

- to move about in a secret and sly manner

(2) Several people were seen lurking near the house before it was robbed and torched.

118 **vague** (adj) - not definite; not clear; not distinct

In a fog everything looks vague.

His vague statement confused everyone.

119 **reproach** (verb) - to blame

(1) The dean reproached the students for brawling in the cafeteria.

(noun) - an expression of blame, criticism

(2) My boyfriend's reproach about my driving hurt my feelings.

120 **defiant** (adj) - disobedient, standing up against authority

The defiant teenagers refused to get out of the stolen car as directed by the policeman.

121 **languid** (adj) - feeling weak, without energy, drooping

- lacking interest or enthusiasm

Hot, humid weather makes me feel so languid.

The indolent child felt too languid to do anything.

122 **anguish** (noun) - very great pain or grief (emotional or physical)

Friends and family of the students slain in Littleton, Colorado had looks of extreme anguish on their faces at the funeral.

He was in anguish until the doctor set his broken leg.

123 **composure** (noun) - calmness; quietness; self-control

She always keeps her composure, even in a crisis.

124 **intermittent** (adj) - stopping for a time then beginning again;

pausing at intervals

The pilot watched for an intermittent red light, flashing on and off every 15 seconds.

125 **complex** (adj) - made up of many parts, complicated

It required several steps to solve the complex math problem.

The directions were too complex for us to follow.

An apartment complex (noun) consists of several buildings.

126 **nostalgia** (noun) - a longing for something far away or long ago

The immigrants were overwhelmed with nostalgia for their old homeland.

The senior citizens were overcome with nostalgia as they shared their childhood photo albums.

127 **infer** (verb) - to find out by reasoning from facts; to conclude

- I **inferred** from the smoke that something was burning
- # 128 **lucrative** (adj) - profitable, bringing in money
(a business, a job, not a person)
- # 129 **clemency** (noun) - mercy; gentleness in use of power or authority
The government showed **clemency** to the defeated rebels.
- # 130 **sanctuary** (noun) - a sacred place
A church or a temple is a **sanctuary**.
-a place of refuge or protection; refuge or protection
The cabin provided **sanctuary** from the storm.
- # 131 **aversion** (noun) - a strong dislike
I have an **aversion** to broccoli.
- # 132 **imminent** (adj) - likely to happen soon; about to occur
The black clouds show that a storm is **imminent**.
- # 133 **utopia** - (noun) an ideal place or condition; a perfect way to live
Fairytale makes us think life in a castle is a **utopia** which
is a false impression.
- # 134 **credulous** - (adj) gullible; too ready to believe
She was so **credulous** that the other children could easily
fool her. (**credible** - believable; **incredible** - unbelievable)
- # 135 **frugal** (adj) - without waste; saving; using things well
My parents are **frugal** - they buy and use carefully only
what they need.
People who lived through the Depression are likely to be
frugal with their money and possessions.
- # 136 **compulsory** (adj) - required; mandatory
Attendance at school is **compulsory** for children over
seven years old.
- # 137 **impulsive** (adj) - acting upon impulse; done without thinking
over the consequences first
Impulsive buyers often purchase things they don't need.
- # 138 **anarchy** (noun) - absence of a system of government or laws;
lawlessness; disorder and confusion
During the race riots in the 1960's, conditions of **anarchy**
existed in several major U.S. cities.
- # 139 **enhance** (verb) - make greater; add to; heighten
The gardens **enhanced** the beauty of the house.
The growth of a city often **enhances** the value of land
close to it.
- # 140 **somber** (adj) - dark, gloomy

A cloudy winter day is somber. It was a somber room with dark furniture and heavy black hangings.

- melancholy, gloomy, dismal

His losses made him very somber.

141 **nocturnal** (adj) - of the night; active during the night;

Stars are a nocturnal sight.

Owls are nocturnal birds.

Nocturnal flowers open during the night.

142 **arduous** (adj) - hard to do, requiring much effort; using up much energy; strenuous

an arduous lesson; an arduous workout in the gym

143 **melancholy** (noun, adj.) - low spirits, sadness, a tendency to be

gloomy - Romeo was all filled with melancholy

sad; gloomy - a melancholy person

causing sadness; depressing - a melancholy scene

144 **barbarian** (noun, adj.) - a person belonging to an uncivilized tribe -

The Roman Empire was conquered by barbarians

uncivilized; cruel; coarse - Milosevic is a barbarian leader.

145 **infinite** (adj) - without limits, endless

It's hard to imagine the infinite reaches of space.

infinite patience, infinite wisdom

146 **pompous** (adj) - acting proud; trying to seem magnificent; self-

important; stuck-up

147 **animosity** (noun) - violent hatred; ill will; active dislike

I have done nothing to earn your animosity.

148 **docile** (adj) - easily trained or managed; obedient

Because my parents are elderly, they need to adopt a docile puppy that will provide companionship and be easy to care for.

149 **fortitude** (noun) courage in facing pain, danger or trouble;

Team members of the New Jersey Devils showed tremendous fortitude during the sixth and final playoff game when they won the Stanley Cup!

150 **penultimate** (adj) - next to the last

ultimate (adj) - last, final, greatest

The Dallas Stars hoped the sixth game would be the penultimate one of the series. Unfortunately for them, the Devils won, making that the ultimate match of the playoffs.

Although my current goal is to graduate from college with honors, my ultimate dream is to become a veterinarian.