

abide

What does this word mean?

To agree and follow a rule or decision.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Everyone in our class agreed to abide by the school rules.

affinity

What does this word mean?

A strong feeling of liking and understanding.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The dolphin had a natural affinity with the fishermen working in the harbour.

aglet

What does this word mean?

The plastic tube fixed at the end of a shoe lace.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The plastic thing on the end of my shoe lace is called an aglet.

ambidextrous

What does this word mean?

Somebody who is able to use their right and left hands with equal skill.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Bob could write with his left hand and his right hand because he was ambidextrous.

annihilate

What does this word mean?

To completely destroy something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The flowers were annihilated in the hail storm.

approximate

What does this word mean?

Almost exact or close to what is needed or expected.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The man gave an approximate price for the repair of my bike.

bamboozle

What does this word mean?

To confuse or trick somebody with flattery and lies.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The con man managed to bamboozle the shop keeper.

bargain

What does this word mean?

Something sold or bought at a good price
(also an agreement or transaction between two parties).

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Mr. Martin bought the car for a bargain price.

buffoon

What does this word mean?

Somebody who behaves like a bit of a fool or a clown.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Alex was well known as the class buffoon.

bulky

What does this word mean?

Something that is large, takes up a lot of space and is not very agile.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Father Christmas tried to squeeze his bulky frame through the narrow chimney.

caterwaul

What does this word mean?

To make a long wailing, screeching sound.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The local ginger tom cat loved to sit on the wall
and caterwaul all night long.

cease

What does this word mean?

To stop or come to an end.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Will this rain ever cease?

chaotic

What does this word mean?

Something that is completely confused,
jumbled and disorganised.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Emma's bedroom was full of clothes and old magazines thrown
on the floor. It was completely chaotic.

coax

What does this word mean?

To gently encourage somebody to do something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The vet tried to coax the parrot out of its cage by offering her a piece of apple.

colossal

What does this word mean?

Something that is extremely large.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The skeleton of the T-Rex in the museum was colossal.

companion

What does this word mean?

A person or animal that spends a lot of time with someone.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The old dog was always at Arthur's side
and was his constant companion.

compelling

What does this word mean?

To attract attention or strong admiration.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The stranger on the train had compelling eyes.

convincing

What does this word mean?

Able to make somebody believe something is true without doubt.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The sales man was very convincing and Barry agreed to buy the car.

crestfallen

What does this word mean?

Very sad or depressed.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Melanie was completely crestfallen
when she saw her test results.

cygnet

What does this word mean?

A young swan.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The mother swan was followed by her three cygnets.

decay

What does this word mean?

Something becoming rotten.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

If Henry had brushed his teeth better,
the tooth would not have started to decay.

devilish

What does this word mean?

Very naughty, evil or cruel.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

He was dressed in black and had a devilish grin.

devour

What does this word mean?

To eat something quickly and greedily.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

All the swimming and hiking made the children
devour their lunch.

discrepancy

What does this word mean?

A lack of agreement
(or something that doesn't appear to be right).

Can you use this word in a sentence?

There was a clear discrepancy between
the stories of the two suspects.

disobedience

What does this word mean?

Refusing to follow or obey instructions.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The dogs in the class were full of mischief and disobedience.

duplicate

What does this word mean?

To copy something exactly.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Nobody could tell the difference between the original painting and the duplicate.

eloquence

What does this word mean?

The ability to speak or write in an impressive or persuasive way.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The teacher spoke with passion and eloquence.

enchanted

What does this word mean?

Very likeable, attractive and charming.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The small cottage was beautiful and enchanting.

energetic

What does this word mean?

Full of energy and very active.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Toddlers are very energetic.

essence

What does this word mean?

At the heart of something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The essence of any good friendship is trust and kindness.

estimate

What does this word mean?

To make a careful guess about the size or worth of something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The builder gave Elsie an estimate for the decorating work.

exceptional

What does this word mean?

Something that is different, unusual and out of the ordinary.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Emily was an exceptional piano player.

extraterrestrial

What does this word mean?

Something that comes from outside planet Earth.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The meteorite was extraterrestrial.

ferocious

What does this word mean?

Something that is fierce and savage.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The lion was ferocious when it came to protecting her cubs.

gargantuan

What does this word mean?

Something that is really big.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The wedding cake was gargantuan.

gesture

What does this word mean?

An action, or movement of your body or face which shows how you are feeling.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The children raised their hands as a gesture to show that they knew the right answer.

glimpse

What does this word mean?

To briefly catch sight of something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The children were so excited when they caught a glimpse of the fox and her cubs.

guffaw

What does this word mean?

A sudden loud burst of laughter.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The comedians act made the audience guffaw.

gulp

What does this word mean?

To swallow or breathe quickly.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Max tried not to gulp the water but he was very thirsty.

hiatus

What does this word mean?

A break in activity.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The brief spell of sunshine was a hiatus
from all the rain and snow.

hijinks

What does this word mean?

Loud fun and pranks.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The boys were very naughty and full of hijinks.

horrified

What does this word mean?

To frighten or shock somebody.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Michael was horrified to discover the dead rat in the kitchen.

immediate

What does this word mean?

Happening straight away.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

There was an immediate hush as the boss swept into the office.

immune

What does this word mean?

Protected from a disease either by vaccinations or naturally.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The children in the nursery were all immune to chickenpox.

impecunious

What does this word mean?

Having no money.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The students were impecunious and only ordered one cup of tea in the cafe.

jostle

What does this word mean?

To push or bump into people on purpose.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The man was impatient and began to jostle people out of his way.

juxtapose

What does this word mean?

To compare something side by side.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The artist wanted to juxtapose drawings
with photos of the old docks.

leisure

What does this word mean?

Free time from work.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Luke like to swim in his leisure time.

loyal

What does this word mean?

Being faithful to someone.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Oz the dog was a faithful companion.

lucid

What does this word mean?

Clear and easy to understand.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Emma was lucid when she spoke to the class.

mantra

What does this word mean?

A word or sound repeated to help concentration and meditation.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The mantra helped everyone to relax.

marvellous

What does this word mean?

Something wonderful and amazing.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The children had a marvellous day at the zoo.

melancholy

What does this word mean?

A feeling of sadness.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Joe was feeling very melancholy after his aunt had left.

mischievous

What does this word mean?

Behaving in an annoying, cheeky way.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The little monkey was very mischievous and liked to steal people's sandwiches.

mimic

What does this word mean?

To copy somebody.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The parrot liked to mimic everything people said.

murmur

What does this word mean?

The sound of soft, muffled conversation.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The crowd began to murmur quietly whilst they waited.

nefarious

What does this word mean?

Very evil and wicked.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The two criminals were arrested for their nefarious crimes.

nibble

What does this word mean?

To eat something using small bites.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The mouse liked to nibble at the cheese.

niche

What does this word mean?

A job or activity that is perfectly suited to somebody.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Craig had found his niche the minute he walked into the classroom and began to teach.

numerous

What does this word mean?

A great number of something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

There were numerous different dishes to try on the buffet table.

observe

What does this word mean?

To notice things.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Emma was very shy and liked to observe people from a distance.

obsolete

What does this word mean?

No longer in use.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The rusty old car was obsolete.

obtuse

What does this word mean?

Not quick to notice something or be insensitive.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Max was annoyed with his mother.
He was being deliberately obtuse.

opponent

What does this word mean?

To play or fight against another person.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The two boxers were fierce opponents.

outdated

What does this word mean?

No longer in fashion or of use.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Granny wore very outdated clothes.

palindrome

What does this word mean?

A word which reads the same forwards and backwards.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

‘Level’ is an example of a palindrome.

panacea

What does this word mean?

A remedy or solution for all difficulties or diseases.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The Doctor told Martha that alcohol is not a panacea for feeling sad.

parade

What does this word mean?

A procession of people, bands or vehicles to mark an occasion, watched by spectators.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The town held a parade every Memorial Day.

paucity

What does this word mean?

A very small number or amount.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The paucity of fresh water made the villagers very sick.

penchant

What does this word mean?

A strong liking for something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Joseph had a penchant for cream cheese sandwiches.

phalanges

What does this word mean?

Bones in the toes and fingers of most vertebrate animals.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

In humans, the thumbs and big toes have two phalanges and the other fingers have three.

phobia

What does this word mean?

A strong irrational fear of something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Natalie had a phobia of spiders.

pompous

What does this word mean?

An exaggerated air of dignity and self importance.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The head teacher was a pompous fool.

popular

What does this word mean?

Liked or enjoyed by many people.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Katie was the most popular girl in the school.

postpone

What does this word mean?

To put off or cancel something for later.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The bad weather meant the barbecue had to be postponed.

prefer

What does this word mean?

To like something best.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

I prefer watching movies to watching TV shows.

prosper

What does this word mean?

To be successful and thrive.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Its very hard for anyone to prosper in the desert.

provoke

What does this word mean?

To deliberately make someone angry.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The naughty class tried to provoke their teacher into losing his temper.

queue

What does this word mean?

A line of people or cars waiting to be served or move.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The queues at the supermarket checkouts were enormous.

radiant

What does this word mean?

Sending out rays of light or heat.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The radiant sun made everyone feel very hot.

rare

What does this word mean?

Not often found or seen.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

It is very rare to see a badger during the daytime.

ravenous

What does this word mean?

Extremely hungry.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

By lunchtime, the children were ravenous.

reject

What does this word mean?

To refuse to take or believe something.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Milly decided to reject the job offer.

rendezvous

What does this word mean?

A meeting arranged in advance.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The couple agreed to rendezvous
outside the cinema at nine o'clock.

reprisal

What does this word mean?

Injury inflicted for revenge.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

In reprisal for attacking his brother,
Jack and his friends ambushed Morris.

rivulet

What does this word mean?

A small stream.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The small rivulet ran throughout the length of the forest.

saunter

What does this word mean?

To walk slowly in no hurry.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Peter had a slow saunter to school.

savage

What does this word mean?

Fierce or cruel.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The savage dog was caught by the local dog warden.

segue

What does this word mean?

To continue without a break.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The DJ decided to segue his playlist.

senescence

What does this word mean?

Deteriorating with age.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

All food products are at risk of rapid senescence if they are not stored correctly.

serene

What does this word mean?

Calm and free from trouble.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The ocean looked serene that morning.

shenanigan

What does this word mean?

A funny, mischievous prank.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The party was full of shenanigans, noise and laughter.

simplicity

What does this word mean?

Something simple.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The simplicity of design made the house beautiful.

skulk

What does this word mean?

To hide.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The rats skulked in the corner of the room.

smorgasbord

What does this word mean?

A meal featuring a range of meats, fish, cheese and other foods, served as a buffet.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The hotel table was full of a splendid smorgasbord for all their guests to choose from.

sombre

What does this word mean?

Sad and very gloomy.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The funeral was a sombre affair.

spiteful

What does this word mean?

showing dislike in a bitter nasty way.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The little girl was very spiteful
and pinched all the other children.

squawk

What does this word mean?

A harsh scream.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The little green parrot liked to squawk all day.

stunning

What does this word mean?

Something beautiful and amazing.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The bride looked stunning on her wedding day.

suave

What does this word mean?

Someone who is polite, smooth and sophisticated.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The tall gentleman was very suave and bowed to the ladies.

summery

What does this word mean?

Something like summer.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The smell of barbecues always makes me feel summery.

surround

What does this word mean?

To close off all sides.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The castle walls surround the town.

swerve

What does this word mean?

To change direction suddenly.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The car had to swerve to avoid the cat.

swindle

What does this word mean?

To cheat somebody out of money or property.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The conman managed to swindle
lots of people before he was caught.

talented

What does this word mean?

Having a natural skill or ability.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Everyone agreed that the pianist was very talented.

terminate

What does this word mean?

To end something suddenly.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The company decided to terminate his contract.

terrain

What does this word mean?

The surface of land or ground.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The hikers found the terrain very rough under foot.

transmogrify

What does this word mean?

To change or transform in a surprising way.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The tadpole transmogrified into a frog.

tremendous

What does this word mean?

Something excellent.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The band gave a tremendous performance at the concert.

trustworthy

What does this word mean?

Somebody who can be trusted and relied upon.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Peter was a very trustworthy boy
and could be trusted with any errand.

unite

What does this word mean?

To join together.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The friends decided to unite against the class bully.

unusual

What does this word mean?

Something that is not ordinary.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The dress she wore was very unusual.

upright

What does this word mean?

In a standing position.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The book was stood in an upright position.

uproar

What does this word mean?

A loud disturbance.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

There was a sudden uproar from the angry crowd.

utter

What does this word mean?

complete and absolute.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The man spoke complete and utter nonsense.

vexed

What does this word mean?

Annoyed, frustrated or worried.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The long wait for the delayed train
vexed everyone at the station.

vile

What does this word mean?

Extremely bad, disgusting and unpleasant.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The food from the restaurant was not cooked and it tasted vile.

vindictive

What does this word mean?

Seeking revenge in a spiteful way.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Taking her friend's favourite teddy bear was very vindictive.

volatile

What does this word mean?

Quickly changeable and likely to be violent.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

George had a volatile temper and was likely to lash out when he was angry.

whimper

What does this word mean?

To cry weakly and quietly.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The puppy in the basket began to whimper.

whimsical

What does this word mean?

Acting upon a sudden odd, imaginative feeling or fancy.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Her decision was based on a sudden whimsical feeling that it would be fun to dance in the middle of the pond.

wholesome

What does this word mean?

Something that is healthy and good for you.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The inn provided a wholesome meal of vegetable soup and fresh wholemeal bread.

wigwam

What does this word mean?

A tent in the shape of a pyramid.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The wigwam was decorated with beautiful patterns.

zany

What does this word mean?

Crazy and silly.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

Ben knew lots of zany things they could do in the summer.

zephyr

What does this word mean?

A soft breeze.

Can you use this word in a sentence?

The gentle zephyr was a welcome break from the heat.