

Dictionary of *Delicious* Words



Crafted by D. Carruthers



abhorrent (*adjective*) - absolutely unacceptable, repulsive

Example of use: Deliberately producing flatulence in class is abhorrent behavior.

Alternate forms: abhor, abhors, abhorred

Antonym: admirable

abomination (*noun*) - a total disaster

Example of use: My son's bedroom is an abomination.

Alternate forms: abominable

Antonym: blessing

altruism (*noun*) - giving to others without any expectation of reward.

Example of use: If kindness makes you feel good, perhaps altruism does not exist.

Alternate forms: altruistic

Antonym: selfishness

ambiguous (*adjective*) - open to interpretation due to lack of clarity

Example of use: The instructions were ambiguous at best.

Alternate forms: ambiguity

Antonym: concise

atrocities (*noun*) - shockingly awful act or state

Example of use: The treatment of dogs at the puppy farm was an atrocity.

Alternate forms: atrocious

Antonym: humane



baffled (*noun*) - a state of confusion and disbelief

Example of use: When she stormed out of the room, he was left feeling baffled.

Alternate forms: baffles, baffling, bafflingly

Antonym: comprehending

barbaric (*adjective*) - super violent

Example of use: Vikings were totally barbaric but also pretty cool.

Alternate forms: barbarism

Antonym: civilised

brazen (*adjective*) - shamelessly bold

Example of use: Your brazen attitude is not welcome here.

Alternate forms: brazenly

Antonym: timid

bickering (*verb*) - constant arguing and nit-picking

Example of use: I'm sick of your constant bickering with your brother.

Alternate forms: bicker, bickered

Antonym: agreement

benign (*adjective*) - gentle, not harmful

Example of use: Thankfully the brain tumor is benign.

Alternate forms: benignity, benignly

Antonym: malignant



cascade (*noun, verb*) - passing or pouring water or information

Example of use: Just like a waterfall, the gossip passed in a cascade down through the school.

Alternate forms: cascaded, cascading

Antonym: seeped

chivalrous (*adjective*) - courteous and noble

Example of use: Women often appreciate chivalrous treatment.

Alternate forms: chivalry

Antonym: misogyny

colloquialism (*noun*) - conversational language

Example of use: If you seek employment, avoid the use of colloquialism in your job application.

Alternate forms: colloquial, colloquially

Antonym: formality

concede (*verb*) - to admit defeat

Example of use: He had to concede that once again, his wife was right.

Alternate forms: concedes, conceding, conceded

Antonym: **stubborn**

critique (*verb*) - judgement or appraisal

Example of use: I wish you could enjoy my cooking without critique.

Alternate forms: critic, critical, critiques, critiquing

Antonym: none



delectable (*adjective*) - incredibly delicious

Example of use: The gooey chocolate was delectable.

Alternate forms: delectably

Antonym: unpalatable

deluge (*verb, adverb*) - very heavy downpour

Example of use: The rain was coming down in a deluge.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: drizzle

deviance (*adjective*) - unexpected and often unacceptable action

Example of use: He had a keen interest in studying deviant behaviour in youths.

Alternate forms: deviation, deviate, deviant

Antonym: norm

disdain (*noun*) - disgust or hatred

Example of use: He looked at his opponent with utter disdain.

Alternate forms: disdainful

Antonym: admiration

disheveled (*adjective*) - carelessly messy appearance.

Example of use: The teenage boy declined a hair brush because he was going for the disheveled look.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: orderly



empathetic (*adjective*) - seeing things from the perspective of another

Example of use: Rox had an empathetic nature, always thinking of others.

Alternate forms: empathy, empathise, empathising, empathised

Antonym: distanced

enigma (*noun*) - inexplicably unique

Example of use: This woman's case is highly unusual; she is an enigma.

Alternate forms: enigmatic, enigmas

Antonym: ordinary

etymological (*adjective*) - historical roots of vocabulary

Example of use: The etymological root of corpse is the Latin corpus, meaning body

Alternate forms: enigmatic, enigmas

Antonym: unhistorical

etiquette (*noun*) - expected standard of behaviour in a given situation

Example of use: Sneezing on somebody is not considered good etiquette.

Alternate forms: etiquettes

Antonym: nonconformity

exemplary (*adjective*) - of the highest standard

Example of use: I expect exemplary behaviour from all of you.

Alternate forms: exemplar, exemplars

Antonym: inadequate



facade (*noun*) - Appearance or illusion that something is better than it really is.

Example of use: Before visitors arrive, I dump everything in the bedrooms to create the facade of a clean house.

Alternate forms: facades

Antonym: exposure

facetious (*adjective*) - Behaving inappropriately in a humorous manner

Example of use: Oh don't mind Sam; she was just being facetious.

Alternate forms: facetiously

Antonym: respectfully

frivolous (*adjective*) - carefree and superficial, without value

Example of use: She had a frivolous approach to finances.

Alternate forms: frivolity, frivolously

Antonym: conservative

frolicking (*verb*) moving in a playful, lively manner

Example of use: The delighted children could be seen frolicking along the beach.

Alternate forms: frolic, frolicked

Antonym: plod

frugal (*adjective*) - Careful with finances

Example of use: He is being frugal so he can save for a game console.

Alternate forms: frugality

Antonym: frivolous



gallivanting (*verb*) - moving between places searching for pleasure

Example of use: The teens were seen gallivanting through the bush.

Alternate forms: gallivant, gallivanted

Antonym: remain

gestation (*noun*) - the period of development between birth and conception

Example of use: We suspect that he developed the condition during gestation.

Alternate forms: gestational

Antonym: post-natal

gibberish (*adjective*) nonsense

Example of use: 'You're talking gibberish again, darling,' said Mum.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: sense

gratification (*verb*) - satisfaction of a desire

Example of use: Many these days expect instant gratification.

Alternate forms: gratifying, gratifyingly

Antonym: disappointment

gregarious (*adjective*) - really sociable

Example of use: He's a little gregarious for my liking.

Alternate forms: gregariousness

Antonym: withdrawn



haphazardly (*adverb*) - With careless abandon

Example of use: The snow fell haphazardly in the breeze.

Alternate forms: haphazard

Antonym: precisely

hierarchical (*adjective*) - In order of importance

Example of use: The aristocrats are part of a hierarchical system.

Alternate forms: hierarchy

Antonym: Equal

hilarity (*noun*) - extreme humour

Example of use: Her speech was filled with hilarity.

Alternate forms: hilarious, hilariously

Antonym: dull

horrendous (*adjective*) - something truly awful

Example of use: The mullet really is a horrendous hair cut.

Alternate forms: horrendously

Antonym: spectacular

hyperbolic (*adjective*) - highly exaggerated

Example of use: His speech was hyperbolic.

Alternate forms: hyperbole, hyperbola

Antonym: realistic



incessantly (*adverb*) - without ceasing

Example of use: The gardener watered the lawn incessantly.

Alternate forms: incessant

Antonym: rarely

inclination (*noun*) - desire to take action

Example of use: She'll do her homework whenever she feels the inclination.

Alternate forms: inclined

Antonym: disinclined

ideology (*noun*) - a set of beliefs about how things should be

Example of use: We clash because of differences in ideology.

Alternate forms: ideal, ideals, ideological

Antonym:

indignation (*noun*) - a combination of shock and disbelief

Example of use: She shook her head with indignation in response to the update.

Alternate forms: indignant, indignantly

Antonym:

inevitable (*noun*) - going to happen, no matter what

Example of use: After being seen by his boss at the pub, he accepted the inevitable reality of being sacked.

Alternate forms: inevitably, inevitability

Antonym: unexpected



jaded (*adjective*) - overindulged to the point of boredom

Example of use: After five days of it, his interest in Minecraft was becoming jaded.

Alternate forms: incessant

Antonym: enthralled

Jest (*adverb*) - meant as a joke

Example of use: He knew his mate only said it in jest.

Alternate forms: jester

Antonym: seriousness

jubilee (*adjective*) - a significant anniversary

Example of use: There were giant celebrations for the queen's 50th jubilee.

Alternate forms: jubilees

Antonym: none

juggernaut (*noun*) - powerful, overwhelming force

Example of use: Hulk is the ultimate juggernaut.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: powerlessness

juxtaposition (*noun*) - two opposing things being placed together for affect

Example of use: The Kamikaze watered the lawn incessantly.

Alternate forms: incessant

Antonym: indistinguishable



kaleidoscope (noun) - patterns of coloured light

Example of use: The sky was lit with a kaleidoscope of colour.

Alternate forms: kaleidoscopic

Antonym: none

kamikaze (adjective) - deliberate action to harm others, expecting self harm too.

Example of use: She went too hard with the tackle, like it was a kamikaze mission.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: none

kerfuffle (noun)- moderate amount of disorder or chaos

Example of use: The arrival of the new kid was causing quite a kerfuffle.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: order

**'Words have a magical power. They can either bring
the greatest happiness or the deepest despair.'**

Sigmund Freud



lackadaisical (*adjective*) - laid back approach

Example of use: The fact that they picked him over you is ludicrous.

Alternate forms: ludicrously

Antonym: zealous

liability (*noun*) - responsibility for loss or damage

Example of use: Parents have to accept liability before kids can participate.

Alternate forms: liable, liabilities

Antonym: release

ludicrous (*adjective*) - prone to ridicule due to stupidity

Example of use: The fact that they picked him over you is ludicrous.

Alternate forms: ludicrously

Antonym: sensible

luminescent (*adjective*) - Emitting light from heat

Example of use: The flames were extinguished but the luminescent glow of the hot coals remained.

Alternate forms: luminosity, luminous, luminescence

Antonym: darkness

luxurious (*adjective*) - ultimate treatment for maximum comfort

Example of use: This hotel is the most luxurious I've ever seen.

Alternate forms: luxury, luxuries

Antonym: poor



mayhem (*noun*)- a state of chaos

Example of use: The 3pm storm caused mayhem at school pick-up time

Alternate forms: mayhems

Antonym: control

misappropriation (*verb*) - representing someone without permission or authority

Example of use: Non-indigenous people making and selling Aboriginal-inspired artwork is considered misappropriation.

Alternate forms: misappropriate, misappropriated

Antonym: representation

mischievous (*adjective*) - trying to cause problems out of boredom

Example of use: He was impressed with her zealous attitude.

Alternate forms: mischief

Antonym: sensible

mitigate (*verb*)- to decrease the seriousness of a situation

Example of use: To avoid being grounded again, she told a white lie to mitigate the situation.

Alternate forms: mitigating, mitigation

Antonym: intensify

mojo (*noun*) - apparent magic causing success

Example of use: I need Sophia to work her mojo on these cupcakes

Alternate forms: mojos

Antonym: jinx



naivety (*noun*) - lack of wisdom and experience

Example of use: The naivety of children can make them vulnerable.

Alternate forms: naive

Antonym: wisdom

nimble (*adjective*) - highly agile

Example of use: She has incredibly nimble fingers.

Alternate forms: nimbly

Antonym: sluggish

nonplussed (*noun*) - unsure how to respond to an unexpected situation

Example of use: Being asked on a date left me nonplussed.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: It is an antonym of itself (contronym).

nonchalant (*adjective*) - laid back approach

Example of use: That guy is pretty nonchalant about everything.

Alternate forms: nonchalantly, nonchalance

Antonym: passionate

nuance (*noun*) - subtly suggested

Example of use: He didn't pick up the nuance of frustration in his wife's voice.

Alternate forms: nuances, nuanced

Antonym: crude



oblivious (*noun*) - cannot see what is obvious to others

Example of use: He was clearly oblivious to her romantic interest in him.

Alternate forms: oblivion

Antonym: aware

obscurity (*noun*) - state of being unknown or unimportant

Example of use: After their amazing hit To Be With You, Mr Big faded into obscurity. Alternate forms: obscure

Antonym: fame

ominous (*adjective*) - fearing a probable disaster, threatening doom

Example of use: I was thinking we would eat outside but those storm clouds look ominous.

Alternate forms: ominously

Antonym: hopeful

ostentatious (*adjective*) - for the purpose of show or display

Example of use: Those storm clouds look ominous, rolling in from the west.

Alternate forms: ostensibly, ostentatiously

Antonym: unpretentious

ostracised (*verb*) - Being actively excluded from a group of people

Example of use: Hearing all about the party she wasn't invited to left her feeling ostracised.

Alternate forms: ostracism

Antonym: inclusion



palpable (*noun*) - a feeling that is so intense that you can almost touch it

Example of use: The anger she expressed was palpable.

Alternate forms: palpably

Antonym: subtle

perilous (*adjective, adverb*) - filled with danger

Example of use: Traveling from England to Australia by ship was a perilous journey.

Alternate forms: perilously

Antonym: uneventful

perplexed (*noun*) - a state of feeling confused and puzzled

Example of use: His unexpected response left her perplexed.

Alternate forms: perplexing, perplexity

Antonym: agreement

plethora (*adjective*) - vast in number

Example of use: The cook provided a plethora of choices for dessert.

Alternate forms: plethoras

Antonym: limited

predicament (*noun*) - a situation which is awkward or difficult

Example of use: They accidentally found themselves in quite a predicament.

Alternate forms: predicated, predicate

Antonym: idyllic



quasi (*adjective*) - seemingly but not really

Example of use: I only quasi slept last night.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: literal

quell (*noun*)- subdue or silence a person or group

Example of use: The army was called to quell the unrest in the Capital.

Alternate forms: quelled, quelling, quelled

Antonym: endure

quintessential (*adjective*) - enthusiastic approach to something

Example of use: He was impressed with her zealous attitude.

Alternate forms: zealously, zealousness

Antonym: lackadaisical

Just as chefs experiment with ingredients to concoct new recipes, writers play with known root words to create new ones. Popular words are added to updated editions of dictionaries.



regal (*adjective*) - elegant, like a royal

Example of use: She looked simply regal in her formal gown.

Alternate forms: regalia, regaled

Antonym: slobbish

relentless (*adverb*) - in a persistent manner

Example of use: The teacher was desperate to escape the classroom after a week of relentless rain.

Alternate forms: relentlessly

Antonym: uncommon

repugnant (*adjective*) - distasteful and off-putting

Example of use: The repugnant odor of the boys toilets meant that the teacher on duty kept her distance.

Alternate forms: repugnance, repulsive

Antonym: attract

Reprimand (*verb*)- Getting someone in trouble for doing the wrong thing

Example of use: Dad decided not to tell Mum for fear of reprimand.

Alternate forms: reprisal, reprimanding, reprimanded

Antonym: forgiveness

robust (*adjective*) - strong, made of tough stuff

Example of use: I rarely get sick because I have a robust immune system.

Alternate forms: robustness

Antonym: fragile



sanguine (*noun*) - feeling positive in a negative situation

Example of use: The casual teacher appeared sanguine when she was told which class she had to supervise.

Alternate forms: sanguinary

Antonym: pessimism

simultaneous (*adjective*)- occurring at the same time

Example of use: The eye-rolling response from both kids was simultaneous.

Alternate forms: spontaneously, spontaneity

Antonym: separate

spontaneity (*noun*) - confidently taking action without premeditation

Example of use: in an act of spontaneity, ordinarily the shy boy volunteered.

Alternate forms: spontaneously, spontaneity

Antonym: premeditated

steadfast (*adjective*) - sticking by someone or something

Example of use: There is little point in trying to convince someone known to be steadfast.

Alternate forms: steady

Antonym: uncommitted

submission (*verb*) - yielding to authorities

Example of use: The knight bowed in an act of submission to the king.

Alternate forms: submit, submissive, submitting

Antonym: dominance



tenacity (*noun*) - sheer determination, a character strength

Example of use: It takes tenacity to overcome major challenges.

Alternate forms: tenaciously, tenacious

Antonym: yielding

torrential (*adjective*) - an extreme downpour of rain

Example of use: The weather is torrential

Alternate forms: torrent, torrents

Antonym: trickle

torturous (*adjective*) - intolerable treatment

Example of use: Listening to her high-pitched singing was torturous.

Alternate forms: torture, tortured, torturer

Antonym: tolerable

trawling (*verb*) - searching thoroughly

Example of use: They were trawling through the paperwork all day.

Alternate forms: trawl, trawled

Antonym: ignore

tumultuous (*adverb*) - uncertainty and disordered

Example of use: Motherhood can be a tumultuous journey.

Alternate forms: tumultuously

Antonym: orderly



Unceremonious (*adjective*) - uneventful, non-celebratory

Example of use: After years of dedication to her employer, her unceremonious retirement was disappointing.

Alternate forms: unceremoniously

Antonym: ceremonious

unfathomable (*adjective*) - unimaginable beyond belief

Example of use: To lose a family member is unfathomable.

Alternate forms: unfathomably

Antonym: comprehensible

Unperturbed (*adjective*) - without trouble or concern

Example of use: He strode on, unperturbed by the inclement weather.

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: anxious

Usurper (*noun*) - a person who seizes power by illegal means

Example of use: A usurper must have substantial influence to take control.

Alternate forms: usurp, usurpers

Antonym: successor

utopian (*adjective*) - an idyllic, fictional community

Example of use: I imagine that in a Utopian future, lawns will mow themselves.

Alternate forms: utopia

Antonym: dystopian



vehemently (*adverb*) - with passionate purpose

Example of use: The child vehemently denied any involvement in the theft.

Alternate forms: vehement

Antonym: nonchalantly

vivacious (*adjective*) - lively temperament

Example of use: I don't have the energy to sit next to such a vivacious person. .

Alternate forms: vivacity

Antonym: dull

wisenheimer (*noun*) - an arrogant know-it-all

Example of use: Joe is such a wisenheimer just because his Dad is a Professor..

Alternate forms: none

Antonym: humble

whimsical - a state of spontaneity

Example of use: It wasn't like him to behave in such a whimsical manner.

Alternate forms: whim

Antonym: demure

wither (*adjective*) - shrivelled or sunken

Example of use: By the end of the week, the flowers in the vase were withering.

Alternate forms: withering

Antonym: flourish



Xenophobia (*noun*) - fear and hatred of a group of people different to you.

Example of use: Hitler expressed his xenophobia through genocide.

Alternate forms: xenophobic

Antonym: inclusivity

Yelp (*verb*) - a short, sudden cry of pain or discomfort

Example of use: The dog let out a yelp then began whimpering.

Alternate forms: yelped, yelping

Antonym: whimper

Zealous (*adjective*) - enthusiastic approach

Example of use: He was impressed with her zealous attitude.

Alternate forms: zealously, zealousness

Antonym: lackadaisical

Examples of Vocabulary in Context

Tomorrow may find me **frollicking** along the beach or devouring **decadent** delicacies in the restaurant of a **luxurious** hotel. For now though, I have no such **inclinations**. I lay contently on the hammock with my legs dangling **haphazardly** as I sway back and forth. My **lackadaisical** approach and **disheveled** look are signs that I am finally on holidays.

A wife can be so subtle in her **nuances** that her husband often remains **oblivious** to her intentions. When her mood transforms into **palpable** anger, he suddenly becomes aware of the **perilous predicament** he has found himself in. It may be too late to **mitigate** the situation. If he **vehemently** denies any **deviant** behaviour, **reprimand** may follow.

As the clouds **ominously** closed in on her, she desperately sought shelter. Within minutes, the rain was **torrential**. It fell so heavily that it **cascaded** off the edge of the corrugated roof in a **deluge** of water. She knew it would **inevitably** come to an end, yet it continued **incessantly** for hours.

With sheer **tenacity**, the lawyer found herself **trawling** desperately through the paperwork from her **horrendous** case from the previous year. A group of **gregarious** teenagers had been carelessly **galavanting** through the quarry carrying out their usual **mischief**. They had no idea of the **abhorrent** act to which they were about to fall victim, nor the **atrocities** to follow.

Give yourself permission to play with words.

Collect Your Own Vocabulary

Word: _____

Meaning: _____

Example: _____

Word: _____

Meaning: _____

Example: _____

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Example: _____

Just as a delectable dessert can nourish the soul, so too can precise vocabulary.

This alphabetised selection of delicious words is designed to whet your appetite for vocabulary and leave you hungry for more.