

1. **adversity** (ad v_r' sətē) *n.*, misfortune, trouble. *Do you admire someone who deals with adversity by working harder instead of giving in?*
2. **Agency** – (ə jən se) *noun*; force or power. *Was it the agency of a meteor that ended the age of the dinosaurs?*
3. **asunder** (ə sun'dər) *adv.*, apart; separate. *The log was split asunder by one powerful blow of the axe.*
4. **blithe** (bl_ th) *adj.*, cheerful; carefree. *Derwood-MacHeath Senior remained blithe throughout the award ceremony, despite his son's uncouth and frequent belches.*
5. **diligently** (dil' ə jənt le) *adv.*, with great care and attention. *We all worked diligently throughout the day, and the project was completed on time.*
6. **dreary** (dri' re) *adj.*, gloomy; cheerless. *The castles halls were dreary passages—long, dark, and without adornment.*
7. **Ecclesiastical** (e kle' ze' as' ti kəl) *adj.*, having to do with the church. *The cardinal needed his ecclesiastical robes for the service on Sunday.*
8. **efficacious** (ef' i ka' shəs) *adj.*, effective, producing the desired result. *The doctors looked for the most efficacious remedy, without regard for cost*
9. **garrison** (ga' ri sən) *n.*, fortified place; military post or station. *Although cannons thundered outside, the soldiers felt safe in their secure garrison.*
10. **hacked** (hakt) *adj.*, cut rudely, roughly, or irregularly. *Marjorie's hair looks hacked and untidy, but it's part of her costume for the seventies punk party.*
11. **hovel** (huv'əl) *n.*, a shed or hut. *Relief workers spent weeks replacing the hovels with wood-framed houses.*
12. **Lament** *verb* – to feel or express sorrow
13. **literal** (lit' ə r əl) *adj.*, word-for-word; true to the actual or original meaning. *Some jokes are funny because of the difference between the literal and the common meanings of a phrase: "He said 'I'd sure like a bite,' so I bit him."*
14. **precept** (pre' sept) *n.*, commandment or direction meant as a rule of action or conduct. *My mother made her rule about finishing all our homework before watching television a precept in our house.*
15. **scourger** (sk_rj'ər) *n.*, one who scourges, or flogs. *They hired a scourger to help age their "antiques."*
16. **secular** (sek'yə lər) *adj.*, of the world; not sacred or religious. *Hild gave up her secular concerns and worldly possessions in exchange for a monastic life.*
17. **staunch** (stōnch) *adj.*, strong. *Trinh's staunch belief that we would win never failed even when the rest of the team was in despair.*
18. **temporal** (tem' pə rəl) *adj.*, lasting only for a time, limited; of this world, not spiritual. *The minister said that solving our temporal troubles is less import than caring for our immortal souls.*
19. **whorled** (hwōrld) *adj.*, coiled. *The natural oils in her skin left a whorled smudge on the mirror.*
20. **wrought** (rôt) *adj.*, shaped by hammering or beating. *The handle of the poker was wrought to display a likeness of Mrs. O'Leary.*