

ABSTEMIOUS = ASCETIC - RESTRAINED - SELF-DENIAL

sounds like **abstain**

[If you **ABSTAIN** you **DENY PLEASURE.**]

After experiencing the many luxuries his posh lifestyle offered, Milo decided to become **abstemious**, denying himself the most basic luxuries.

ACQUISITIVE = GREEDY - GRASPING - AVARICIOUS

You want to **acquire** things.

The young entrepreneur was **acquisitive** in her first year of business: she bought out 3 different corporations.

ALIENATE = ESTRANGE - CUT OFF - TURN AWAY

You treat someone like he or she is an **alien**.

[You create **ALIENS** out of friends when you behave badly.]

She **alienated** many of the apple growers in the audience when she spoke of the benefits of eating oranges.

ALLEVIATE = MITIGATE - REDUCE - DIMINISH

think of **leaving** problems or **Alleve** pain reliever

[**ALLEVE** will **RELIEVE** you.]

The medicine **alleviated** much of her neck pain from the car accident.

AMORPHOUS = FORMLESS - SHAPELESS - INDETERMINATE

You can try to **morph** into a different shape but **amorph** can not.

The vaguely **amorphous** shape of the cake meant that the cook had to be sure and explain it really was a cake.

ANIMATED = LIVELY - VIVACIOUS - SPIRITED

ANIMATION = LIVELINESS - VIVACITY - SPIRIT

think of **animated** cartoons

Her speech was **animated** with funny anecdotes and a lively, upbeat tone.

His **animation** was apparent in his bright smile and sprightly movement.

ANNOTATED = ELUCIDATED - FOOTNOTED - COMMENTATED

think of taking **NOTES**

The author's **annotated** version of her novel clarified much of the confusing language and plot twists.

ANTIQUATED = OBSOLETE - OUT-OF-DATE - ARCHAIC

Antiques are old.

The postal worker found the mail system slow in its **antiquated** way of hand sorting the mail.

ARBOREAL = PERTAINING TO TREES - LUSH - GREENERY

Arbor day is tree appreciation day.

The **arboreal** splendor of Brazil's tropical rain forests has attracted visitors from all over the world.

ASCERTAIN = DETERMINE - ESTABLISH - DISCERN

make **certain**

Despite the witness' testimony, the judge could not **ascertain** what the defense was getting at.

BARBARITY = CRUELTY - VICIOUSNESS - ATROCITY

barbarians are cruel

The **barbarity** of his comments disrupted the polite banter at the luncheon.

BELITTLE = DISPARAGE - DEPRECATE - DEMEAN

make someone feel **little**

When it became obvious the coach believed in intimidation and **belittled** his players, the parents changed teams.

BESTIAL = BEASTLIKE - WILD - SAVAGE

act like a **beast**

His **bestial** eating habits got him kicked out of the fanciest restaurant in town.

BOMBASTIC = PRETENTIOUS - COARSE - OUTRAGEOUS

he was as loud as a **bomb**

His **bombastic** response surprised and annoyed the group.

BRAGGADOCIO = BOASTING - BRAGGING - JINGOISM

he was full of **bragging**

His **braggadocio** when describing his networking ability is what ultimately brought his social downfall.

CADAVEROUS = HAGGARD - GHASTLY - SKELETAL

envision a **cadaver** or corpse

His **cadaverous** body revealed that he had not been eating.

CADENCE = RHYTHM - BEAT - SYNCOPATED

[You have to have rhythm and good cadence to **DANCE**.]

Duke Ellington is praised for his pauses and innovative use of the **cadence** in his music.

CALLOUS = HARDENED - UNCARING - INSENSITIVE

someone is hardened like a **callous**

The **callous** prison guard had no sympathy for the sick inmate.

CANINE = PERTAINING TO DOGS - DOGLIKE - DOGGY

canine is a word referring to **dogs**

After the accident, we took the poodle to the **canine** hospital.

CAPACIOUS = LARGE - SPACIOUS - COMMODIOUS

sounds like **space**

The **capacious** car was a welcome change from my Miata.