

Challenging Word List I

#	Word	Definition	Group
1	allusion, allude	indirect reference, refer indirectly	argument and language
2	annotate	make notes on, explain	argument and language
3	antipodal	opposite	argument and language
4	apropos	appropriate	argument and language
5	belabor	discuss repeatedly, attack physically or verbally	argument and language
6	brusque	blunt, curt	argument and language
7	circumlocution	indirect way of saying something	argument and language
8	garrulous	excessively talkative, loquacious	argument and language
9	hyperbole	exaggeration	argument and language
10	incarnate	possessing a concrete form, be representative of	argument and language
11	intonation	tone	argument and language
12	litigious	argumentative, disputatious	argument and language
13	loquacious	talkative	argument and language
14	manifesto	public statement of opinion	argument and language
15	misnomer	incorrect or unsuitable name	argument and language
16	nonpartisan	not biased	argument and language
17	paragon	perfect example	argument and language
18	pithy	concise and full of meaning	argument and language
19	platitude	common saying	argument and language
20	presumption	assumption	argument and language
21	rhapsodize	narrate or say with great enthusiasm	argument and language
22	specious	seemingly reasonable but incorrect	argument and language
23	supposition	hypothesis	argument and language
24	tacit	implied, not spoken	argument and language
25	taciturn	silent, uncommunicative	argument and language
26	tantamount	equivalent	argument and language
27	trenchant	scathing, clear, effective	argument and language
28	vignette	sketch, description	argument and language
29	voluble	talking easily and at length	argument and language
30	witticism	witty remark	argument and language
31	beguile	trick, bewitch	emotions
32	bent (noun)	inclination	emotions
33	bereavement	grief, sorrow	emotions
34	contrite	penitent, apologetic	emotions
35	disarming	winning favor, charming	emotions
36	gratify, gratification	please, satisfy	emotions
37	incense	infuriate, make angry	emotions
38	infelicity, infelicitous	unhappiness, unhappy	emotions
39	irascible	easily angered	emotions
40	ireful	irate, angry	emotions
41	levity	playfulness, lightheartedness	emotions

42	lugubrious	mournful, gloomy	emotions
43	melodrama	exaggerated emotions	emotions
44	pathos	poignancy, sympathy	emotions
45	phlegmatic	sluggish, unemotional	emotions
46	predilection	preference, partiality	emotions
47	resplendent	splendid, dazzling	emotions
48	saccharine	overly sweet	emotions
49	stoic	someone indifferent to pain or pleasure	emotions
50	stolid	showing no emotion or interest	emotions
51	swoon	faint	emotions
52	tempestuous	stormy	emotions
53	timorous	apprehensive, timid	emotions
54	treachy	overly sweet or sentimental	emotions
55	tremulous	timid, fearful	emotions
56	galvanize	stimulate, excite	energy
57	lethargic	sluggish	energy
58	prostrate	lying face downwards, exhausted	energy
59	quiescent	quiet, inactive	energy
60	respite	short interval or rest or relief	energy
61	resurgent	rise again	energy
62	sportive	playful	energy
63	titillating	exciting	energy
64	consonance	harmony, agreement	friends and enemies
65	facetious	humorous, playful	friends and enemies
66	gregarious	friendly	friends and enemies
67	lampoon	parody, satire	friends and enemies
68	misanthrope	one who hates or mistrusts other humans	friends and enemies
69	obsequious	suck-up	friends and enemies
70	odious	offensive, hateful	friends and enemies
71	recourse	the act of turning to someone/something for assistance	friends and enemies
72	synergy, synergistic	cooperative action that produces an enhanced result	friends and enemies
73	tandem	conjunction, cooperation	friends and enemies
74	bane	curse	give up?
75	boon	blessing	give up?
76	complaisant	willing to please or oblige	give up?
77	craven	cowardly, fearful	give up?
78	foil (verb)	baffle or frustrate	give up?
79	goad	urge on, incite	give up?
80	impede, impediment	hinder, restrict progress	give up?
81	impetus	stimulus	give up?
82	implacable	insatiable	give up?
83	impregnable	strong, invulnerable	give up?
84	indefatigable	energetic, tireless	give up?

85	indisposed	ill, unwilling	give up?
86	inexorable	unstoppable, relentless	give up?
87	insuperable	impossible to conquer	give up?
88	intransigent, intransigence	not yielding, uncompromising	give up?
89	laborious	involving hard work	give up?
90	labyrinth	complicated maze	give up?
91	onus	burden, responsibility	give up?
92	opportune	timely, advantageous	give up?
93	pall	grow tiresome	give up?
94	quandary	a state of doubt or uncertainty	give up?
95	scour	clean by scrubbing vigorously	give up?
96	sedulous	diligent, assiduous	give up?
97	skirt (verb)	evade	give up?
98	stalwart	courageous	give up?
99	stymie	obstruct	give up?
100	valorous	courageous	give up?
101	bungler	someone clumsy	knowledge and skill
102	chary	careful	knowledge and skill
103	circumspect	careful	knowledge and skill
104	comportment	dignified manner or conduct	knowledge and skill
105	fallible	capable of making mistakes, imperfect	knowledge and skill
106	forbearance	patience	knowledge and skill
107	gingerly	carefully	knowledge and skill
108	heedful	careful	knowledge and skill
109	incorrigible	incapable of being corrected or reformed	knowledge and skill
110	irresolute	undecided	knowledge and skill
111	machination	plotting, scheming	knowledge and skill
112	meander	wander	knowledge and skill
113	obfuscate	make obscure or unclear	knowledge and skill
114	oblivion	obscurity, forgetfulness	knowledge and skill
115	particularity	attentiveness to detail, individuality	knowledge and skill
116	pedagogy	related to teaching and education	knowledge and skill
117	perspicacious	wise, insightful	knowledge and skill
118	sermonize	preach, express moral judgment	knowledge and skill
119	sleight	dexterity	knowledge and skill
120	slovenly	untidy, careless	knowledge and skill
121	venerate	to view with great respect	knowledge and skill
122	complicity	participation in a crime	law and order
123	consummate	bring to completion	law and order
124	contingency	possibility, future emergency	law and order
125	contraband	illegal trade, smuggling	law and order
126	disenfranchise	revoke the right to vote	law and order
127	dissolute	lacking moral restraint	law and order
128	draconian	strict	law and order
129	emancipate	free from bondage or oppression	law and order

130	enfranchise	grant the right to vote	law and order
131	exculpate	free from blame	law and order
132	exonerate	free from blame	law and order
133	libelous	slandorous, defamatory	law and order
134	licentious	lacking moral restraint	law and order
135	miscreant	villain, offender	law and order
136	nullify	render legally void	law and order
137	recrimination	to accuse in return	law and order
138	remission	reduction, pardon	law and order
139	reprieve	relief, pardon	law and order
140	stipulate	specify as a condition of an agreement	law and order
141	acquisitive	eager to gain material possessions	money
142	avocation	hobby	money
143	gratuitous	without cause or cost	money
144	impecunious	poor	money
145	insolvent	bankrupt	money
146	munificent	generous	money
147	openhanded	generous	money
148	parsimonious, parsimony	cheap, stingy	money
149	pecunious	abundant, rich	money
150	penury	poverty	money
151	prodigal	recklessly wasteful or extravagant	money
152	profligate	recklessly wasteful or extravagant	money
153	skinflinty	cheap	money
154	tawdry	cheap, gaudy	money
155	tight-fisted	cheap	money
156	trove	a collection of valuable items	money
157	agnostic	one who believes it's impossible to know whether or not god exists	politics and tradition
158	anarchist	rebel, one who opposes the idea of government	politics and tradition
159	consecrated, consecration	sacred, holy	politics and tradition
160	iconoclast(ic)	someone who attacks traditional beliefs	politics and tradition
161	induction	formal entry, initiation	politics and tradition
162	insurgent	rebel	politics and tradition
163	insurrection	rebellion against established authority	politics and tradition
164	maverick	independent rebel	politics and tradition
165	ostracize	exile	politics and tradition
166	pariah	social outcast	politics and tradition
167	platitudinous	common	politics and tradition
168	plebian	common citizen	politics and tradition
169	populace	the general public	politics and tradition

170	profane	irreverent, showing disrespect for religion	politics and tradition
171	renegade	someone who deserts a cause	politics and tradition
172	sacrilegious	disrespecting something sacred	politics and tradition
173	sacrosanct	sacred	politics and tradition
174	sedition	provoking rebellion against established authority	politics and tradition
175	solemnize	perform a formal ceremony, make serious or grave	politics and tradition
176	sovereign	self-governing, independent	politics and tradition
177	aspersion	disparaging remark, slander	praise and criticism
178	calumniate	belittle	praise and criticism
179	carping	nagging, critical	praise and criticism
180	decry, decried	condemn	praise and criticism
181	diatribe	critical speech	praise and criticism
182	eschew	avoid, shun	praise and criticism
183	excoriate	belittle	praise and criticism
184	haranguing	ranting	praise and criticism
185	malign	belittle	praise and criticism
186	plaudit	enthusiastic praise	praise and criticism
187	reprove	criticize, admonish	praise and criticism
188	sardonic	scornfully mocking	praise and criticism
189	upbraid	belittle	praise and criticism
190	vilify	spread negative information about, defame	praise and criticism
191	bravado	swagger, outward display of self-confidence	pride
192	effrontery	excessively bold behavior, presumptuousness	pride
193	grandiloquent	pompous, using pretentious language	pride
194	impertinent	haughty	pride
195	intractable	stubborn, difficult to influence	pride
196	magisterial	commanding, authoritative	pride
197	narcissist	conceited person	pride
198	ostentatious	showy, pretentious	pride
199	unassuming	modest, not arrogant	pride
200	arid	dry	science
201	conducive	contributive, tending to bring about	science
202	conflate	combine, fuse	science
203	corollary	natural consequence	science
204	desiccate	dry out	science
205	drought	prolonged period of time with no rainfall	science
206	engender	produce	science
207	metamorphose	transform	science
208	osmosis	gradual absorption	science
209	ossify	harden, become rigid	science
210	salutary	favorable to health, beneficial	science

211	contiguous	sharing a border	size, amount, location
212	distend, distension	swell	size, amount, location
213	emaciated	very thin	size, amount, location
214	endemic	native to a region	size, amount, location
215	epidemic	spread of disease in an area	size, amount, location
216	excise	remove	size, amount, location
217	flag	weaken or lessen	size, amount, location
218	itinerant	traveling	size, amount, location
219	juxtaposition	the act of positioning things close together	size, amount, location
220	localize	restrict to a particular place	size, amount, location
221	myriad	vast number, innumerable	size, amount, location
222	paltry	insignificant, meager	size, amount, location
223	pandemic	widespread disease	size, amount, location
224	populous	having a large population	size, amount, location
225	rarefy	make thin or less compact	size, amount, location
226	replete	abundantly supplied	size, amount, location
227	seclusion	privacy, isolation	size, amount, location
228	sparseness	the state of being sparse or scanty	size, amount, location
229	stratified	layered, hierarchical	size, amount, location
230	winnow	sorting, filtering	size, amount, location
231	zenith	highest point	size, amount, location
232	corpulence	obesity	the senses
233	membranous	thin and flexible, like a membrane	the senses
234	abstemious	eating and drinking in moderation	the senses
235	acrid	pungent, bitter	the senses
236	amorphous	shapeless, unstructured	the senses
237	aural	relating to the ear, hearing	the senses
238	denuded	stripped, bare	the senses
239	hedonist	someone driven by pleasure	the senses
240	imbue	permeate, soak	the senses
241	pallid	pale, wan	the senses
242	undefiled	immaculate, pure	the senses
243	unsightly	ugly	the senses
244	verve	flamboyant style	the senses
245	evanescent	tending to vanish, not permanent	time
246	expedite	speed up, accelerate	time
247	extemporize	impromptu, spoken or performed without preparation	time
248	perennial	long-lasting, continual	time
249	premonition	a feeling of evil to come, foreboding	time
250	prescient	psychic	time
251	synchrony	coincidence in time	time
252	apocryphal	dubious, erroneous	truth
253	conspicuous	clearly visible, obvious	truth
254	demagogue	a leader who manipulates emotions	truth
255	dissembler	liar	truth

256	eventuality	possibility	truth
257	feign	give a false appearance of	truth
258	finagle	achieve something by means of trickery	truth
259	glib	insincere	truth
260	guile	deceit	truth
261	guileless	honest	truth
262	ideologue	one who theorizes and speculates	truth
263	illusory	deceptive	truth
264	impugn	attack as false or questionable	truth
265	incontrovertible	indisputable	truth
266	insidious	treacherous	truth
267	presumptive	probable, likely	truth
268	pretense, pretension	doubtful claim	truth
269	surreptitious	secretive	truth
270	verity	truth	truth
271	accede	give in, agree	war and peace
272	allay	relieve	war and peace
273	capitulate	surrender under agreed conditions	war and peace
274	catharsis	purging or cleansing of the body or spirit	war and peace
275	elegy	mournful poem or song	war and peace
276	flank (verb)	protect, support	war and peace
277	harbor (verb)	maintain, hold	war and peace
278	malady	disease, ailment	war and peace
279	mollify	appease, soothe	war and peace
280	nadir	lowest point	war and peace
281	nettle	make worse	war and peace
282	pernicious	wicked, harmful	war and peace
283	pestilence	fatal infectious disease	war and peace
284	polarize	create conflict	war and peace
285	ponderous	serious, heavy, clumsy	war and peace
286	propitiate	appease, make peace with	war and peace
287	pugnacious	aggressive, belligerent	war and peace
288	rebuff	reject	war and peace
289	subjugate	conquer	war and peace
290	vitriolic	bitter, destructive	war and peace
291	vituperative	bitterly abusive	war and peace