wavelength shorter than wavelengths of visible light and longer than those of X

rays

Some air pollutants have reduced the capacity of the atmosphere to filter out the sun's harmful **ultraviolet** radiation.

449. unanimous (adjective) shared as a view by all of the people concerned, with nobody disagreeing

Adams helped draft the Declaration of Independence, secured its **unanimous** adoption in Congress, and wrote his wife on July 3, 1776, that "the most memorable Epoch in the History of America has begun."

450. underbrush (noun) shrubs, small trees, or other vegetation growing beneath the trees in a forest

If fires are always suppressed, dense **underbrush** soon becomes so abundant that a simple spark can start a fire within minutes.

451. underclassman (noun) a member of the freshman or sophomore class in a school or college

Juniors, too, may have their math grades substituted for their test scores, though **underclassmen** who did not pass will have to retake the exam.

452. undercut (verb) to offer to sell at lower prices than or to work for lower wages than a competitor

Even computer maker Gateway has joined the fray. It **undercut** competitors last fall with its debut of a \$3,000 42-inch plasma TV and promises to have a dozen other plasma, LCD and rear-projection models for sale later this year.

453. undergo (verb) to participate in or partake of personally

Some patients suffering from chronic pain **undergo** hypnosis, a highly concentrated but relaxed awareness, in which the perception of pain is altered.

454. underlying (adjective) arising from or going to the root of the source

Contrary to what is popularly believed, the **underlying** cause of the Civil War was the issue of state rights.

455. underpin (verb) support, substantiate

Laws forbidding homosexual sex, once universal, now are rare. Those on the books are rarely enforced but **underpin** other kinds of discrimination, lawyers for two Texas men had argued to the court.

456. undertook (verb) to begin to do something or to set out on something

In 1769-70, Leopold and Wolfgang **undertook** a tour through Italy.

457. undistinguished (adjective) without definite or distinctive characteristics

Having **undistinguished** progeny, Abraham Lincoln was born of humble beginnings

458. undulating (adjective) having or causing to have a curved or sinuous form or surface

Sound waves like other types of frequencies are often transmitted in an **undulating** manner.

459. unflattering (adjective) not pleasingly suited to the wearer

Sweaters with stripes are **unflattering** to the wearer because they can make her look fatter than she actually is.

460. unfold (verb) to be disclosed gradually

The details of the double murder **unfolded** during the three month trial.

461. unidimensional (adjective) having one dimension; lacking depth: superficial

"Individual components may have small effects that emerge only when the components are integrated into a simple, **unidimensional** score," the researchers said.

462. uniformity (noun) a particular style or other feature that identifies somebody or something as a member of a certain group

The tiny seeds of this tree are well known for their **uniformity** and consistent weight.

463. unprecedented (adjective) having no earlier parallel or equivalent
Collectively, these frozen archives give scientists **unprecedented** views of global climate over the eons.

464. unruly (adjective) difficult to control, manage, discipline, or govern
Children with autism are not **unruly** kids who choose not to behave.

465. unsustainable (adjective) not capable of giving support or relief to
Misuse or depletion of the Earth's treasures to meet those needs, for example **unsustainable** logging, poor farming practices, and overfishing, threatens human life and health around the world.

466. unveil (verb) to make public
In celebration of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art's 15th anniversary on the National Mall, the museum **unveiled** a major interior redesign of its entrance pavilion on October 3.

467. upgrade (verb) to raise the quality of
America's Bicentennial gift from the people of West Germany, the Einstein Planetarium has been **upgraded** to include a first-of-its-kind, Sky Vision™™ dual digital projection system and six-channel digital surround sound.

468. uphold (verb) to keep from yielding or failing during stress or difficulty
The war had overthrown peace-time standards and ideals, and not even President Woodrow Wilson could **uphold** them.

469. upholstered (adjective) relating to materials such as fabric, padding, and springs
used to make a soft covering especially of a seat
A cross between fast-food and restaurant dining, the family restaurant, characterized by its soft lights, **upholstered** booths, and food prepared to order, is the fastest growing phenomenon in the food service industry today.

470. uplift (verb) to raise the spirits of
Accentuating the positive **uplifts** a worker, which can increase the productivity of a workforce.

471. upright (adjective) standing vertically or straight upward
According to legend, St Francis was observed standing **upright** in his tomb after his death. Zurbaran attempted to capture the fact that it is a corpse by painting a somewhat frightening face.

472. uprising (noun) an act or instance of rising up, *especially* a usually localized act of popular violence in defiance usually of an established government: rebellion
In the office, however, a booming subwoofer may trigger an **uprising** among your coworkers.

473. upturn (adjective) overturned completely; to turn or cause to turn from a vertical or horizontal position
Due to the massive wind-driven waves, the ship was **upturned**, hence causing all on board the ship to drown.

474. upward (adjective) in, to, or toward a higher place, level, or position
The eyes are staring **upward** and the lips are parted.

475. urbanity (noun) refined, effortless beauty of manner, form, and style
Mark Twain, known for his **urbanity** and his artistic integrity, developed a love for writing about the South.

476. utilize (verb) to put into action or use
To best **utilize** a writing center tutor, a student should take a copy of the writing assignment and have a rough draft ready for review.

477. vacuous (adjective) devoid of serious occupation : idle; marked by lack of ideas or intelligence: stupid

Even if, in the end, all they collectively learn is that a household of African twentysomethings can be as self-obsessed, **vacuous** and obnoxious as reality-television contestants in other parts of the world.

478. vaguely (adv) in a way that is not detailed or exact

We find relationships that are **vaguely** reminiscent of the way biologists can group species into families, and these in turn into the larger classes, phyla, and so on.

479. vain (adjective) excessively proud, especially of your appearance

In a pungent diary, vivid letters, learned tracts, and patriotic speeches he revealed himself as a quintessential Puritan, patriarch of an illustrious family, tough_minded philosopher of the republic, sage, and sometimes a **vain**, stubborn, and vitriolic partisan.

480. valve (noun) a device controlling the flow of liquid through a pipe

“Lefty loosey” and “righty tighty” is a saying which helps one to remember how to turn a **valve** on or off.

481. vaporized (adjective) characterized as converting (as by the application of heat or by spraying) into a substance in the gaseous state as distinguished from the liquid or solid state

Treating these states of matter differently in the simulation could explain another peculiar aspect of the moon's composition: its dearth of easily **vaporized** "volatile" compounds such as water.

482. varied (adjective) showing or characterized by many different forms or kinds

She said that it can be found over **varied** country, embracing the mountains up to altitudes of 8000 ft, the seacoasts levels, inland plains, desert areas.

483. vast (adjective) of extraordinary size and power

The ocean is believed to be a **vast** storehouse of natural resources, the exploitation of which depends on three factors: knowledge of geology, advances in technology, and the legal protection for investments of national governments or private industry.

484. veiled (adjective) obscured as if by a veil: disguised

At the time, the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Organization for Women opposed a guardian for the fetus, calling such a proposed move a **veiled** attempt by the governor to eliminate the possibility of an abortion.

485. velocity (noun) the speed at which something moves, happens, or is done

As a body is crushed into a smaller and smaller volume, the gravitational attraction increases, and hence the escape **velocity** gets bigger.

486. venerable (adjective) calling forth respect through age, character, and attainments;

broadly : conveying an impression of aged goodness and benevolence; impressive by reason of age
Like the steam engine, the internal-combustion engine has a long and **venerable** history.

487. venom (noun) a poisonous fluid produced by an animal and injected by a bite or sting in order to immobilize prey or defend itself.

The **venom** of the rattlesnake is injected through fangs which fold back when the mouth is closed.

488. venture (verb) to take a risk in the hope of gaining advantage

Some businesspersons **venture** in real estate and the stock market as possible ways of getting a lucrative return on their investments.

489. verdant (adjective) green with growing plants

Locusts prefer warm, damp, **verdant** places in which they settle, feed, and reproduce.

490. verity (noun) the quality of being true or real
More than simply a renowned Mississippi writer, the Nobel Prize-winning novelist and short story writer is acclaimed throughout the world as one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century, one who transformed his "postage stamp" of native soil into an apocryphal setting in which he explored, articulated, and challenged "the old **verities** and truths of the heart."
491. vertebrate (noun) any of the class of animals having a backbone as a distinguishing anatomical feature
Rhipidistian fishes eventually gave rise to all land **vertebrates**.
492. vertically (adverb) at a right angle to the horizon or to level ground
Tsunamis can be generated when the sea floor abruptly deforms and **vertically** displaces the overlying water.
493. vibrant (adjective) full of or characterized by a lively, emphatic, eager quality
Having a **vibrant** personality, Gus Sanderson is liked by everyone he knows at work.
494. viewpoint (noun) a personal perspective from which somebody considers something
While healthcare strategies abound from **diverse** viewpoints and divergent professional groups, no one strategy has all the answers to reform the medical-healthcare enterprise.
495. vigorous (adjective) extremely strong and active, physically and mentally
A pamphlet entitled A Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law and town instructions denouncing the Stamp Act (1765) marked him as a **vigorous**, patriotic penman, and, holding various local offices, he soon became a leader among Massachusetts radicals.
496. virtually (adv) near to in quantity or amount
Except for dietary fibers (nuts, husks, bran, celery strings and such), our gut disassembles **virtually** everything we eat into smaller components that our body can use.
497. virtuoso (noun) a musician who shows exceptional ability, technique, or artistry
Both children played the keyboard, but Wolfgang became a violin **virtuoso** as well.
498. virus (noun) anything that is injurious, destructive, or fatal
Smallpox, influenza, polio, rabies, and measles are diseases caused by **viruses**.
499. vivid (adjective) producing strong and distinct mental images
In a pungent diary, **vivid** letters, learned tracts, and patriotic speeches he revealed himself as a quintessential Puritan.
500. volatile (adjective) characterized by or subject to rapid or unexpected change
The Consumer Price Index, the most widely used gauge of U.S. inflation, was unchanged last month, the Labor Department said. But the so-called core CPI, which strips out **volatile** food and energy prices, climbed 0.3 percent after two consecutive flat readings.
501. volume (noun) a single book that belongs to a set of books
Among her **volumes** of poetry are A Brave and Startling Truth (Random House, 1995), The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou (1994), Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now (1993), Now Sheba Sings the Song (1987), I Shall Not Be Moved (1990), Shaker, Why Don't You Sing? (1983), Oh Pray My Wings Are Gonna Fit Me Well (1975), and Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'fore I Diiiie (1971), which was nominated for the Pulitzer prize.
502. vomit (verb) to expel the contents of the stomach through the mouth as a result of a series of involuntary spasms of the stomach muscles

Bulimia nervosa, on the other hand, is when a person consumes large amounts of food, but then induces **vomiting** or diarrhea in an attempt to avoid weight gain.

503. vortex (noun) any whirling motion or mass; a whirlpool or whirlwind
Scientists Christopher Davis, Stanley Trier, and colleagues have also gained new insight on a type of low-pressure center that connects one mesoscale convective **vortex** to the next.

504. vow (noun) a solemn promise or assertion; specifically : one by which a person is bound to an act, service, or condition

A spouse may feel that he or she is fulfilling wedding **vows**.

505. voyage (noun) a course or period of traveling by other than land routes
Henry sent out more than 50 expeditions but went on none of these **voyages** himself.

506. wandering (adjective) leading the life of a person or animal without a fixed home; moving from place to place
To survive the ice ages, man learned to anticipate and to adopt to the habits of animals, including their **wandering** migrations.

507. wanton (adjective) merciless, inhumane
There are reports that several hundred innocent civilians have been killed in fighting in and around Monrovia and of **wanton** destruction of property and widespread looting.

508. wares (noun) manufactured articles; goods
Because there was a colonial preference for imported **wares** and because there were bad economic conditions, the glass business of Caspar Wistar failed in 1774.

509. warrant (verb) to be proper or sufficient occasion for
When conditions **warranted**, gold and silver miners arrived in California.

510. wary (adjective) trying attentively to avoid danger, risk, or error
People **wary** of aggressive drivers make good defensive drivers who are less likely to have an accident.

511. watery (adjective) lower than normal in strength or concentration due to a mixture
Once all the "good stuff" is removed from the small intestine, our gut passes the indigestible **watery** gruel that is left to the colon.

512. waver (verb) to become unsure or begin to change from a previous opinion
Although he never **wavered** in his devotion to colonial rights and early committed himself to independence as an unwelcome last resort, Adams's innate conservatism made him determined in 1770 that the British soldiers accused of the Boston Massacre receive a fair hearing.

513. Webcast (noun) a transmission of sound and images (as of an event) via the World Wide Web She also answered questions during a live **Webcast** from children around the world.

514. white-collar (adjective) of, relating to, or constituting the class of salaried employees whose duties do not call for the wearing of work clothes or protective clothing
More **white-collar** workers would lose eligibility due to new language that redefines what qualifies as professional, executive and administrative work.

515. wholesale (adjective) without discrimination; having no particular pattern, purpose, organization, or structure
The **wholesale** evolutionary restructuring of some reptiles over a period of thousand of years equipped the new animals to escape their predators and to find food more easily.

516. widespread (adjective) existing or happening in many places, or affecting many people
Earlier studies of firefighter mortality that did not identify brain cancer as a cause of death were done

before the **widespread** introduction of plastics in the 1950s.

517. wield (verb) to exert one's authority

Yet he **wielded** political power virtually to the end, prevailing upon President Bush to appoint his 29-year-old son, Strom Jr., as U.S. Attorney in South Carolina in 2001.

518. windmill (noun) a building with a set of wind-driven revolving sails or blades attached to the site of its roof that drive a grinding machine inside

In more modern times in the United States, **windmills** were erected as the West was developed during the late 19th century.

519. wipe out (verb) to destroy completely: annihilate

On the other hand, the general public in developing countries has a host of other problems than the possibility that a large bolide could **wipe out** mankind

520. withdrawal (noun) the act of taking money from a bank account, or the amount of money taken out

That a **withdrawal** of \$35,000 was made after his wife's murder is evidence that the suspect is a flight risk.

521. wizardry (noun) the use of supernatural powers to influence or predict events

It was once believed that witchcraft and **wizardry** was practiced among some of the citizens of Salem, Massachusetts.

522. wobbly (adjective) lacking stability

Home buying has jumped as borrowing costs plummet, providing support to a **wobbly** economy.

523. woe (noun) a condition of deep suffering from misfortune, affliction, or grief

An economist at Fannie Mae, the top source of U.S. housing finance, said accounting **woes** at the second largest such financing source, Freddie Mac, had had little impact on mortgage lending over the last week.

524. wound (verb) to cause or inflict an injury to the body (as from violence, accident, or surgery) that involves laceration or breaking of a membrane (as the skin) and usually damage to underlying tissues

In a surprise attack, Little Turtle's forces killed or **wounded** about 900 American soldiers.

525. wreath (noun) something—usually made of some type of plant—intertwined into a circular shape

The Russian president also visited Westminster Abbey where he laid a **wreath** on the Grave of the Unknown Warrior.

526. wreckage (noun) broken and disordered parts or material from something

One man died in the **wreckage** of a flattened workshop and seven other people were injured in Deshler, about 75 miles southwest of Lincoln near the Kansas line

527. wretchedness (noun) a state of prolonged anguish and privation

That many poets such as Edgar Allan Poe suffered a wretchedness beyond anyone's imagination served as inspiration for their verses.

528. wring (verb) to squeeze or twist especially so as to make dry or to extract moisture or liquid; to extract or obtain by or as if by twisting and compressing

The rule would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, which was the first law preventing employers from **wringing** 60-hour work weeks from their rank-and-file without compensation.

529. yield (noun) a product; *especially* : the amount or quantity produced or returned
The introduction of machinery to farming vastly improved crop **yields**.

530. zone (noun) an area regarded as separate or kept separate, especially one with a particular use or function

It is learned that a citistate is a region consisting of one or more historic central cities surrounded by cities and towns which have a shared identification, function as a single **zone** for trade, commerce and communication, and are characterized by social, economic and environmental interdependence.