

A

abbreviate *n.* to shorten, esp. a word: *This dictionary abbreviates the word "noun" by using "n."* –*n.* **abbreviation**

advantage *n.* a good feature, benefit: *The house is new and near a good school. It has many advantages.*

afford *v.* to be able to pay for something without difficulty: *We can't afford that expensive car.*

aisle *n.* a long open path between rows of seats or shelves: *We walked down the aisle to our seats in the theater.*

alive *adj.* living, functioning: *After the accident, he was barely alive.*

amaze *v.* to favorably impress: *She plays tennis so well that she amazes me!*

appetizer *n.* a small amount of food served before the main meal: *We served some crackers and cheese as an appetizer.*

at least the minimum that is true or possible: *He hoped that at least half of the people he invited would come to his performance.*

attach *v.* put something on an object and make it part of the object: *She attached the strap to her camera so she wouldn't drop it.*

attract *v.* to draw interest: *San Francisco attracts millions of tourists each year.*

B

bake *v.* to cook in an oven usually slowly, for a long time: *The baker bakes fresh bread every morning.* –*adj.* **baked**

bear *v.* to produce: *Cherry trees bear cherries.*

bleak *adj.* cold, gray, and unfriendly: *On a cold, rainy day the beach area looks bleak.*

blessing *n.* an act of making something holy: *She asked for God's blessing for her new baby.*

bouquet *n.* a bunch of flowers: *He sent her a beautiful bouquet of roses.*

bride *n.* a woman who is getting married, a female marriage partner: *She became a bride at age 24.*

brilliant *adj.* extremely intelligent: *She has a brilliant mind.*

C

career *n.* a life's work, esp. in business or in a profession: *I have a great career. I teach high school English.*

cell *n.* the basic unit of living things: *Our bodies are made up of cells.*

characteristic *n.* a special quality, (syn.) a trait: *The ideal person for the job has these characteristics: ten years' experience and an advanced degree.*

charity *n.* an organization that helps poor people: *People give money to charities to help the homeless.*

charm *n.* something worn because it is thought to be magical: *He wore a charm to protect himself from evil spirits.*

cheekbone *n.* the bone below and beside each eye: *She put some makeup on her cheekbones.*

confident *adj.* with strong belief in one's ability or that something will definitely happen: *She behaves in a confident manner.*

creative *adj.* showing artistic skill and imagination: *That artist has the creative ability to paint beautiful pictures.*

crop *n.* a planting and harvest of grain, vegetables, or fruit: *Farmers had a good crop of rice this year.*

crown *n.* a decoration for the head usually made of gold and jewels to show high position: *The queen of England wears her crown for special ceremonies.*

cure *v.* to make someone healthy by using medicines and treatments, to heal: *A doctor cures sick people.*

D

delicacy *n.* special food that tastes great and is hard to get: *Caviar is a delicacy.*

dessert *n.* the last course in a meal, usually a sweet dish, such as cake, fruit, etc.: *We had apple pie and coffee for dessert.*

destroy *v.* to pull or break down: *The storm destroyed every house on the coast.*

determined *adj.* of strong will, (*syn.*) resolute: *The workers are determined to finish the job on time.*

develop *v.* to make into something more complete, greater or bigger: *They developed a program to stop teenage drinking.*

disappoint *v.* to sadden someone by failing to meet their expectations or hopes: *I was disappointed when she cancelled our date.* —*adj.* **disappointed**

disease *n.* a sickness or serious disorder that is inherited or caused by infection or bad living conditions: *Disease destroys many lives in poor parts of the world.*

dish *n.* a type of cooked food: *She made his favorite dish for dinner.*

dripping wet *adj.* having so much water on something that it is falling off: *The dog was dripping wet when it came inside after the storm.*

E

equipment *n.* useful items needed for a purpose (work, sports, etc.): *I have sports equipment that includes golf clubs, tennis rackets, and ice skates.*

evidence *n.* words or objects that support the truth of something, proof: *The lawyer presented the murder weapon as evidence in court.*

exception *n.* something unusual: *He is usually on time; his lateness today is an exception.*

explode *v.* to blow apart with force, burst: *A bomb exploded on the battlefield.*

extreme *adj.* the greatest possible, (*syns.*) drastic, severe: *The government took extreme measures to put down the rebellion.*

F

faithful *adj.* factual, accurate: *Her book was a faithful account of the years she*

spent in jail as a political prisoner. –n.
faithfulness

fate *n.* a force or power believed to determine in advance everything that happens: *Fate brought the two leaders together so that they might bring peace to the world.*

flat *adj.* level: *The farmland near the river is very flat.*

focus *n.* an object of attention: *The focus of the news report was the state of the economy.*

forecast *n.* a statement about what one thinks will happen in the future, (*syn.*) a prediction: *According to the weather forecast, it's going to snow tonight.*

fragile *adj.* easily broken, delicate: *That dish is fragile, so be careful.*

frighten *v.* to cause fear, shock: *Strange sounds in the night frightened the child.*

G

gene *n.* the basic part of a living cell that contains characteristics of one's parents: *You have good genes from your parents, so you should live a long time.*

generous *adj.* ready to give, giving: *My brother is very generous; he gave me \$20,000 to buy a new car.*

get rid of *phr. v.* remove or free oneself from something: *When the child got older, he got rid of his old toys.*

give up *phr. v.* to stop hoping or wishing for someone or something to arrive, happen, etc.: *Medical school was very challenging, but he did not give up.*

godparent *n.* a person who promises to take responsibility for someone else's child if the child's parents die: *My godparents are my mother's best friend and her husband.*

grilled *v.* to cook on a grill: *I grilled some burgers for lunch. –adj. grilled*

groom *n.* a man who is getting married, a male marriage partner: *The groom wore a tuxedo to the wedding.*

grown-up *n.* an adult: *Many grown-ups have dinner after the children are asleep.*

guest *n.* a person who is invited to a restaurant, the movies, etc., and who is paid for by the host: *The host made sure the guests had a good time at the party.*

H

have something in common have the same of something: *The twin sisters have many things in common.*

holy *adj.* sacred, coming from or connected with God: *Christmas is a holy day.*

honor *v.* to praise, give recognition to: *She was honored by the mayor with a good citizenship award.*

horrify *v.* to terrify, sicken with fear: *The sight of his murdered friend horrified him. –adj. horrified*

I

icon *n.* a figure of a holy person: *Paintings of important icons hung on the walls of the home.*

ill *adj.* sick, unwell: *He is ill; he has a bad cold.*

imagine *v.* to form (a picture, idea) in one's mind: *She imagined what it would be like to be rich and famous.*

in order in their right time or place: *The librarian put the books in order by author's last name.*

in tune sing or play to the correct tone of music: *The members of the chorus all sang in tune.*

informal *adj.* casual, ordinary: *Dress at the party was informal, with no neckties or fancy dresses.*

initial *n.* the first letter of one's name: *John Smith's initials are J.S.*

injure *v.* to hurt, cause damage: *He injured his knee when he ran in a long race.* –*adj.* **injured**

insecticide *n.* a chemical or other substance used to kill insects: *Farmers use insecticides to protect their corn and wheat fields.*

instead *prep.* in place of, rather than: *The bride chose roses instead of tulips for her bouquet.*

invent *v.* to create something new: *Trains were invented long before cars.*

J

jaw *n.* the lower and upper bones of the mouth, including the teeth: *She couldn't eat because of her broken jaw.*

journey *n.* a trip, esp. a long one: *Many Irish immigrants made the journey to America by sea in the 1840s.*

L

landmark *n.* something easily seen, such as a tall building or mountain: *The tallest mountain in the area is a famous landmark.*

license *v.* a permit given by an official body, usually to someone who passes an examination: *She has a driver's license (hairdresser's license, license as a registered nurse, etc.).*

lightning bolt *n.* bright flash of light you see in the sky during a storm: *The lightning bolt was followed by a loud clap of thunder.*

limit *n.* the greatest amount or extend allowed: *The speed limit is 55 MPH in many states.*

logic *n.* a system of reasoning: *She uses logic—not emotion—in all her decisions.*

M

memorable *adj.* unforgettable, worthy of being remembered: *We took some memorable vacations in Alaska in the past.*

message *n.* a short written or spoken note: *I left a message on her answering machine to call me.*

mud *n.* a sticky mixture of water and dirt: *Dirt roads turn to mud when it rains.*

N

native *n.* a person who is born in a certain place: *She is a native of Texas.*

neighborhood *n.* the people, buildings, land, etc., where one lives: *We are friends with many of the families who live in our neighborhood.*

O

occupation *n.* one's means of making a living, job: *Her occupation is as a doctor.*

P

paperwork *n.* government or legal forms that must be filled out to complete some action or process: *Buying a house involves a lot of paperwork.*

paste *n.* a soft, smooth, thick substance that can be easily spread, formed, or mixed into another substance: *He opened a can of tomato paste.*

path *n.* the direction of a movement: *He stood in the path of a moving truck.*

peel *v.* to strip off the outer layer of anything: *He peeled off his shirt in a hurry.*

please *v.* to make someone feel happy, satisfy: *It pleases me that you are making such a big effort in this class.*

poison *n.* any substance that harms or kills people, animals, or plants if it is swallowed or touched: *She tried to kill herself by swallowing poison.*

population *n.* all of the people living in a specific area: *The population of this city is eight million.*

pork *n.* the meat of a pig: *I enjoy roast pork for dinner.*

pose *v.* to hold still in a pose, so one's picture can be painted, drawn, or photographed: *The mayor posed for an oil portrait.*

prepare *v.* to make arrangements for something, put in readiness: *He*

prepared for his trip by packing his clothes.

prosperity *n.* wealth, richness: *After the war ended, a period of prosperity began.*

protect *v.* to defend against harm or loss: *She protected her face from the sun with a hat.*

proud of *adj.* pleased, satisfied with an accomplishment: *He was proud of her when she won the race.*

punctual *adj.* arriving or leaving on time, prompt: *He was punctual; he arrives at 9:00 on the dot.*

R

rage *v.* uncontrolled anger, (syn.) fury: *The hurricane raged for a full day.*

raise money gather or collect funds to pay for something: *The students had a bake sale to raise money for the class trip.*

reach *v.* to come to a point, go as far as: *We reached Nashville before our car needed gas.*

recognize *v.* to recall, remember someone or something when one sees or hears that person or thing: *I recognized an old friend in a crowd and waved to her.*

record *n.* the best time, distance, etc., in an event: *She holds the world record for the 100-meter dash.*

refuse *v.* to say no: *He refused an invitation to a party.*

reliable *adj.* can be trusted: *He is a reliable worker who is always on time.*

resistant *adj.* immune to disease: *Her vaccinations make her resistant to many childhood diseases.*

rough *adj.* moving in a stormy or violent way: *Strong winds cause rough seas.*

S

share *v.* to tell someone something private: *I share my deepest thoughts with my wife.*

shelter *n.* any building or covering (tree branches, a cave, etc.) that gives physical protection: *When it started to rain, we found shelter under a tree.*

shoot *v.* to move quickly: *The frightened child shot across the room.*

solo *adj.* alone: *a solo performance*

solve problems find answers to questions or troubles: He still calls his mother when he needs help solving problems.

spill *v.* to drop or fall out of a container: *Juice spilled from the carton.*

stranger *n.* an unfamiliar person, someone new to a place: *A stranger on the street asked for directions to the highway.*

stray *adj.* not with a larger group of something, separate: *A few stray hairs blew into her face in the wind.*

surgery *n.* the medical practice of treating injuries and disease by operating on the body: *My friend went into surgery today to have a growth on his arm removed.*

symbol *n.* a sign, mark, picture, other object, or event taken or understood to be the representation of something else, esp. something important or meaningful: *The symbol of our country is displayed on our flag.*

T

tear *v.* to pull apart: *Lions tear at the zebra's flesh.* —*adj* **torn**

trademark *n.* a name, motto, or symbol, such as TM, used to indicate exclusive legal ownership of a product by a firm: *Band-AidTM is a trademark of the Johnson & Johnson company.*

trail *n.* traces, tracks, such as footprints or pieces of information: *The criminal left a trail of evidence.*

training *n.* a process of education, instruction: *He had training on how to use a computer.*

twist *v.* to turn, rotate: *I twisted the door knob, but the door wouldn't open.*

V

vehicle *n.* a machine, such as a car or truck, that travels to transport people or goods: *We took our vehicle to the mechanic for its yearly safety inspection.*

W

will *n.* the strength of the mind to control one's actions, (*syn.*) determination: *He has a very strong will; when he decides to do something, nothing can stop him.*

worship *v.* to show great respect for: *Many people worship God.*

wrap *v.* to cover (with material that surrounds something): *I wrapped the gift with colorful paper.*