

# WORD WIZARDRY

A SPELL BINDING GUIDE  
TO YOUR VOCABULARY

**Scholarly** 

Steve Xu  
Scholarly Publishing





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# EDITOR'S NOTE

## Editor's Note

My name is Steve and I set out on a mission to truly empower kids in their educational endeavours. Having been through all the rigorous tests myself and in the education industry for over a decade I have come to understand the fundamental factors required for students to excel in their education.

I know you will find this book valuable and if you would like to speak to my team and I reach out to us here:

<https://scholarlytraining.com/>

Regards, Steve

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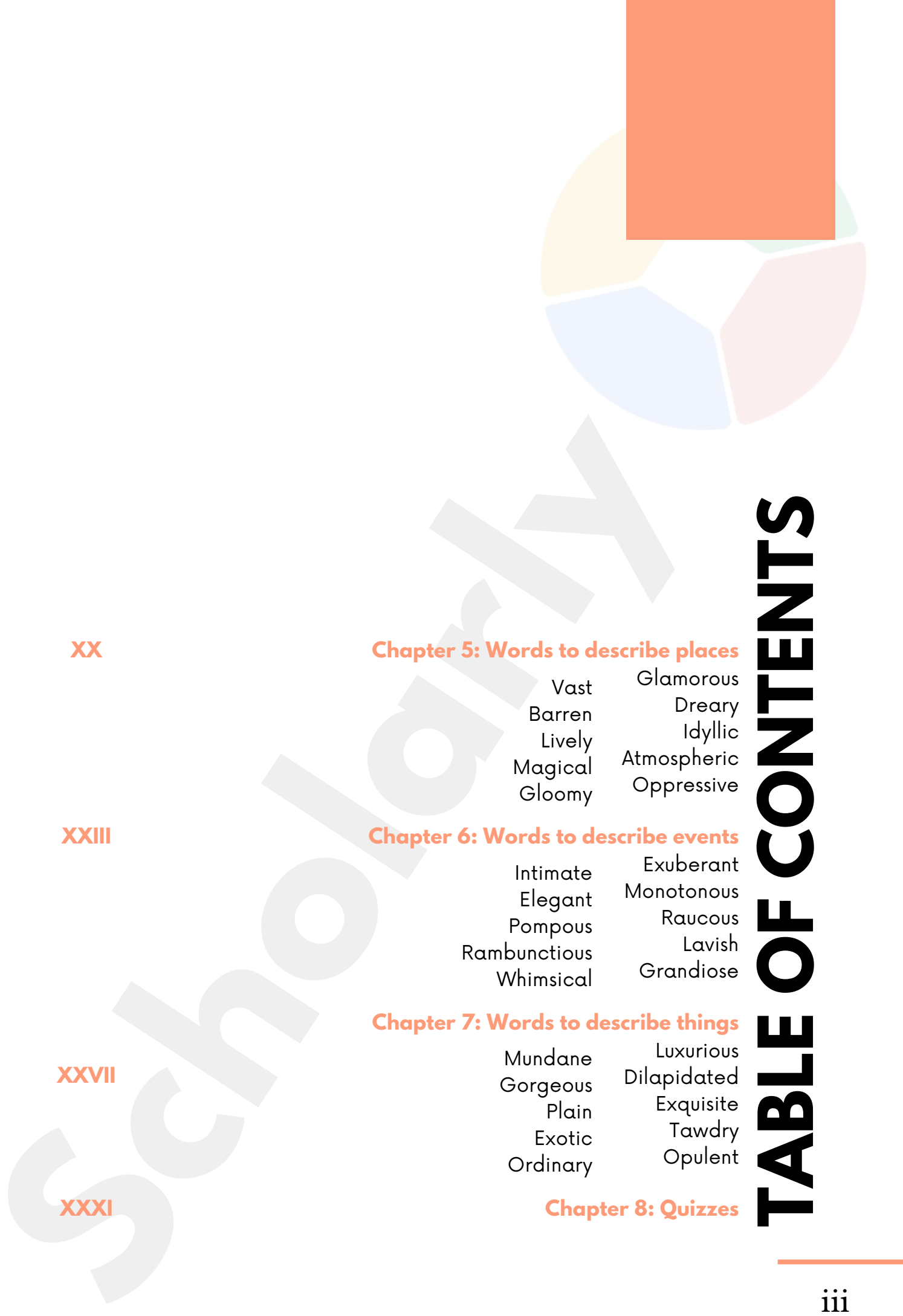
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## Chapter 1 Introduction

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our vocabulary textbook! This book is designed specifically for 12 year olds and is filled with fun and exciting ways to learn new words.

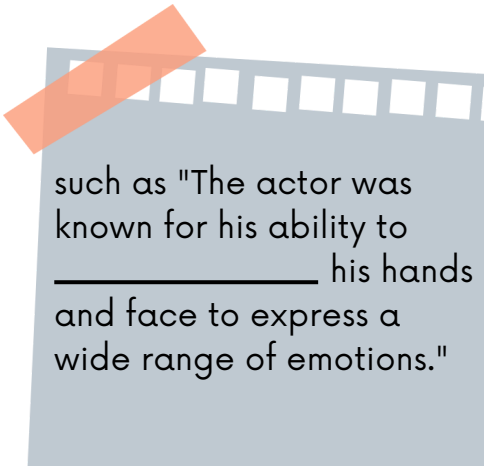
In this book, you'll find chapters on words to describe people, emotions, actions, places, events, and things. We've included a variety of words in each chapter to help you expand your vocabulary and communicate more effectively.

One of the most important aspects of learning new words is understanding their meanings. That's why we've included clear definitions for each word in the book. We've also included mnemonics, which are memory tricks that can help you remember the meanings of new words. For example, if you're trying to remember the meaning of the word "raucous," you might think of the phrase "rowdy and loud," which sounds similar to "raucous."

In addition to definitions and mnemonics, we've also included word play and funny pop culture examples to help you remember and use the words in the right context. For example, if you're trying to remember the meaning of the word "exquisite," you might think of the phrase "delicate and beautiful," which sums up the meaning of the word. You might also think of a character from a TV show or movie who might use the word "exquisite" to describe something they love, such as Professor Albus Dumbledore from the Harry Potter series.

But learning new words isn't just about memorisation. It's also about being able to use them correctly in different situations. That's why we've included a variety of exercises and questions in this book to help you test your knowledge and improve your vocabulary skills.

For example, you'll find multiple choice questions that will ask you to choose the word that means something specific, such as "very private, personal, and close." You'll also find questions that ask you to complete a sentence with the appropriate word



such as "The actor was known for his ability to \_\_\_\_\_ his hands and face to express a wide range of emotions."

No matter what your current vocabulary level is, we hope this book will help you expand your knowledge and communicate more effectively.

**So let's get started!**

### Vocabulary memorisation tips and tricks



Memorising vocabulary can be tough, especially if you're trying to learn a lot of new words at once. But don't worry! There are plenty of tips and tricks you can use to help you remember new words and improve your vocabulary skills.

One of the most effective ways to memorise vocabulary is to use mnemonics. Mnemonics are memory tricks that can help you associate new words with familiar things or ideas. For example, if you're trying to remember the meaning of the word "exquisite," you might think of the phrase "delicate and beautiful," which sums up the meaning of the word.

Another helpful tip is to use flashcards. Flashcards are small cards that have a word on one side and the definition on the other. You can use flashcards to test yourself on new words and see how well you remember their meanings. You can also make your own flashcards using index cards or a flashcard app on your phone or computer.

Another way to improve your vocabulary is to read as much as you can. Reading exposes you to a wide range of words and helps you understand how they are used in different contexts. You can also try using a dictionary to look up words you don't know and read the definitions carefully. This will help you understand how the word is used and how to use it correctly.

# INTRODUCTION

# INTRODUCTION

## Additional tips and advice!

1. Practise using new words in context. Try incorporating the new words you're learning into your writing or speaking. This will help you understand how the words are used and give you more opportunities to practise using them correctly
2. Use visual aids. Some people find it helpful to create a mental image or draw a picture to help them remember new words. For example, if you're trying to remember the word "bucolic," you might picture a peaceful countryside scene.
3. Play word games. There are many online and offline games that can help you learn new words in a fun and interactive way. Scrabble, Bananagrams, and Boggle are all great options for building your vocabulary
4. Keep a vocabulary journal. You can use a journal or a note-taking app to write down new words and their definitions. You can also include example sentences or create flashcards to help you remember the words. Reviewing your journal regularly will help you reinforce your learning.
5. Use root words and prefixes/suffixes to help you guess the meanings of unfamiliar words. Many English words are built from smaller words, such as prefixes (e.g. "anti-" meaning "against") and suffixes (e.g. "-able" meaning "able to be"). By understanding these smaller building blocks, you can often deduce the meanings of new words.

The word "antipathy" comes from the prefix "anti-" (meaning "against") and the root word "pathos" (meaning "strong emotion"). So "antipathy" means "a strong feeling of dislike or hostility."

The word "perceivable" comes from the prefix "per-" (meaning "through") and the root word "ceive" (meaning "to take or grasp"). So "perceivable" means "able to be understood or noticed."

Examples!



## More examples:

- Use online resources to help you learn new words. There are many websites and apps that offer vocabulary-building games and activities. Some options include Vocabulary.com, Word Dynamo, and Word Up



- Learn the words in groups or categories. Instead of trying to learn a long list of unrelated words, try organising the words into categories or themes. This can make the learning process more manageable and help you see the connections between words

- Use context clues. When you come across an unfamiliar word in a text, try to use the surrounding words and sentences to help you figure out its meaning. This can help you learn new words in a more natural and meaningful way.



- Take breaks and review regularly. It's important to give your brain time to process and retain new information. So take breaks and review your vocabulary list regularly to help you remember the words you've learned.

# INTRODUCTION

# 2

## Chapter 2

### Words to describe people

# WORDS DESCRIBE PEOPLE

#### → ECCENTRIC

Definition: This word means someone who is a little bit strange or unusual. For example, if your friend always wears mismatched socks, they might be eccentric.

Mnemonic: EC-CENTRIC. The word "ec" sounds like "eccentric," so think of an eccentric person as being the center of their own strange and unusual world

Word play: An eccentric person might say "I'm not weird, I'm just eccentric!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Sheldon Cooper from the TV show The Big Bang Theory is a good example of an eccentric person. He's super smart, but also a little bit strange and does things his own way.

#### → QUIRKY

Definition: This word means someone who is a little bit odd or peculiar. For example, if your teacher always tells jokes that nobody understands, they might be quirky.

Mnemonic: Quirky people are like a Q-tip - they're a little bit unusual, but still pretty useful!

Word play: "I'm not weird, I'm just q-uirky!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Luna Lovegood from the Harry Potter series is a good example of a quirky person. She's always saying strange things and believing in things that nobody else does.

#### → OUTGOING

Definition: This word means someone who is friendly and enjoys being around other people. For example, if you have a friend who always wants to go to parties and meet new people, they might be outgoing.

Mnemonic: OUTGOING sounds a bit like "out," so think of an outgoing person as someone who is always eager to go out and socialise.

Word play: An outgoing person is "out and about!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Ron Swanson from the TV show Parks and Recreation is a good example of an outgoing person. Despite his gruff exterior, he's actually very friendly and loves spending time with his friends and family.

### ➔ **INTROVERTED**

Definition: This word means someone who is shy or reserved and prefers to spend time alone. For example, if you have a friend who doesn't like to go to parties and prefers to stay at home, they might be introverted.

Mnemonic: INTROVERTED sounds a bit like "introvert," so think of an introverted person as someone who is more inward-looking and prefers to spend time alone.

Word play: An introverted person is "inwardly focused."

Funny pop culture example: The character of Donnie Darko from the movie of the same name is a good example of an introverted person. He's quiet and reserved, and prefers to spend time alone thinking and exploring his own thoughts and feelings.

### ➔ **GREGARIOUS**

Definition: This word means someone who is very outgoing and enjoys being around other people. For example, if you have a friend who is always the life of the party and loves meeting new people, they might be gregarious.

Mnemonic: GREGARIOUS sounds a bit like "gregarious," so think of a gregarious person as someone who is always seeking out new social experiences.

Word play: A gregarious person is "socially adventurous!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Michael Scott from the TV show The Office is a good example of a gregarious person. He's always trying to be the centre of attention and loves meeting new people and making friends.

### ➔ **ALOOF**

Definition: This word means someone who is distant or reserved, and doesn't like to get too close to other people. For example, if you have a friend who is always quiet and doesn't like to share their feelings or thoughts, they might be aloof.

# WORDS DESCRIBE PEOPLE

Mnemonic: ALOOF sounds a bit like "a loft," so think of an aloof person as someone who is a bit detached, like they're up in a loft looking down on others.

Word play: An aloof person is "aloof and above it all."

Funny pop culture example: The character of Mr. Darcy from the book and movie *Pride and Prejudice* is a good example of an aloof person. He's very reserved and doesn't like to get too close to others, especially at first.

## ➔ SOLITARY

Definition: Living or existing alone. Someone or something that is solitary is living or existing alone, without the company of others. They may be isolated or removed from society.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "solitary" as a combination of "solo," which means alone, and "tar," which is a sticky, gooey substance. Someone who is solitary is stuck or isolated from others, like a gooey substance that is difficult to remove.

Word play: A solitary person might be described as a "lone wolf." This phrase captures the idea of the person being alone or isolated from others.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Howard Wolowitz from the TV show *The Big Bang Theory* is a good example of someone who is solitary. He spends a lot of time alone in his room, working on his projects and hobbies.

## ➔ COMPLICATED

Definition: Complex and difficult to understand or analyse. Something that is complicated is complex and difficult to understand or analyse. It may have many parts or factors that contribute to its complexity.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "complicated" as a combination of "complicate," which means to make something more complex or difficult, and "ed," which is a suffix that indicates past tense. Something that is complicated has been made more complex or difficult in the past.

Word play: Something that is complicated might be described as "a tangled web." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being complex and difficult to untangle or understand.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Tyrion Lannister from the TV show Game of Thrones is a good example of someone who is complicated. He's intelligent and resourceful, but also has a complex and troubled past that makes him difficult to understand.

### ➔ NOSTALGIC

Definition: Feeling or expressing longing for the past. Someone who is nostalgic is feeling or expressing longing for the past. They may be reminiscing about past events or experiences and feeling a sense of longing or wistfulness.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "nostalgic" as a combination of "nostalgia," which means a longing for the past, and "ic," which is a suffix that indicates a characteristic or quality. Someone who is nostalgic is characterised by a longing for the past.

Word play: A nostalgic person might be described as "lost in the past." This phrase captures the idea of the person being absorbed in memories of the past and feeling a sense of longing or wistfulness.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Ross Geller from the TV show Friends is a good example of someone who is nostalgic. He often talks about the past and reminisces about his old college friends and experiences.

### ➔ PENSIVE

Definition: Engaged in deep thought, often with a sad or serious expression. Someone who is pensive is engaged in deep thought, often with a sad or serious expression. They may be thinking about something that is causing them to feel concerned or troubled.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "pensive" as a combination of "pens," which means to think deeply, and "ive," which is a suffix that indicates a characteristic or quality. Someone who is pensive is characterised by deep thought.

Word play: A pensive person might be described as "deep in thought." This phrase captures the idea of the person being absorbed in thought, often with a sad or serious expression.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Spock from the TV show Star Trek is a good example of someone who is pensive. He's often seen thinking deeply and contemplatively, analysing situations and making logical decisions.

# 3

## Chapter 3

### Words to describe emotions

# DESCRIBE EMOTIONS

#### → ELATED

Definition: This word means feeling very happy or excited. For example, if you just won the lottery, you might be elated.

Mnemonic: ELATED sounds like "elevated," so think of feeling elated as being lifted up by your emotions.

Word play: When you're elated, you're on "cloud nine!"

Funny pop culture example: ❖ The character of SpongeBob SquarePants is a good example of someone who is always elated. He's always bouncing around, full of energy and joy.

#### → DEJECTED

Definition: This word means feeling very sad or disappointed. For example, if you just found out that your favourite sports team lost the championship, you might be dejected.

Mnemonic: DEJECTED sounds a bit like "rejected," so think of feeling dejected as being rejected by your emotions.

Word play: When you're dejected, you're "down in the dumps."

Funny pop culture example: The character of Eeyore from the Winnie the Pooh series is a good example of someone who is often dejected. He's always feeling sad and down, no matter what's happening.

#### → ENRAGED

Definition: This word means feeling very angry or furious. For example, if someone cuts you off in traffic and you honk your horn and shout at them, you might be enraged.

Mnemonic: ENRAGED sounds a bit like "enraged," so think of this word as a fancy way to describe extreme anger.

Word play: When you're enraged, you're "seeing red!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Hulk from the Marvel universe is a good example of someone who gets enraged easily. When he gets angry, he turns into a giant green monster and starts smashing things.

## → ECSTATIC

Definition: This word means feeling very happy and excited. For example, if you just found out that you got accepted to your dream college, you might be ecstatic.

Mnemonic: ECSTATIC sounds a bit like "ecstasy," so think of this word as a fancy way to describe extreme happiness.

Word play: When you're ecstatic, you're "over the moon!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Mickey Mouse is a good example of someone who is always ecstatic. He's always smiling and having a great time, no matter what's happening.

## → MELANCHOLIC

Definition: This word means feeling very sad or depressed. For example, if you're listening to a sad song and it makes you feel really down, you might be melancholic.

Mnemonic: MELANCHOLIC sounds a bit like "melancholy," so think of this word as a fancy way to describe a feeling of deep sadness.

Word play: When you're melancholic, you're "blue as can be."

Funny pop culture example: The character of Garfield from the comic strip of the same name is a good example of someone who is often melancholic. He's always feeling grumpy and sleeping all the time, even though he has a pretty good life.

## → SULLEN

Definition: This word means feeling moody or sulky. For example, if you're in a bad mood and you don't want to talk to anyone, you might be sullen.

Mnemonic: SULLEN sounds a bit like "sullen," so think of this word as a fancy way to describe a moody or sulky disposition.

Word play: When you're sullen, you're "sulky as can be."

Funny pop culture example: The character of Stewie Griffin from the TV show Family Guy is a good example of someone who is often sullen. He's always moody and sulky, especially when things don't go his way.

# DESCRIBE EMOTIONS



# DESCRIBE EMOTIONS

## ➔ DESPONDENT

Definition: Feeling or expressing hopelessness or despair. Someone who is despondent is feeling or expressing hopelessness or despair. They may be feeling discouraged or defeated, and may lack motivation or energy.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "despondent" as a combination of "despond," which means to lose hope or be disheartened, and "ent," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Someone who is despondent is a person who has lost hope or is disheartened.

Word play: A despondent person might be described as "down in the dumps." This phrase captures the idea of the person feeling low or hopeless.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Eeyore from the children's book series Winnie the Pooh is a good example of someone who is despondent. He's often seen feeling sad or down, and lacks motivation or energy.

## ➔ OVERJOYED

Definition: Extremely happy or delighted. Someone who is overjoyed is extremely happy or delighted. They may feel overwhelmed with joy or excitement.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "overjoyed" as a combination of "over," which means above or beyond, and "joyed," which means to experience joy or delight. Someone who is overjoyed is experiencing joy or delight to an extreme or excessive degree.

Word play: An overjoyed person might be described as "over the moon." This phrase captures the idea of the person feeling extremely happy or delighted.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Mickey Mouse from the Disney franchise is a good example of someone who is overjoyed. He's always cheerful and enthusiastic, and is easily excited or delighted.

## ➔ EUPHRIC

Definition: Someone who is euphoric is feeling or expressing extreme happiness or elation. They may feel a rush of excitement or joy.



Mnemonic: Think of the word "euphoric" as a combination of "euphoria," which means a feeling of extreme happiness or elation, and "ic," which is a suffix that indicates a characteristic or quality. Someone who is euphoric is characterised by a feeling of extreme happiness or elation.

Word play: An euphoric person might be described as "on cloud nine." This phrase captures the idea of the person feeling extremely happy or elated.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Phineas Flynn from the TV show Phineas and Ferb is a good example of someone who is euphoric. He's always full of energy and excitement, and is easily thrilled or elated.

### ➔ DISHEARTENED

Definition: Feeling or expressing disappointment or despair. Someone who is disheartened is feeling or expressing disappointment or despair. They may feel discouraged or defeated, and may lack motivation or energy.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "disheartened" as a combination of "dis," which means not, and "heartened," which means encouraged or strengthened. Someone who is disheartened is not encouraged or strengthened, but rather feels disappointment or despair.

Word play: A disheartened person might be described as "down in the dumps." This phrase captures the idea of the person feeling low or defeated.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Charlie Brown from the comic strip Peanuts is a good example of someone who is disheartened. He often feels discouraged or defeated, and lacks motivation or energy.

# DESCRIBE EMOTIONS

# 4

## Chapter 4

### Words to describe actions

# DESCRIBE ACTIONS

#### GESTICULATE

Definition: This word means to make gestures with your hands or body to express something. For example, if you're trying to explain something to someone and you're using a lot of hand gestures, you might be gesturing.

Mnemonic: GESTICULATE sounds a bit like "gesture," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "gesture."

Word play: When you gesticulate, you're "acting with your hands!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Mr. Bean is a good example of someone who loves to gesticulate. He's always making funny faces and gestures to express himself.

#### FROLIC

Definition: This word means to play and have fun in a carefree way. For example, if you're running around in the park with your friends, laughing and having a great time, you might be frolicking.

Mnemonic: FROLIC sounds a bit like "frolic," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "frolic."

Word play: When you frolic, you're "having a ball!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Olaf from the movie Frozen is a good example of someone who loves to frolic. He's always bouncing around and having a great time, no matter what's happening.

#### LURK

Definition: This word means to move around secretly or sneakily. For example, if you're trying to scare your friends by hiding in the bushes, you might be lurking.

DMnemonic: LURK sounds a bit like "lurk," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "lurk."

Word play: When you lurk, you're "sneaking around!"

unny pop culture example: The character of Slender Man is a good example of someone who loves to lurk. He's always hiding in the shadows, waiting to scare people.

### SCURRY

Definition: This word means to move quickly and busily. For example, if you're late for school and you're rushing to get ready, you might be scurrying.

Mnemonic: SCURRY sounds a bit like "scurry," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "scurry."

Word play: When you scurry, you're "in a hurry!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Speedy Gonzales from the Looney Tunes cartoons is a good example of someone who loves to scurry. He's always racing around and getting things done at lightning speed.

### SLITHER

Definition: This word means to move smoothly and stealthily, like a snake. For example, if you're sneaking up on someone to scare them, you might be slithering.

Mnemonic: SLITHER sounds a bit like "slither," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "slither."

Word play: When you slither, you're "sneaking around like a snake!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Sneaky Snake from the children's show The Snake Show is a good example of someone who loves to slither. He's always sneaking around and trying to surprise his friends.

### PROWL

Definition: This word means to move around stealthily or menacingly, like a predator. For example, if you're pretending to be a lion and you're stalking your prey (aka, your friends), you might be prowling.

## DESCRIBE ACTIONS

# DESCRIBE EMOTIONS

Mnemonic: PROWL sounds a bit like "prowl," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "prowl."

Word play: When you prowl, you're "stalking your prey!"

Funny pop culture example: The character of Tom from the cartoon Tom and Jerry is a good example of someone who loves to prowl. He's always sneaking up on Jerry and trying to catch him, but he never quite succeeds.

## SAUNTER

Definition: To walk leisurely and with no particular purpose or destination. To saunter means to walk leisurely and with no particular purpose or destination. It may involve strolling or leisurely pacing about.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "saunter" as a combination of "saunter," which means to walk leisurely and with no particular purpose or destination, and "er," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Someone who is sauntering is a person who is walking leisurely and with no particular purpose or destination.

Word Play: Someone who is sauntering might be described as "meandering." This phrase captures the idea of the person walking leisurely and with no particular purpose or destination.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Mr. Peabody from the TV show Mr. Peabody & Sherman is a good example of someone who is sauntering. He's often depicted as leisurely strolling or pacing about, with no particular purpose or destination.

## TIPTOE

Definition: To tiptoe means to walk on one's toes, especially quietly or carefully. It may involve moving cautiously or stealthily.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "tiptoe" as a combination of "tip," which means the pointed end of something, and "toe," which is a part of the foot. Someone who is tiptoeing is walking on the pointed ends of their feet, especially quietly or carefully.

Word Play: Someone who is tiptoeing might be described as "stealthily sneaking." This phrase captures the idea of the person moving cautiously or stealthily.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Garfield from the comic strip and TV show Garfield is a good example of someone who is tiptoeing. He's often depicted as stealthily sneaking around or moving cautiously, especially when he's up to no good.

### **SPRINT**

Definition: To sprint means to run or move very quickly or at full speed. It may involve running or moving as fast as possible.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "sprint" as a combination of "sprint," which means to run or move very quickly or at full speed, and "t," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Someone who is sprinting is a person who is running or moving very quickly or at full speed.

Word Play: Someone who is sprinting might be described as "bolting." This phrase captures the idea of the person running or moving very quickly or at full speed.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Sonic the Hedgehog from the video game and TV show franchise of the same name is a good example of someone who is sprinting. He's known for his speed and ability to run or move very quickly or at full speed.

### **CRAWL**

Definition: Move slowly and on one's hands and knees, by dragging one's body along the ground. Moving in a low, crawling position.

Mnemonic: Think "crawl" as a combination of "crawl," which means to move slowly and on one's hands and knees or by dragging one's body along the ground, and "l," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Someone crawling is a person who is moving slowly and on their hands and knees or by dragging their body along the ground.

Word Play: Someone who is crawling might be described as "inching along." This phrase captures the idea of the person moving slowly and in a low, crawling position.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Gizmo from the movie Gremlins is a good example of someone who is crawling. He's often crawling on his hands and knees or dragging his body along the ground, especially when he's in his mischievous "gremlin" form.

# DESCRIBE ACTIONS

# 5

## Chapter 5

### Words to describe places

#### DESCRIBE PLACES

##### GLAMOROUS

Definition: This word means very attractive or stylish in an eye-catching way. For example, if you're at a fancy party and everything is shiny and sparkling, the party might be glamorous.

Mnemonic: GLAMOROUS sounds a bit like "glamorous," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "glamorous."

Word play: When a place is glamorous, it's "glittering and stylish!"

Funny pop culture example: The city of Las Vegas is a good example of a place that is glamorous. It's full of shiny casinos, sparkling lights, and stylish people.

##### DREARY

Definition: This word means looking or feeling sad and depressing. For example, if you're walking through a city on a rainy day and everything is grey and gloomy, the city might be dreary.

Mnemonic: DREARY sounds a bit like "dreary," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "dreary."

Word play: When a place is dreary, it's "depressing and gloomy!"

Funny pop culture example: The city of Gotham from the Batman series is a good example of a place that is often dreary. It's always rainy and gloomy, and there's always crime and corruption happening.

##### IDYLIC

Definition: This word means very peaceful and perfect. For example, if you're on a beach vacation and everything is warm and sunny and you're having a great time, the vacation might be idyllic.

Mnemonic: IDYLIC sounds a bit like "idyllic," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "idyllic."

Word play: When a place is idyllic, it's "perfect and peaceful!"

Funny pop culture example: The island of Bali is a good example of a place that is often described as idyllic. It's beautiful and peaceful, with warm weather and crystal clear waters.

##### ATMOSPHERIC

Definition: This word means having a special atmosphere or feeling. For example, if you're at a spooky haunted house and everything is dark and creepy, the haunted house might have an atmospheric feeling.

Mnemonic: ATMOSPHERIC sounds a bit like "atmospheric," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "atmospheric."

Word play: A place is atmospheric when its "ambiance all its own!"

Funny pop culture example: The city of New Orleans is a good example of a place that is often described as atmospheric. It has a unique atmosphere, with its jazz music, Creole cuisine, and haunted history.

### **OPPRESSIVE**

Definition: This means feeling very heavy or suffocating. For example, if you're in a small room with no windows and no air conditioning, the room might feel oppressive.

Mnemonic: OPPRESSIVE sounds a bit like "oppressive," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "oppressive."

Word play: When a place is oppressive, it's "suffocating and heavy!"

Funny pop culture example: The planet of Mustafar from the Star Wars series is a good example of a place that is oppressive. It's a hot and volcanically active planet, with no signs of life or civilization.

### **VAST**

Definition: This word means very large or expansive. For example, if you're standing in the middle of a desert and you can't see any end to it, the desert might seem vast.

Mnemonic: VAST sounds a bit like "vast," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "vast."

Word play: When a place is vast, it's "enormous and endless!"

Funny pop culture example: The ocean is a good example of a place that is often described as vast. It's huge and deep, with no end in sight.

### **BARREN**

Definition: Something that is barren is lacking vegetation, fertility, or value. It may be desolate or unproductive.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "barren" as a combination of "bar," which means a barrier or obstruction, and "ren," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Something that is barren is an obstruction or barrier to vegetation, fertility, or value.

Word Play: Something that is barren might be described as "sterile." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being lacking in vegetation, fertility, or value.

Funny pop culture example: The planet of Tatooine from the Star Wars franchise is a good example of a barren place. It's a desert planet that is lacking in vegetation and is generally a harsh and unforgiving environment.

# DESCRIBE PLACES



# DESCRIBE EMOTIONS



Definition: Something that is lively is full of energy, activity, or excitement. It may be vibrant or energetic.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "lively" as a combination of "live," which means to be alive or to exist, and "ly," which is a suffix that indicates a quality or characteristic. Something that is lively is a quality or characteristic of being alive or energetic.

Word Play: Something that is lively might be described as "animated." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being full of energy, activity, or excitement.

Funny pop culture example: The character of Spongebob Squarepants from the TV show Spongebob Squarepants is a good example of someone who is lively. He's always full of energy and excitement, and is known for his playful and energetic personality.



Definition: Something that is magical is having or possessing special powers, qualities, or charm. It may be mysterious or enchanting.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "magical" as a combination of "magic," which means the power to produce illusions or supernatural effects, and "al," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Something that is magical is a person or thing with the power to produce illusions or supernatural effects.

Word Play: Something that is magical might be described as "enchanting." This phrase captures the idea of the thing possessing special powers, qualities, or charm.

Funny pop culture example: Harry Potter from the book and movie franchise of the same name is a good example of someone who is magical. He possesses special powers and abilities due to his magical heritage, and is known for his ability to perform spells and magic tricks.



Definition: Something that is gloomy is dark and dismal. It may be depressing or melancholy.

Mnemonic: Think of the word "gloomy" as a combination of "gloom," which means darkness or sadness, and "y," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Something that is gloomy is a person or thing with an atmosphere of darkness or sadness.

Word Play: Something that is gloomy might be described as "dreary." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being dark and dismal.

Funny pop culture example: The Eeyore from the Winnie the Pooh franchise is an example of someone who is gloomy. Always being sad or depressed, and is known for his generally downbeat personality.



# Chapter 6

## Words to describe events

# 6

### EXUBERANT

**Definition:** This word means very full of energy, enthusiasm, and joy. For example, if you have a friend who is always in a good mood and loves to have fun, they might be described as exuberant.

**Mnemonic:** EXUBERANT sounds a bit like "exuberant," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "exuberant."

**Word play:** When someone is exuberant, they're "full of energy and joy!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of SpongeBob SquarePants is a good example of someone who is often described as exuberant. He's always in a good mood and loves to have fun, no matter what challenges he faces.

### MONOTONOUS

**Definition:** This word means very repetitive and dull. For example, if you have a friend who always does the same thing every day and never tries anything new, their life might be described as monotonous.

**Mnemonic:** MONOTONOUS sounds a bit like "monotone," so think of this word as a way to describe something that's boring and repetitive, like a monotone voice.

**Word play:** When something is monotonous, it's "repetitive and dull!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Dale Gribble from King of the Hill is a good example of someone who might describe events as monotonous. He's always doing the same thing every day and never tries anything new, which can make his life feel repetitive and dull.

### RAUCOUS

**Definition:** This word means very loud and boisterous. For example, if you have a friend who loves to throw loud and energetic parties, they might be described as raucous.

**Mnemonic:** RAUCOUS sounds a bit like "raucous," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "raucous."

## DESCRIBE EVENTS

**Word play:** When something is raucous, it's "loud and boisterous!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Ron Swanson from the TV show Parks and Recreation is a good example of someone who might describe events as raucous. He's known for throwing loud and energetic parties, complete with lots of food, drink, and good times.

### LAVISH

**Definition:** This word means very generous and extravagant. For example, if you have a friend who loves to spoil their loved ones with expensive gifts and indulgent experiences, they might be described as lavish.

**Mnemonic:** LAVISH sounds a bit like "lavish," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "lavish."

**Word play:** When something is lavish, it's "generous and extravagant!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Scrooge McDuck from the Disney series DuckTales is a good example of someone who is often described as lavish. He's very wealthy and loves to indulge in expensive and extravagant experiences, such as diving into his giant vault of gold coins.

### GRANDIOSE

**Definition:** This word means very impressive and impressive in an exaggerated or pompous way. For example, if you have a friend who loves to show off their wealth and success, they might be described as grandiose.

**Mnemonic:** GRANDIOSE sounds a bit like "grand," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "grand."

**Word play:** When something is grandiose, it's "impressive and grand!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Mr. Krabs from SpongeBob SquarePants is a good example of someone who is often described as grandiose. He's very proud of his wealth and success, and he loves to show off his riches in an exaggerated and pompous way.

### INTIMATE

**Definition:** This word means very private, personal, and close. For example, if you have a friend who always confides in you and shares their deepest thoughts and feelings with you, your relationship might be described as intimate.

**Mnemonic:** INTIMATE sounds a bit like "intimate," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "intimate."

**Word play:** When something is intimate, it's "private and personal!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Lorelai Gilmore from the TV show Gilmore Girls is a good example of someone who might describe a relationship as intimate. She's very close with her daughter Rory and always confides in her and shares her deepest thoughts and feelings with her.

### ELEGANT

**Definition:** Something that is elegant is graceful and stylish in appearance or manner. It may be refined or sophisticated.

**Mnemonic:** Think of the word "elegant" as a combination of "elegant," which means graceful and stylish, and "ant," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Something that is elegant is a person or thing that is graceful and stylish.

**Word Play:** Something that is elegant might be described as "refined." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being graceful and stylish in appearance or manner.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Daria Morgendorffer from the TV show Daria is a good example of someone who is elegant. Despite being a bit of a misanthrope, she has a refined and sophisticated manner, and is known for her stylish and graceful appearance.

### POMPOUS

**Definition:** Someone who is pompous is showing off or displaying their importance or wealth in an arrogant or self-important way. They may be vain or conceited.

**Mnemonic:** Think of the word "pompous" as a combination of "pomp," which means grandeur or splendour, and "ous," which is a suffix that indicates a quality or characteristic. Someone who is pompous is grand or splendid in an arrogant or self-important way.

**Word Play:** Someone who is pompous might be described as "arrogant." This phrase captures the idea of the person showing off or displaying their importance or wealth in an arrogant or self-important way.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Mr. Burns from the TV show The Simpsons is a good example of someone who is pompous. He's a wealthy businessman who is known for his arrogant and self-important demeanour, and loves to show off his wealth and status.

**RAMBUNCTIOUS**

**Definition:** Someone or something that is rambunctious is loud, boisterous, and difficult to control. They may be energetic or unruly.

**Mnemonic:** Think of the word "rambunctious" as a combination of "ram," which means to charge violently or forcefully, and "bunctious," which means unruly or disobedient. Someone or something that is rambunctious is unruly or disobedient in a loud and boisterous way.

**Word Play:** Someone or something that is rambunctious might be described as "rowdy." This phrase captures the idea of the person or thing being loud, boisterous, and difficult to control.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Remy the rat from the movie Ratatouille is a good example of someone who is rambunctious. He's energetic, unruly, and difficult to control, and is known for his loud and boisterous personality.

**WHIMSICAL**

**Definition:** Something that is whimsical is playfully fanciful or fancifully playful. It may be lighthearted or fanciful.

**Mnemonic:** Think of the word "whimsical" as a combination of "whim," which means a sudden desire or change of mind, and "ical," which is a suffix that indicates a quality or characteristic. Something that is whimsical is a quality or characteristic of sudden desires or changes of mind.

**Word Play:** Something that is whimsical might be described as "capricious." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being playfully fanciful or fancifully playful.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Pee-wee Herman from the movie Pee-wee's Big Adventure is a good example of someone who is whimsical. He's lighthearted and fanciful, and is known for his playful and whimsical personality.

# Chapter 7

## Words to describe things

# 7

# DESCRIBE THINGS



### LUXURIOUS

**Definition:** This word means very comfortable, expensive, and indulgent. For example, a friend who always stays in five-star hotels and loves to be pampered, your friend might be described as luxurious.

**Mnemonic:** LUXURIOUS sounds a bit like "luxurious," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "luxurious."

**Word play:** "comfortable and indulgent!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Mr. Burns from The Simpsons is a good example of someone who is often described as luxurious. He's very wealthy and always surrounds himself with the most expensive and indulgent things, such as his private yacht and his mansion full of rare treasures.



### DILAPIDATED

**Definition:** This word means very run-down and in poor condition. For example, a friend who lives in a house that is falling apart and in need of major repairs, their house might be described as dilapidated.

**Mnemonic:** DILAPIDATED sounds a bit like "dilapidated," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "dilapidated."

**Word play:** When something is dilapidated, it's "run-down and in poor condition!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of the Addams Family from the TV show and movies of the same name is a good example of people who might describe things as dilapidated. They live in a creepy and decrepit old mansion that is falling apart and in need of major repairs, but they love it just the way it is.



### EXQUISITE

**Definition:** This word means very delicate, beautiful, and refined. For example, if you have a friend who loves to collect fine art or antiques, they might describe their collection as exquisite.

**Mnemonic:** EXQUISITE sounds a bit like "exquisite," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "exquisite."

**Word play:** When something is exquisite, it's "delicate and beautiful!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Professor Albus Dumbledore from the Harry Potter series is an example of someone who might describe objects as exquisite. He's known for his refined and sophisticated taste, loves to surround himself with beautiful and delicate objects, such as his collection of rare books and his elaborate office.



### TAWDRY

**Definition:** This word means very cheap, gaudy, and tasteless. For example, if you have a friend who loves to buy cheap, flashy, and tacky clothing and accessories, they might be described as tawdry.

**Mnemonic:** TAWDRY sounds a bit like "tawdry," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "tawdry."

**Word play:** When something is tawdry, it's "cheap and tasteless!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Edina Monsoon from the TV show Absolutely Fabulous is a good example of someone who is often described as tawdry. She's very wealthy, but she has poor taste and loves to buy cheap, flashy, and tacky clothing and accessories.



### OPULENT

**Definition:** This word means very rich and luxurious. For example, if you have a friend who loves to surround themselves with expensive and indulgent possessions, they might be described as opulent.

**Mnemonic:** OPULENT sounds a bit like "opulent," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "opulent."

**Word play:** When something is opulent, it's "rich and luxurious!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Dr. Evil from the Austin Powers movies is a good example of someone who is often described as opulent. He's very wealthy and loves to surround himself with expensive and indulgent possessions, such as his giant underground lair and his army of henchmen.



### MUNDANE

**Definition:** This word means very ordinary and uninteresting. For example, if you have a friend who always does the same thing every day and never tries anything new, their life might be described as mundane.

**Mnemonic:** MUNDANE sounds a bit like "mundane," so think of this word as a fancy way to say "mundane."

**Word play:** When something is mundane, it's "ordinary and uninteresting!"

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Jerry Seinfeld from the TV show Seinfeld is a good example of someone who might describe things as mundane. He's always getting into mundane and everyday situations, such as waiting in line at the DMV or trying to find a good parking spot.



### GORGEOUS

**Definition:** Something that is gorgeous is very beautiful or attractive. It may be striking or eye-catching.

**Mnemonic:** Think of the word "gorgeous" as a combination of "gorge," which means to eat or swallow greedily, and "ous," which is a suffix that indicates a quality or characteristic. Something that is gorgeous is so beautiful or attractive that it makes you want to "eat it up" or admire it greedily.

**Word Play:** Something that is gorgeous might be described as "stunning." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being very beautiful or attractive.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Elle Woods from the movie Legally Blonde is a good example of someone who is gorgeous. She's very beautiful and attractive, and is known for her striking and eye-catching appearance.



### PLAIN

**Definition:** Something that is plain is simple, ordinary, or unpretentious. It may be plain or unremarkable.

**Mnemonic:** Think of the word "plain" as a combination of "plain," which means simple or ordinary, and "n," which is a suffix that indicates a person or thing. Something that is plain is a person or thing that is simple or ordinary.

**Word Play:** Something that is plain might be described as "unassuming." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being simple, ordinary, or unpretentious.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Dwight Schrute from the TV show The Office is a good example of someone who is plain. He's simple, ordinary, and unpretentious, and is known for his plain and unremarkable appearance.



### EXOTIC

**Definition:** Something that is exotic is strange or unusual, especially in an attractive or interesting way. It may be foreign or unfamiliar.



**Word Play:** Something that is exotic might be described as "unusual." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being strange or unusual, especially in an attractive or interesting way.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Timon from the movie The Lion King is a good example of someone who is exotic. He's strange and unusual, and is known for his exotic and foreign appearance.



## ORDINARY

**Definition:** Something that is ordinary is normal, common, or typical. It may be average or unremarkable.

**Mnemonic:** Think of the word "ordinary" as a combination of "ord," which means order or arrangement, and "inary," which means relating to a series or sequence. Something that is ordinary is in the usual order or sequence.

**Word Play:** Something that is ordinary might be described as "common." This phrase captures the idea of the thing being normal, common, or typical.

**Funny pop culture example:** The character of Jerry Seinfeld from the TV show Seinfeld is a good example of someone who is ordinary. He's normal, common, and typical, and is known for his average and unremarkable personality.



# Chapter 8

## Practice test



1. Which word means very attractive or stylish in an eye-catching way?

- a. Glitzy
- b. Opulent
- c. Glamorous
- d. Sleek

2. Which word means very peaceful and perfect?

- a. Idyllic
- b. Dreary
- c. Oppressive
- d. Vast

3. Which word means looking dirty and shabby?

- a. Dingy
- b. Glamorous
- c. Opulent
- d. Sleek

4. Which word means feeling very heavy or suffocating?

- a. Oppressive
- b. Vast
- c. Idyllic
- d. Dreary

5. Which word means having a special atmosphere or feeling?

- a. Atmospheric
- b. Glamorous
- c. Opulent
- d. Sleek

6. Which word means feeling very sad or depressed?

- a. Melancholic
- b. Flamboyant
- c. Sullen
- d. Opinionated

7. Which word means feeling moody or sulky?

- a. Sullen
- b. Flamboyant
- c. Melancholic
- d. Opinionated

8. Which word means very showy or attention-seeking?

- a. Flamboyant
- b. Melancholic
- c. Sullen
- d. Opinionated

9. Which word means having strong and often inflexible opinions?

- a. Opinionated
- b. Flamboyant
- c. Melancholic
- d. Sullen

10. Which word means very beautiful or attractive?

- a. Ravishing
- b. Flamboyant
- c. Melancholic
- d. Sullen

11. Choose the word that means very private, personal, and close:

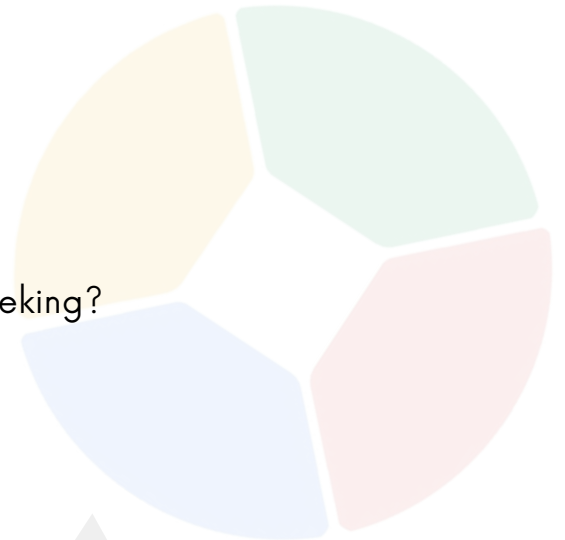
- A. Eccentric
- B. Quirky
- C. Intimate
- D. Gregarious

12. Choose the word that means very run-down and in poor condition:

- A. Exuberant
- B. Monotonous
- C. Dilapidated
- D. Lavish

13. Complete the sentence with the appropriate word: The actor was known for his ability to \_\_\_\_\_ his hands and face to express a wide range of emotions.

- A. Gesticulate
- B. Frolic
- C. Lurk
- D. Scurry



14. Choose the word that means very ordinary and uninteresting:

- A. Glamorous
- B. Dreary
- C. Idyllic
- D. Mundane

15. Choose the word that means very rich and luxurious:

- A. Atmospheric
- B. Oppressive
- C. Vast
- D. Opulent

16. Complete the sentence with the appropriate word: The snake was seen \_\_\_\_\_ through the grass.

- A. Slithering
- B. Prowling
- C. Gesticulating
- D. Frolicing

17. Choose the word that means very comfortable, expensive, and indulgent:

- A. Luxurious
- B. Dilapidated
- C. Exquisite
- D. Tawdry

18. Choose the word that means very impressed and impressive in an exaggerated or pompous way:

- A. Grandiose
- B. Intimate
- C. Eccentric
- D. Quirky

19. Choose the word that means very delicate, beautiful, and refined:

- A. Exquisite
- B. Tawdry
- C. Opulent
- D. Luxurious

20. Choose the word that means very loud and boisterous:

- A. Raucous
- B. Lavish
- C. Grandiose
- D. Intimate

21. Which of the following words means someone who is a little bit strange or unusual?

- A. Eccentric
- B. Quirky
- C. Outgoing
- D. Introverted

22. Which of the following words means someone who is living or existing alone, without the company of others?

- A. Eccentric
- B. Quirky
- C. Outgoing
- D. Solitary

23. Which of the following words means feeling or expressing longing for the past?

- A. Complicated
- B. Nostalgic
- C. Pensive
- D. Solitary

24. Which of the following words means deep or serious thinking, especially about something that is troubling or uncertain?

- A. Complicated
- B. Nostalgic
- C. Pensive
- D. Solitary

25. Which of the following words means feeling very happy and excited?

- A. Elated
- B. Dejected
- C. Enraged
- D. Ecstatic

26. Which of the following words means feeling sad, disappointed, and discouraged?

- A. Elated
- B. Dejected
- C. Enraged
- D. Melancholic

128. Which of the following words means a place that is empty or not developed, and has very little vegetation or wildlife?

- A. Oppressive
- B. Vast
- C. Barren
- D. Lively

29. Which of the following words means very elaborate and impressive, especially in a way that is expensive or showy?

- A. Exuberant
- B. Monotonous
- C. Raucous
- D. Lavish

30. Which of the following words means cheap, showy, and of poor quality, and often in a way that is tasteless or vulgar?

- A. Luxurious
- B. Dilapidated
- C. Exquisite
- D. Tawdry

## Answers

1. C. Glamorous
2. A. Idyllic
3. A. Dingy
4. A. Oppressive
5. A. Atmospheric
6. A. Melancholic
7. A. Sullen
8. A. Flamboyant
9. A. Opinionated
10. A. Ravishing
11. C. Intimate
12. C. Dilapidated
13. A. Gesticulate
14. D. Mundane
15. D. Opulent
16. A. Slithering
17. A. Luxurious
18. A. Grandiose
19. A. Exquisite
20. A. Raucous
21. A. Eccentric
22. D. Solitary
23. B. Nostalgic
24. C. Pensive
25. D. Ecstatic
26. B. Dejected
27. A. Despondent
28. C. Barren
29. D. Lavish
30. D. Tawdry





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