

THE OFFICIAL LIST OF 202 WORDS  
AND SYNONYM CLUSTERS  
YOU ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY  
HAVE TO KNOW!

THE TOP 25

1. **AMBIVALENT** - contradictory, having mixed feelings. For example, in the movie "Gladiator." Emperor Commodus is **AMBIVALENT** about giving the order to kill Maximus in the Coliseum. He wants to eliminate a rival but he also wants to please the pro-Maximus crowd. In Spider Man 2, Peter Parker has **AMBIVALENT** feelings about whether to continue being a superhero or just live a normal life. And have you heard? Basketball star Tony Parker recently proposed to Eva Longoria. But the Desperate Housewife star has **AMBIVALENT** feelings. On the one hand, she really likes Tony. But, on the other hand she is not ready to make a long-term commitment. So according to one insider, "Eva didn't say yes and she didn't say no - she said maybe."
2. **RETICENT** - restrained or reserved in style, inclined to remain silent. Eva Longoria is **RETICENT** to discuss her relationship with Tony Parker saying, "I make it a point never to talk about my personal life."
3. **INTERLOPER** - an intruder, outsider, gatecrasher. In the movie "Wedding Crashers," Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn star as a pair of Washington divorce mediators who spend their weekends in a search for Ms. Right - for a night. The two are **INTERLOPERS** who concoct elaborate schemes for crashing Jewish, Italian, Irish, Chinese and even Hindu weddings!
4. **INTEMPERATE** - lacking restraint, excessive. **INTEMPERATE** habits such as smoking, drinking, and over-eating are **INIMICAL** (harmful) to good health.
5. **DIMINUTIVE** - very small, tiny. The Munchkins (Wizard of Oz), Mini-Me (Austin Powers) and Tah-tu (Fantasy Island) and the Oompa-Loompas (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory) were all **DIMINUTIVE** people. In the Wizard of Oz, the **DIMINUTIVE** Munchkins advised Dorothy to "follow the Yellow Brick Road."
6. **AESTHETIC** - appealing to the sense of beauty.

7. **ECLECTIC** – choosing or using a variety of sources. Each August, thousands of thespians (actors), comedians, musicians, and even mimes descend on Edinburgh, Scotland for the Edinburgh Fringe – the world’s largest arts festival, and arguable the most democratic. At the Fringe, anyone can register, pay a fee, find a venue and put on a show. That means a **RACOUSLY** (noisy) **ECLECTIC** program which includes college revues, up-and-coming bands, star comedians and **AVANT-GARDE** (innovative) theater. For example, a person with **ECLECTIC** taste in music would like Rascal Flatts, Kelly Clarkson, Usher, Prince, Coldplay, Nick Cannon and The Black Eyed Peas.
8. **ANTITHESIS** – direct opposite, reverse
9. **PROSAIC** – dull, unimaginative, pedestrian, matter of fact, humdrum
10. **FRANK** and **CANDID**– straightforward, direct, , forthright. In the August 8, 2005 issue of People Magazine, Tom Arnold gave a **FRANK** interview in which he answered questions about his recovery from alcoholism, struggle with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and inability to have children. And the September 2005 issue of Vanity Fair contains an article in which Jennifer Anniston provides **FRANK** and **CANDID** answers to questions about the break-up of her marriage with Brad Pitt.
11. **INDISPENSABLE** – essential, crucial, vital, absolutely necessary  
Creativity is an **INDISPENSIBLE** ingredient in designing and producing new inventions. Team chemistry is an **INDISPENSIBLE** ingredient in winning a championship.
12. **UNDAUNTED** and **INTREPID** – courageous, resolute, fearless,
13. **AMALGAM** – a mixture, blend, combination of different elements. The super spider in Spider-Man I was an **AMALGAM** of the traits of 20 different spiders.
14. **UNGAINLY** – ungraceful, clumsy, awkward. The walrus is **UNGAINLY** on land, but quite graceful in the water. On a recent telecast of Saturday Night Live, guest host Cameron Diaz claimed that she was an **UNGAINLY** teenager. Her picture did not support this contention. But, Tina Fey really was an **UNGAINLY** teenager. In the “The Princess Diaries” Mia was a bright but terribly **UNGAINLY** teenager whose goal in life was to survive each school day with a minimum of attention and embarrassment. And Laney Boogs was the epitome of an **UNGAINLY** teenager in “She’s All That.”
15. **COMPLAISANT** – agreeable, cordial, friendly, affable

16. **UNCONVENTIONAL** and **UNORTHODOX** – different, atypical, unusual, singular
17. **DERAIL** – literally to leave the rails and thus to come to a sudden or abrupt halt. For example, Superman often **DERAILS** the **NEFARIOUS** (wicked) plans of arch-villain Lex Luther. A lack of funds **DERAILED** the dark horse candidate's long shot campaign. In the movie "School of Rock," Patty tried to **DERAIL** Dewey's plan to compete in the battle of the bands.
18. **ALOOF** – cool, detached, distant. Her **ALOOF** manner gained her few friends. Laker star Koby Bryant is **ALOOF** from his teammates. He often sits on a back seat of the team plane away from everyone else.
19. **ORNATE** – elaborate, lavish, highly decorated, baroque, embellished. Built by Louis XIV, Versailles Palace was one of the most **ORNATE** palaces in the world. For example, the Hall of Mirrors alone was 246 feet long and 33 feet wide. Seventeen towering windows gave guests a splendid view of the palace gardens. So much solid silver furniture filled the red marble hall that it formed part of France's monetary reserves! And of course Willy Wonka's palatial Chocolate Factory is very **ORNATE**.
20. **EARTHY** – rough, unrefined, coarse. Both Uncle Jesse ("Dukes of Hazzard") and Fred Sanford ("Sanford and Son") were known for their **EARTHY** sense of humor.
21. **PRAGMATIC** – practical, utilitarian, realistic. The problem requires a **PRAGMATIC** solution not a theoretical possibility. On the SAT, your **PRAGMATIC** goal is the score you need to get into your top choice college.
22. **REMINISCE** – to remember, recollect, look back to the old times. Old friends like to **REMINISCE** about the "good old days." In a recent interview, Beach Boy founder Brian Wilson **REMINISCED** about how the band first formed. In her Vanity Fair interview, Jennifer Anniston **REMINISCED** about the early days when she and Brad "had so much fun falling in love."
23. **PARADOX** – a seemingly contradictory statement that nonetheless expresses a truth. For example, in their song "Tearin Up My Heart," the boys from 'N Sync express a classic **PARADOX**:
- Its tearin' up my heart when I'm with you  
But when we are apart, I feel it too  
And no matter what I do, I feel the pain  
With or without you.
24. **DIGRESSION** – a departure from the subject, to stray, wander

25. **ENIGMATIC** – mysterious, puzzling. In Jason's considered opinion, teenage girls are **ENIGMATIC** (puzzling, difficult to figure out). Do you concur? Or how about the Mona Lisa's **ENIGMATIC** smile that has puzzled art lovers for centuries?

#### YOU MEET THE MOST INTERESTING PEOPLE ON THE SAT

26. **SKEPTIC** – a person who doubts, a skeptic asks questions and lacks faith. In the movie, "Men In Black," Edwards was originally a **SKEPTIC** who did not believe that aliens were actually living in New York City. And in "Bruce Almighty," Bruce was originally **SKEPTICAL** that the man he met was really God.
27. **CHARLATAN** – a fake, fraud, cheat. In the Wizard of Oz, the Wizard turned out to be a **CHARLATAN**. A **CHARLATAN'S** seemingly **FRANK** and open manner is a **DISENGENUOUS** means of duping a naïve victim.
28. **MAVERICK** – a nonconformist, a very independent person. Why do you think Lt. Pete Mitchell (Tom Cruise) was called **MAVERICK** in **TOP GUN**? Answer – because he was very independent pilot who did not always follow orders.
29. **PARTISAN** – a strong supporter, an advocate, a zealous follower, a proponent.
30. **MENTOR** – an advisor, teacher, guide. Obi-Wan Kenobi was Luke Skywalker's **MENTOR** as he became a Jedi Knight. In "Mean Girls," Regina George was supposedly a **MENTOR** who showed Cady how to Dress and act like a Plastic. And finally, Will Smith was Nick Cannon's **MENTOR**. Smith helped the "Drumline" star land a part in **MIB II**.
31. **POTENTATE** – a very powerful ruler, sovereign
32. **ASCETIC** – a hermit, a person who leads an **ASCETIC** existence is committed to a life of self-denial. An **ASCETIC** is the **ANTITHESIS** of a **HEDONIST**, a person who pursues pleasure.
33. **OPPORTUNIST** – a person who exploits or takes advantage of opportunities. Were the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Robber Barons inspired entrepreneurs or ruthless **OPPORTUNISTS**?
34. **RECLUSE** – a person who leads a secluded or solitary life. In **Shrek I**, Shrek was a **RECLUSE** who wanted to be left alone. Bruce Wayne (aka Batman) is a **RECLUSE** who is determined to fight crime. And of course Willy Wonka is a **RECLUSIVE** owner of an incredible Chocolate Factory.

35. **BUNGLER** – a clumsy, inept, person. When the movie began the **Mighty Ducks** were a group of **BUNGLERS** who did not know how to play hockey.
36. **PROGNOSTICATOR** – a knowledgeable person who makes predictions about future outcomes and trends. Have you ever watched the **PROGNOSTICATORS** make predictions on SportsCenter?
37. **BENEFICIARY** – a person named to receive benefits, an inheritor
38. **PROGENITOR** – the originator, the ancestor in a direct line. Tony Williams was an innovative drummer whose **AVANT-GARDE** (cutting edge) ideas paved the way for later jazz-fusion musicians. Williams is thus considered a **PROGENITOR** of the jazz fusion style.
39. **CONNOISSEUR** – an expert, authority. For example, you can be a **CONNOISSEUR** of fine wine, mineral water, or even energy bars.
40. **DILETTANTE** – an amateur who shows interest in an art or branch of knowledge, a dabbler.
41. **FINAGLER** – a person who uses tricky or devious methods to achieve his or her goals.
42. **ICONOCLAST** – literally someone who smashes icons or ridicules established people and ideas. At the beginning of his career, **EMINEM** was an **ICONOCLAST** who made fun of Carson Daly, Britney Spears, and Mobey. Michael Moore is an **ICONOCLAST** whose documentaries critiqued the war in Iraq and the nation's health care system.
43. **RUFFIAN** – a bully
44. **DISSEMBLER** and **PREVARICATOR** – both are liars and deceivers. In "Mean Girls" Regina George was a cunning **DISSEMBLER** who deliberately lied to her friends and to her enemies. In the movie "Pirates of the Caribbean," Captain Barbarossa was **PREVARICATOR** who repeatedly lied to Jack Sparrow, Elizabeth and Will.
45. **PUNDIT** – an authority who expresses his or her opinion, Have you ever watched the political **PUNDITS** on Hardball with Chris Matthew?
46. **ZEALOT** – a very enthusiastic person, a fanatic
47. **NEOPHYTE**, **NOVICE**, and **GREENHORN** – beginners. Cody Banks was a **NEOPHYTE** secret agent. Patch Adams was a **NOVICE** intern. William Hung is a **GREENHORN** singer who is enjoying his brief moment of fame. And although Cameron Diaz is a very good surfer, she is a **NOVICE** who is learning how to play golf. She recently shot an

18 on one hole. However, JT was a very patient and understanding MENTOR.

48. **PRODIGY** – a person with great talent, a young genius. Several of the 5<sup>th</sup> graders in School of Rock were musical **PRODIGIES**. Lucius Fox was a scientific **PRODIGY** in Batman Begins. After all he invented the Batmobile and the Bat-cape! And Shaun White is a board-sports **PRODIGY** who is able to excel against older and more experienced competitors. White is the only skateboarder who has successfully performed a body varial front side 540.
49. **DEVOTEE** – an ardent follower, supporter, or enthusiast. Are you a **DEVOTEE** of the Minnesota Twins or the Georgia Bulldogs? And of course, in "The School of Rock" Dewey was a **DEVOTEE** of rock music.
50. **BOOR** – a person who is rude, crude and insensitive. A **BOOR** lacks refinement and civility. In the movie, Animal House, Bluto was such a **BOOR** that one person described him as a P-I-G pig! And of course who could forget how **BOORISH** Billy Madison was while eating dinner. And how about the numerous **BOORISH** antics of Ron Burgundy in Anchorman!

#### LAW AND ORDER

51. **COMPLICITY** – association or participation in a wrongful act.
52. **INDISPUTABLE** – not open to question, undeniable, irrefutable, incontrovertible.
53. **PLAUSIBLE** – believable, credible. **IMPLAUSIBLE** is therefore unbelievable, incredible. Here is a classic: According the World Weekly Magazine researchers have discovered the Garden of Eden and the apple Eve gave to Adam! Do you find this **PLAUSIBLE** or **IMPLAUSIBLE**?
54. **INNUENDO** – a veiled hint or insinuation, especially a negative reflection on a person's character or reputation. For example, Justin Timberlake's song "Cry Me A River" contains **INNUENDOES** about why he and Britney broke up:

You were my sun  
You were my earth  
But you didn't know all the ways I loved you, no  
So you took a chance  
And make other plans  
But I bet you didn't think that they would come crashing down, no  
You don't have to say, what you did,  
I already know, I found out from him

Now there's just no chance, for you and me, there'll never be  
And don't it make you sad about it

55. EXCULPATE and EXONERATE – both mean to be freed from blame, to be declared innocent. Remember, CULP means to blame so the CULPRIT is the one who is to blame.
56. UNPRECEDENTED – without previous example. An UNPRECEDENTED event has never happened before. Lance Armstrong just won the Tour de France for an UNPRECEDENTED seventh straight time! An UNPRECEDENTED event has never happened before and thus lacks ANTECEDENTS (an ANTECEDENT is a preceding event).
57. PERTINENT – relevant, to the point, germane
58. FELONIOUS – very evil, villainous
59. IMPASSE – a deadlock, stalemate, standoff. In the movie “Anchorman” Ron and Veronica reached an IMPASSE over her role on the nightly newscast. Ron was a chauvinist who insisted on being the anchorman, while Veronica was an ambitious feminist who thought she deserved the top spot. And in the world of international relations Iran and negotiators from Germany, France, and England have reached an IMPASSE in their talks to persuade Iran to abandon its program to develop nuclear weapons. When two or more parties have reached an IMPASSE, agreement is inconceivable.
60. INCORRIGIBLE – can't be reformed. Bart Simpson is an INCORRIGIBLE hellion.
61. IMMATERIAL – of no importance, irrelevant and therefore lacking significance. Her testimony was IMMATERIAL and was therefore not admitted into evidence. Now consider these lyrics from the song “As Long As You Love Me,” by the Backstreet Boys:  
  
I don't care who you are  
Where you're from  
What you did  
As long as you love me.  
  
In other words, her past is IMMATERIAL (of no importance) as long as she loves him.
62. MEDIATE – to arbitrate, negotiate, moderate. A MEDIATOR attempts to end an IMPASSE by negotiating a compromise. The purpose of a school's peer leadership group is to MEDIATE a dispute by helping students reconcile their differences.

## ECONOMICS: DOLLARS AND SENSE

63. **ENTREPRENEUR** – a person who organizes and manages a business or enterprise. Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen may be only 19 but they are very successful **ENTREPRENEURS**. The twins can now add real estate to their financial empire. They have rented out their 5,725 square foot Manhattan penthouse for a reported \$35,000 a month. The NYU students bought the pad last year for 7.3 million but never moved in. And do you remember Lisa Rinna? Well the former Melrose Place vixen (and wife of Harry Hamlin) is now an **ENTREPRENEUR**. Lisa is now the proud owner of two retail boutiques in Beverly Hills.
64. **LUCRATIVE** – very profitable. Both the Spider-Man and Shrek franchises are very **LUCRATIVE**. For example, Shrek 2 is now 4<sup>th</sup> on the all-time list of top grossing movies and Spider-Man 2 is number 10. Now that is **LUCRATIVE**! And how about Prince? Did you know that the funky artist was the king of pop in 2004, earning a whopping \$56.5 million from concert and CD sales. Now that is **LUCRATIVE!**!
65. **AVARICE** – very greedy, covetous. Avarice is one of the seven deadly sins.
66. **DEARTH** – a scarcity, shortage
67. **DESTITUTE** and **IMPECUNIOUS** - both mean very poor, indigent. In the movie, "Trading Places," Eddie Murphy played a character who is originally **DESTITUTE** but becomes very **AFFLUENT** (wealthy). In the movie, "Coming to America," Murphy played an African prince who pretended to be **DESTITUTE** but was really very **AFFLUENT** (wealthy). And now that he is married to Britney Spears, Kevin Federline's days of being **DESTITUTE/IMPECUNIOUS** are over> Or are they? Kevin recently wanted to move his ex-girlfriend Shar Jackson and their two children, Kori and Kaleb into a house near the Malibu home he shares with Britney Spears. But the bank turned him down! Why? He didn't have enough cash for a down payment! According to the insider, an embarrassed Kevin asked the real-estate agent: "Why do I need that much to put down on the house? I'm married to Britney Spears!"
68. **MUNIFICENT** – very generous. A **MUNIFICENT** person gives a lot of money to other people. On September 13, 2004, Oprah stunned the 276 people in her studio audience by giving each person a Pontiac G6 worth over \$25,000. Now that was a **MUNIFICENT** gesture!
69. **PARSIMONIOUS** – very stingy, miserly
70. **EXTRAVAGANT** – excessive and therefore lacking restraint. Have you ever watched The OC? The families in Newport live in **EXTRAVAGANT** homes, wear **EXTRAVAGANT** clothes, and attend



EXTRAVAGANT parties. Will Ryan, Summer, Seth, and Marissa ever take the SAT and attend classes? You don't watch The OC?! Do think the \$35,000 a month Malibu home Jennifer Aniston rents is EXTRAVAGANT? And how about the \$6,000 a night suite decorated with \$2,000 worth of roses that Madonna and her husband stayed in at Miami Beach!

## HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

71. **REPUDIATE** - to reject or **DISAVOW** as when Martin Luther refused to repudiate his writings at the Diet of Worms. Senator Lott now says that he **REPUDIATES** his segregationist past.
72. **ANACHRONISM** - a person or event that is chronologically in the wrong time. For example, if Crassus and Brutus shot Caesar that would be an **ANACHRONISM**. The "Back to the Future" trilogy contained a number of amusing anachronisms. And Northern Renaissance artists showed the Last Supper taking place in a royal palace in what is today Belgium. An **ANACHRONISM** is thus anything that is antiquated or out of date. For example, in the internet age, a handwritten letter is rapidly becoming anachronistic.
73. **ACCORD** - an agreement. In *Pirates of the Caribbean*, Captain Jack Sparrow and Will reach an **ACCORD** - Will will free Sparrow and Sparrow will help Will find Elizabeth.
74. **CAPITULATE** - to surrender, to give up. **CAPUT** means head in Latin. If you **CAPITULATED** your castle in the Middle Ages, it usually meant you were going to get your head cut off! In her song, "White Flag," Dido refuses to **CAPITULATE**. Here are her defiant words:
- If you live by the rules of "it's over"  
then I'm sure that that makes sense
- Well I will go down with this ship  
And I won't put my hands up and surrender  
There will be no white flag above my door  
I'm in love and always will be
75. **ENLIGHTEN** - to inform, instruct, illuminate and thus remove ignorance. Writers such as Voltaire **ENLIGHTENED** European society during the Enlightenment by urging people to use science and reason instead of blindly following their prejudices. In cartoons and comics, why do you think a light-bulb appears over someone's head when they suddenly understand something? Because they are **ENLIGHTENED**!
76. **APPEASEMENT** - to give in to someone's demands, to placate. Great Britain and France appeased Hitler at the Munich Conference.

77. **STIPULATE** – to specify, set forth. Our contract with the decorator stipulates the maximum amount he can charge us.
78. **PRETEXT** - an excuse, an alleged reason as a pretext for war. Critics now accuse the Bush Administration of using weapons of mass destruction as a **PRETEXT** for invading Iraq.
79. **WATERSHED** - a turning point event that is of critical importance. Truman's decision to drop the atomic bomb was a **WATERSHED** event in 20th Century history. The terrorist attacks on September 11th were **WATERSHED** events in recent American history.
80. **AUTONOMY** - self-rule, independent. The Men In Black (MIB) is an autonomous government organization.
81. **MANIFESTO** - a public declaration of beliefs. Published in 1848, the Communist Manifesto publicly declared the radical economic beliefs of Karl Marx and Fredrich Engels.
82. **DOVISH** - favoring peace. During the Vietnam War America was divided between Hawks who supported the war and Doves who opposed it. So to be **DOVISH** is to be a pacifist and favor peace solutions to international problems.
83. **ENFRANCHISE** and **DISENFRANCHISE** – Franchise is the right to vote. So enfranchise means to receive the right to vote and disenfranchise means to loose the right to vote. In American history Jim Crow laws **DISENFRANCHISED** African-American voters while the Voting Rights Act of 1965 **ENFRANCHISED** African-American voters.
84. **ARCHIPELAGO** – a chain of islands. For example, Hawaii and Japan are **ARCHIPELAGOES**.
85. **CONTIGUOUS** – adjoining, bordering, next door. Did you know that Angelina (and Maddox and Zahara) just moved in with Brad in his Malibu mansion? And listen to this! Although not quite **CONTIGUOUS**, the home Jennifer Anniston is renting (for \$35,000 a month) is just 20 minutes away. Is Malibu big enough for all of them?

## SCIENCE

86. **CATALYST** – an agent that provokes or speeds significant change or action. Gasoline can act as a **CATALYST** for spreading fire.
87. **OSMOSIS** - movement of a solvent through a semi-permeable membrane. Thus a process of gradual absorption. If only you could learn these words through **OSMOSIS** instead of through **ASSIDUOUS** effort.

88. **CAUSTIC** - capable of corroding or eating away by chemical action. Hydro fluoric Acid is one of the most **CAUSTIC** substances on Earth. A **CAUSTIC** remark hurts. In the movie "Ever After," Danielle asks her wicked step-mother: "Was there ever a time, even in its smallest measure, when you loved me?" The callous step-mother replied: "How can anyone love a pebble in their shoe!" Ouch! Now that was a **CAUSTIC** remark!!!
89. **SYNTHESIS, AMALGAM, and CONGLOMERATION**- combination or fusion of different elements. The "super spider in Spider-Man I was an **AMALGAM** or **CONGLOMERATION** of the traits of over 20 different spiders.
90. **INDIGENOUS and ENDEMIC** – native to an area. For example, cardinals are **INDIGENOUS** to the East coast and the buffalo is **INDIGENEOUS** to the Great Plains. But the dandelion is actually from Europe and is therefore **NOT ENDEMIC** to the United States. Are horses **INDIGENEOUS** to the Great Plains? (No. They were introduced by the Spanish.)
91. **EMPIRICAL** – a method of scientific research based upon gathering information from research and observation.
92. **THEORETICAL** – a speculative and abstract way of thinking
93. **CONJECTURE** – an inference or deduction, an educated guess

#### LANGUAGE ARTS

94. **ANTHOLOGY** - a collection of poems and stories. For example, your literature textbook is an anthology. The Beatles **ANTHOLOGY** is one of the top selling **ANTHOLOGIES** of music ever.
95. **SATIRE** – a literary work that ridicules and **DERIDES** human vices and **FOIBLES**.
96. **VIGNETTE and ANECDOTE**- both are short stories, brief sketches
97. **EPIC and SAGA** - both are lengthy stories about the heroic deeds of a legendary hero. Compared to Homer's **EPIC** poem, The Iliad, Wolfgang Petersen's "Troy" seems to be more like a **VIGNETTE**.
98. **FARCE** - a humorous, comical show, a comedy. When Saddam Hussein was in charge of Iraq, "elections" (If you could call them that) were really **FARCES**.

99. **SUBPLOT** - a secondary plot in fiction or drama. For example, there have been several **SUBPLOTS** in our class. Why did Charlie and Erica miss the skateboarder jumping over the Great Wall? And most importantly, what were they doing inside the Forbidden City? Inquiring minds are tired of making **CONJECTURES**. We are **EMPIRICISTS**, we want the facts!
100. **MEMOIR** - an autobiography, personal journal. Bill Clinton's **MEMOIR** has had record-breaking sales.

### THE TOP 12 SYNONYM CLUSTERS

#### 101. THE THRILL OF VICTORY CLUSTER

Have you ever scored the winning goal in a game, performed a flawless recital, or been part of a team that won a championship? If you have had any of these experiences, you know what it is like to enjoy the **THRILL OF VICTORY**. Each of the following words means to be **VERY HAPPY**:

- . **ELATED** - very happy, overflowing with enthusiasm
- . **ECSTATIC** - very happy, overflowing with enthusiasm
- . **EXUBERANT** - very happy, overflowing with enthusiasm
- . **EBULLIENT** - very happy, overflowing with enthusiasm
- . **EXHILARATED** - very happy, overflowing with enthusiasm
- . **EXULTANT** - very happy, overflowing with enthusiasm
- . **JUBILANT** - very happy, overflowing with enthusiasm

#### 102. THE AGONY OF DEFEAT CLUSTER

Have you ever failed a big test, forgotten your lines in a play, or been part of a team that lost a big game? If you have had any of these experiences, you know what it is like to feel the **AGONY OF DEFEAT**. Each of the following words means to **FEEL VERY DISCOURAGED AND SAD**:

- . **DESPONDENT** - very discouraged, sad
- . **DEJECTED** - very discouraged, sad
- . **DISPIRITED** - very discouraged, sad
- . **DISCONSOLATE** - very discouraged, sad

103. THE STUBBORN CLUSTER

Do you know someone who is stubborn and just won't change? Well first Class passengers on a flight from New Orleans to Miami were treated to an unusual kind of air show when Sienna Miller refused to get off her cell phone despite repeated requests from the crew. The RECALCITRANT starlet finally complied when a flight attendant stared at her for several minutes.

- . OBSTINATE – stubborn and unyielding
- . ADAMANT – stubborn and unyielding
- . RECALCITRANT – stubborn and unyielding
- . INTRANSIGENT – stubborn and unyielding
- . OB DURATE – stubborn and unyielding

104. THE SECRET CLUSTER

Have you ever watched a James Bond movie? If so, you know that James Bond is a secret agent also known as 007. All of the following words mean SECRET, HIDDEN:

- . CLANDESTINE – secret, hidden
- . SURREPTITIOUS – secret, hidden
- . FURTIVE – secret, hidden
- . STEALTHY – secret, hidden
- . COVERT – secret, hidden

105. THE RELIEVE CLUSTER

Have you ever taken an aspirin to RELIEVE a headache or tried to soothe someone's anxieties? All of the following words mean to RELIEVE, TO LESSEN:

- . MITIGATE – to relieve, to lessen. As to mitigate a punishment
- . ASSUAGE – to relieve, to lessen. As to assuage anxiety
- . MOLLIFY – to relieve, to lessen. As to mollify anger
- . ALLEVIATE – to relieve, to lessen. As to alleviate pain

#### 106. THE COMMONPLACE CLUSTER

Have you ever watched a tiresome movie, listened impatiently to a dull conversation, or read an unimaginative book? If so then you have experienced the dull, the boring, the commonplace. All of the following words mean TIRESOME, UNIMAGINATIVE, HUMDRUM:

- . TRITE – tiresome, unimaginative, commonplace, humdrum
- . BANAL – tiresome, unimaginative, commonplace, humdrum
- . PEDESTRIAN – tiresome, unimaginative, commonplace, humdrum
- . HACKNEYED – tiresome, unimaginative, commonplace, humdrum
- . PROSAIC – tiresome, unimaginative, commonplace, humdrum
- . MUNDANE – tiresome, unimaginative, commonplace, humdrum

#### 107. THE PRAISE OR PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER CLUSTER

Have you ever praised a performance, applauded an athlete, or commended a person for doing something exceptional? All of the following words mean to PRAISE, APPLAUD, COMMEND:

- . LAUD – to praise, applaud, commend
- . EXTOL – to praise, applaud, commend
- . ACCLAIM – to praise, applaud, commend
- . TOUT – to praise, applaud, commend
- . EULOGIZE – to praise, applaud, commend

#### 108. THE INSIGHTFUL I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW CLUSTER

Have you ever been praised for being insightful and perceptive? Do you note how insightful and perceptive Yoda was when he realized that the young Anakin Skywalker had a dark side that could transform him into the villainous Darth Vader? And did you note how Hal became a far more insightful and perceptive person in "Shallow Hal?" All of the following words mean INSIGHTFUL and PERCEPTIVE:

- . DISCERNING – insightful and perceptive
- . ASTUTE – insightful and perceptive
- . PERSPICACIOUS – insightful and perceptive
- . PRESCIENCE – insightful and perceptive

109. THE FRIENDLY GOOD-HUMORED CLUSTER

Have you ever noted how a smile and a friendly greeting can set a positive tone for any occasion? All of the following words are very FRIENDLY and GOOD-HUMORED. They all greet you with a smile!

- . AFFABLE – friendly and good-humored
- . AMIABLE – friendly and good-humored
- . CONVIVIAL – friendly and good-humored
- . CORDIAL – friendly and good-humored
- . SOLICITOUS – friendly and good-humored
- . COMPLAISANT – friendly and good-humored

110. THE STREAM OF ABUSE, ANGRY SCOLDING CLUSTER

Has your coach ever scolded you or your team for making careless mistakes that resulted in a loss? All of the following words mean a STREAM OF VERBAL ABUSE, AN ANGRY SCOLDING, A BITTER RAILING:

- . TIRADE – a stream of verbal abuse, an angry scolding
- . DIATRIBE – a stream of verbal abuse, an angry scolding
- . HARANGUE – a stream of verbal abuse, an angry scolding
- . DENUNCIATION – a stream of verbal abuse, an angry scolding
- . VITUPERATION – a stream of verbal abuse, an angry scolding

111. THE I REALLY LIKE ICE CRÈME SUNDAE'S CLUSTER

What is your all time favorite food? Did you answer ice crème or brownies or chocolate chip cookies? If so you have a liking or fondness for these foods. Did you know that although Belgium has a population of just 10 million people, its consumers support 2,100 chocolate shops. You could say that the citizens of Belgium have a liking or fondness for chocolate. All of the following words mean HAVING A LIKING, FONDNESS, PREFERENCE for something:

- . PENCHANT – having a liking, fondness preference for something
- . INCLINATION – having a liking, fondness, preference for something
- . PROPENSITY – having a liking fondness preference for something
- . PREDILECTION – having a liking, fondness, preference for something

112. THE WE ARE REALLY TIRED CLUSER

Have you ever been so tired you could barely keep your eyes open?  
All of the following words mean VERY TIRED, EXHAUSTED,  
DROWSY

- . LETHARGIC – very tired, exhausted, drowsy
- . ENERVATED – very tired, exhausted, drowsy
- . LANGUID – very tired, exhausted, drowsy
- . SLOTHFUL – very tired, exhausted, drowsy

THE TOUGHEST WORDS ON THE SAT

113. SUPINE – lying on ones back and thus being inactive, slothful. Because the cave paintings were painted on a rough surface just two feet above the floor, archaeologists believe that the artist must have worked in a SUPINE position.
114. OPAQUE – nontransparent and thus clouded and hard to understand
115. INDEFATIGABLE and UNFLAGGING both mean tireless. You must be INDEFATIGABLE and UNFLAGGING as you prepare for the upcoming SAT. In the movie, "March of the Penguins," the emperor penguins are INDEFATIGABLE as they make the ARDUOUS 70-mile trek from their summer feeding grounds to their winter breeding grounds.
116. INDOMITABLE - invincible, won't quit. You must have an indomitable will as you take the SAT. And of course, Marlin was both INDEFATIGABLE and INDOMITABLE as he overcame numerous adversities in his epic journey to find and rescue Nemo.
117. VACILLATE - to waver, hesitate, swing back and forth, be indecisive. As when Hamlet VACILLATES over what course of action to follow. ("To be or not to be....."). Or how about the way Seth VACILLATED between Anna and Summer on earlier episodes of the OC. And of course everyone knows someone who VACILLATES over what to wear to the prom.
118. HUBRIS - exaggerated pride, arrogance. In a Greek tragedy, ATE (not an SAT word) is blindness sent by the gods. ATE leads to HUBRIS (an SAT word) or false pride. HUBRIS leads to overbearing arrogant behavior. Needless to say, the Gods must and do punish human hubris.
119. EXCORIATE – a scathing denunciation. In the movie "Nutty Professor," Dean Richmond EXCORIATES Professor Klump for alienating all of the college's wealthy donors.



120. **INNOCUOUS** - harmless, inoffensive. In the Wizard of Oz we learn that water is innocuous to scarecrows but toxic to wicked witches. In the TV show "Survivor," one of the tricks to not getting voted off too early is to appear INNOCUOUS.
121. **CAPRICIOUS** and **MERCURIAL** - very changeable, fickle, constantly shifting moods. In her song, "Sometimes," Britney Spears reminds her boyfriend that her moods can be very MERCURIAL: "Sometimes I run, sometimes I hide, sometimes I'm scared of you..." The words in "Sometimes" foreshadowed Britney's recent super MERCURIAL behavior.
122. **SUPPLANT** - to take the place of. On March 12, 2005 the "New SAT" SUPPLANTED the old SAT. Or how about this: Happy Gilmore SUPPLANTED Shooter McGavin as the biggest star on the golf tour.
123. **LACONIC** - very brief, concise, **SUCCINCT**. Here is the **ETMOLOGY** or history of the word **LACONIC**: The ancient Greek city-state of Sparta was located in a region of Greece called Laconia. The Spartans were intrepid (fearless) warriors who had little time for long speeches. As a result, they were renowned for their sparing use of words. For example, when King Philip of Macedonia invaded Greece, he sent this message to the Spartan King: "If we capture your city, we will burn it to the ground." The Spartans upheld their reputation for not wasting words when they replied with just one word: "If." To this day, the word **LACONIC** means **TERSE**, concise.
124. **UBIQUITOUS** - something that is everywhere, omnipresent, prevalent widespread. Before the fall of Iraq, portraits and statues of Sadaam Hussein were ubiquitous sights in every city in Iraq. Cell phones can now be seen throughout the world because they are **UBIQUITOUS**! And with each passing day, iPods are becoming ever more **UBIQUITOUS**. And here is one more example: Guess how many Starbucks Coffee shops there are in the United States? The answer is just under 6,000! Starbucks is definitely **UBIQUITOUS**! And finally, have you ever noted how the **UBIQUITOUS** Paris Hilton has her picture in every issue of People, In Touch, and Us Weekly?
125. **ARCHAIC** - obsolete, old-fashioned, out-of-date and thus not in, with it or contemporary. The students at MHS believe that their school dress code is **ARCHAIC**!
126. **RECIPROCAL** - shared and expressed by both sides, a mutual exchange. In the movie, "Rush Hour I," Carter shows Lee how to move with soul. Lee then **RECIPROCATES** by showing Carter some new karate moves. Meanwhile, San Antonio Spur Tony Parker has been working overtime in LA helping Eva Longoria promote the next season of Desperate Housewives. "She supported me the whole time when I was in the

playoffs," Parker noted. "I'm just happy to be here and spend some time with her and support her." Now that is a great example of RECIPROCITY!

127. ALACRITY - to act with great speed, promptness. Remember when Inspector Lee was hanging precariously from the rafters in Rush Hour I. He implored Carter to "do something." That is, to act with ALACRITY. When Britney's lawyers and advisors learned about her marriage to Jason they knew they had to act with ALACRITY to have it annulled. Britney's PRECIPITOUS act placed her career and her estimated 100 million dollar fortune at risk.
128. IMPLACABLE - cannot be appeased, as an IMPLACABLE enemy. In "Rocky III", Rocky and Clubber Lang are IMPLACABLE foes. And in "Pirates of the Caribbean", Captain Jack Sparrow and Captain Barbarossa are IMPLACABLE foes who fight to the death.
129. GRANDILOQUENT - use of lofty pompous language. The Munchkin mayor made a GRANDILOQUENT speech when he welcomed Dorothy and thanked her for killing the Wicked Witch: "As Mayor of the Munchkin city in the county of the land of Oz, we welcome you most regally...."
130. PICAYUNE - very small and therefore of little value, a trivial detail
131. MOTLEY - very different, very heterogeneous. The members of the MOTLEY CRUE were and still are a very MOTELY group of rock Musicians.
132. JUXTAPOSE - to place side by side. A recent issue of In Touch JUXTAPOSED pictures of Justin and Cameron at the 'NSYNC Charity Games with pictures of Justin and Britney at the same event just three years ago. The difference in Britney's appearance is astounding!
133. ARCANE - obscure information. Shania Twain was unimpressed with guys who bored her with ARCANE facts. Do you remember how Alice Cooper was a storehouse of ARCANE facts about Milwaukee in Wayne's World I? (For example, Milwaukee is actually an Indian word meaning "the good land." I did not know that!) And of course Bo is a storehouse of ARCANE information about the Georgia Bulldog mascot - UGA VI! For example, did you know that UGA's I - V are buried in Sanford Stadium!
134. COSMOPOLITAN - very worldly, sophisticated. Constantinople was a very COSMOPOLITAN city because of its location at the crossroads of trade. In the TV show "The Simple Life," Paris Hilton and Nicole Richie were two COSMOPOLITAN socialites who lived with

a farm family in Arkansas for 6 weeks. And the TV show "Amish in the City," featured a group of PROVINCIAL Amish, who live in COSMOPOLITAN L.A.

135. **INEFFABLE** - a feeling that cannot be put into words. For example, in the movie "Jerry McGuire" Rod's feelings are **INEFFABLE** when he finds out that he has just been offered an 11.2 million dollar contract.
136. **INUNDATE** - Inundate can mean to fill with water. For example, the flood waters from Hurricane Floyd **INNUNDATED** many basements (including mine) in our area. Western India is **INUNDATED** by the record monsoon rains. It can also mean to be overwhelmed or saturated. For example, the visiting astronaut was **INUNDATED** with speaking invitations. Or a student can be **INUNDATED** with work.
137. **RUDIMENTARY** - basic, elementary. As we learned in Harry Potter, levitation is one of a wizard's most **RUDIMENTARY** skills.
138. **ATONE** - to make amends, make up for. Do you remember how Patrick **ATONES** for hurting Kat in the movie "Ten Things I Hate About You?" (Hint: what did he buy her?)
139. **MACHINATIONS** - crafty schemes. In their song, "Quit Playing Games With My Heart," the Backstreet Boys implore their girlfriend to stop her **MACHINATIONS**: "Even in my heart I see, You're not being true to me. Deep within my soul I feel nothing's like it used to be. Quit playing games with my heart, before you tear us apart."
140. **QUANDARY** - a dilemma, predicament. Spiderman faced a difficult quandary: should he save the woman he loves (MJ) or the tram filled with innocent children. How would you resolve this **QUANDARY**? The Breck students reached a **CONSENSUS**: Save both! Except for John whose solution was to let them all die.
141. **PERNICIOUS** - very injurious, destructive, deadly. For example, a drug dealer's presence in a school would be **PERNICIOUS**.
142. **CRAVEN** - cowardly, timorous
143. **DISINGENUOUS** and **DUPLICITOUS** - to be dishonest, deceive. Baseball star Rafael Palmeiro was being **DISINGENUOUS** and **DUPLICITOUS** when he swore under oath that he had never used performance enhancing drugs.
144. **TRENCHANT** - keen, penetrating, incisive commentary. In the Vanity Fair interview, Jennifer Aniston makes the following **TRENCHANT** observations about relationships: "Relationships are two people; everyone is accountable. A lot goes into a relationship coming together, and a lot goes into a relationship falling apart. My therapist

said, 'Even if it's 98 percent the other person's fault, it's 2 percent yours, and that's what we're going to focus on.' You can only clean up your side of the street." And rap songs often contain **TRENCHANT** or sharp-edged commentary on contemporary issues.

145. **QUAGMIRE** – to be stuck in a difficult, precarious position, a predicament. During the 1960's many writers referred to Vietnam as a **QUAGMIRE**. Now some **PUNDITS** are referring to Iraq as a quagmire. Being stuck in a **QUAGMIRE** thus places a person or country in a precarious position.
146. **SYNERGY** - the positive energy that results when two different elements are combined. For example, there was surprising **SYNERGY** when Aerosmith and Run DMC combined to perform "Talk With Me." But thus far the merger of AOL and Time Warner has not produced the **SYNERGIES** originally predicted by Wall Street. And finally, critics and audiences agree that there was no **SYNERGY** at all between J-Lo and Ben in the movie "Gigli."
147. **ESCHEW** – to abstain from, avoid, engage in abstinence. For example, people on the Atkin's diet try to **ESCHEW** carbs. Unfortunately for Regina George In "Mean Girls" she couldn't **ESCHEW** fattening foods. Eating those Caltein "Weight Control" bars didn't help either.
148. **SCINTILLATING** - sparkling, dazzling, brilliant. How about Melissa Etheridge's **SCINTILLATING** rendition of Janis Joplin's classic "Piece of My Heart" at this year's Grammy's.
149. **MAUDLIN** – over emotional, excessively sentimental, melodramatic
150. **PEJORATIVE** – using words that belittle or disparage (put down) someone. For example, teachers and coaches should refrain from using **PEJORATIVE** words like "numbskull" and "dumbbell" when dealing with students and athletes. For example, in the movie "School of Rock," Dewey Finn challenges his students to "stick it to the man," asking "Who has the guts to tell me off?" Here are the **PEJORATIVE** statements made by Summer and Lawrence:  
  
"You are a joke. You are the worst teacher I have ever had!" Summer  
"You are a fat loser and you have body odor!" Lawrence
151. **MAXIM** – a short, concise wise saying. For example, "no pain, no gain" is a **MAXIM**. Here is another **MAXIM** – "DON'T BE DILATORY, STUDY YOUR VOCABULARY WORDS." And of course who could forget Bud's favorite **MAXIM** – "Eat pork rinds at the racetrack and Crème brule at the country club."

152. **CONSENSUS** – a general agreement. There is a **CONSENSUS** that Shrek 2 was the best and most popular movie in 2004. There is also a **CONSENSUS** among movie critics that “The Dukes of Hazzard” is the worst movie in 2005. The story is **HACKNEYED**, the acting is **VAPID** (flat, dull, lifeless) and the action is utterly **INANE** (foolish, silly, absurd).
153. **CONTRITE** and **PENITENT** – to express remorse, regret, sorrow for misdeeds. Do you think Justin Timberlake was really **CONTRITE** when he apologized for his role in the Janet Jackson “wardrobe malfunction?” But Patrick was **CONTRITE** at the end of “Ten Things I Hate About You.” And what do Charlie Sheen and Judd Law have in common? They are both very **CONTRITE** and want to win back Denise Richards and Sienna Miller.
154. **HEINOUS** – hatefully evil, abominable. Did you see the movie “The Patriot?” Remember when the British officer locked the townspeople inside their church and then burned it down? That was a **HEINOUS** act.
155. **EXCISE**, **EXPURGATE**, and **BOWDLERIZE** – to remove, delete, censure. Quick thinking censors **EXCISED** Janet Jackson’s now infamous Super Bowl “wardrobe malfunction.”
156. **FUTILE** – doomed to failure and therefore pointless. Did you watch Star Trek? If so then you remember that the Borg always announced “resistance is **FUTILE**” before conquering a new planet.
157. **APLOMB** – to conduct oneself with poise, confidence and self-assurance. For example, Kelly, Rouben, Clay and Carrie Clay all became “American Idols” because they had talent and performed with **APLOMB**. And Jennifer Anniston’s friends praise the **APLOMB** with which she has handled the devastating aftermath of the break-up of her marriage to Brad Pitt.
158. **PARADIGM** - a model of thought. For example, in the geocentric **PARADIGM** the earth is the center of the solar system. But in the heliocentric paradigm the sun is the center of the solar system.
159. **PLASTICITY** – capable of being molded or altered
160. **INURED** – to become accustomed to accept something undesirable. The pioneers became **INURED** to the hardships of living on the frontier. Rufus, Atlanta’s proud but destitute homeless man, is **INURED** to the hard life of washing car windows.
161. **VENERATE** and **REVERE** - to hold in high esteem, respect, honor. Bo **VENERATES** all the great athletes who have been part of the Georgia Bulldog football program.

162. **ENTHRALLED** – to be fascinated, to hold spellbound. As a young boy, Bud was **ENTHRALLED** by stories about Richard Petty and other great NASCAR drivers.
163. **PANACHE** – dash and flamboyance in style and action. Which character in *Pirates of the Caribbean* and in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* do you think has the most **PANACHE**? And at Disneyland cartoon characters such as Captain Hook, Prince John, and Sir Hiss have a certain **PANACHE** that makes them appealing to character actors.
164. **SUBTLE** – slight, delicate elusive as a subtle but important difference. There is a big difference between a drastic change that most people will oppose and a **SUBTLE** change that most people will barely notice.
165. **SUMPTUOUS** and **ORNATE** - very splendid, luxurious, magnificent. Shrek and Fiona ate a **SUMPTUOUS** meal at her parents royal palace. The Hall of Mirrors was the most **ORNATE** room in the Versailles Palace.
166. **CATHARTIC** – an event or activity that releases tension and refreshes the spirit. In *Mean Girls*, the teachers encouraged the junior girls to do a **CATHARTIC** exercise to release their bad feelings toward one another. And the interview Jennifer Anniston gave in *Vanity Fair* seems to have had a **CATHARTIC** effect on her spirits.
167. **CHICANERY, ARTIFICE** and **GUILE** - trickery, slyness, cunning. Many of Jen's friends think that Brad showed great **GUILE** by casting Jen as the ultra-feminist who refused to have children while casting himself as the poor husband who couldn't get a baby and so had to move on.
168. **VILIFY** - to denounce, defame, turn into a villain. Osama Bin Laden is **VILIFIED** in the United States and exalted as a hero by many Arabs. And Michael Moore, director of *Fahrenheit 9/11* is **VILIFIED** by supporters of President Bush and **LAUDED** by opponents of the Iraq War. In short, when you **VILIFY** someone you damage their reputation.
169. **OBLIVIOUS** - to be unaware. And of course, who could forget the **OBLIVIOUS** Hughie, who had his Trapper stolen no fewer than 13 times. Come on, Hughie! Be more **DISCERNING** and less **OBLIVIOUS**.
170. **INCESSANT** – constant, continuous, unceasing. "Are we there yet? No! Are we there yet? No! Are we there yet? No!" You get the idea! The after-school announcements are **INCESSANT** – they just won't stop!
171. **CAJOLE** and **COERCE** **CAJOLE** means to coax or entice someone into doing something. In contrast, **COERCE** means to force someone into doing something. Did your parents **CAJOLE** or **COERCE** you into attending the SAT class?

172. IMPROVISE, EXTEMPORIZE and IMPROMPTU – all mean to do something on the spur of the moment without preparation. In the beginning of “School of Rock,” Dewey’s lessons were all improvised. They lacked preparation.
173. TENET – an article of faith, a belief
174. SUPERFICIAL – shallow, lacking in depth. Although he’s known as the hunky gardener on Desperate Housewives, Jesse Metcalf wants acclaim for his body of work, not his body. “I’m tired of being typecast as SUPERFICIAL eye candy. My next role will be a little deeper and more substantive. I don’t want to take my shirt off in every scene.” And Paris Hilton is the very PERSONIFICATION of a SUPERFICIAL celebrity because we know that under the surface there is only more surface. Here’s what Kathy Hilton had to say about how Paris and Nicky spend their time: “All they do all day is shop and go out at night.” Now that is SUPERFICIAL!
175. AUSTERE – strict, severe, ascetic. For example, the Puritans led AUSTERE lives. AUSTERE is thus the opposite of ORNATE. In short, the Versailles Palace was not an AUSTERE dwelling!
176. AMBIGUOUS – unclear, not certain. As you no doubt already know, Jen and Brad have broken up. But who is responsible? Despite her recent Interview, the evidence is still AMBIGUOUS or unclear. (But we suspect that Angelina Joli was involved!)
177. INCOHERENT - lacks organization. Remember Cher's incoherent speech at the beginning of Clueless. Here it is:
- Mr Hall: Should all oppressed people be allowed refuge in American?  
Cher two minutes.
- Cher: So Ok, like right now for example the Haitians need to come to America. But some people are all what about the strain on our resources. Its like when I had a garden party for my father's birthday right. I said RSVP because it was a sit-down dinner. But people came that like did not RSVP. So I was like totally upset. I had to dash to the kitchen rearrange the food and squish in some extra place settings. But by the end of the day it was the more the merrier. And so if the government could just get to the kitchen and rearrange some things we can certainly party with the Haitians. And in conclusion may I remind you that it does not say RSVP on the Statue of Liberty.
178. DISINTERESTED - neutral and thus lacking a bias. Everyone agrees that Reid was a DISINTERESTED judge who correctly ruled that females have an INNATE tendency to engage in MACHINATIONS.
179. TEPID – lukewarm, mild, half-hearted

180. **CALLOUS** - lacks sensitivity, concern and solicitude. When Bon Jovi sings "Shot through the heart and your to blame!" he is describing a very **CALLOUS** ex who broke up with him. In "Mean Girls", the Plastics were very **CALLOUS** towards all the other female students. And Jen believes that Brad have made some choices that have been tremendously **CALLOUS**. According to Jen, "There's a sensitivity chip that's missing."
181. **COVET** – greatly desire, yearn for. Did you know that since their inception, the Disney studios have created 1,200 characters for their movies, cartoons, and parks. Every year thousands of people audition to play characters at the Disney parks. The most **COVETED** roles are Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Goofy, Pluto, and Donald Duck!
182. **PROBITY** – integrity, honesty, virtue. In order to be nominated to serve on the US Supreme Court a candidate must have unquestioned **PROBITY** in his or her personal life.
183. **IMPERIOUS** – extremely domineering, overbearing, and arrogant. Both George Steinbrenner (the owner of the Yankees) and Donald Trump (the owner of Trump Tower) are well-known for their **IMPERIOUS** win-at-costs style of management.
184. **MYRIAD** – innumerable, countless. In the movie, "March of the Penguins," the emperor penguins overcome **MYRIAD** obstacles including blizzards, predators, and frigid temperatures to reach their winter breeding grounds.
185. **CHAGRIN** – shame, humiliation, embarrassment.
186. **VENAL** – corrupt, dishonest, utterly lacking in **PROBITY**. Both Boss Tweed (New York City) and Boss J.D. Hogg (Hazzard County) were utterly **VENAL** politicians who didn't hesitate to exploit the public.
187. **DRACONIAN** – a very strict, severe code of laws and punishments
188. **BELIE** – to give a false impression, to contradict In the movie, "Ten Things I Hate About You," the words in Kat's poem actually **BELIED** her true feelings about Patrick. In the movie, "March of the Penguins," the emperor penguins conduct their mating rituals with an elegance that **BELIES** their Charlie Chaplin appearance.
189. **MARGINAL** and **PERIPHERAL** – along the border and thus of secondary importance. Not central.
190. **IMPULSIVE** and **PRECIPITOUS** - both mean to act in a rash, hasty manner without fully considering the consequences. Both are therefore lacking forethought. Britney and Jason's decision to marry was a perfect example of a very **IMPULSIVE** and **PRECIPITOUS** action that



obviously lacked forethought. Jason later explained that, "We were like, 'We're in Las Vegas. Let's do something. Let's go get married!'" Other examples of IMPULSIVE AND PRECIPITOUS actions are not hard to find. Fans of "Pirates of the Caribbean" will recall how Captain Jack Sparrow repeatedly urged Will to stop being so IMPULSIVE and wait for the opportune moment. And of course in "Finding Nemo," Nemo IMPULSIVELY swam out into the ocean toward the diving ship.

191. REPRIMAND, CASTIGATE and LAMBASTE – all mean to sharply scold, denounce. In the movie, "Billy Madison," Ms. Vaughn CASTIGATES Billy for making fun of a third grade student who was having trouble reading. In the movie, "Nutty Professor," Dean Richmond CASTIGATES Professor Klump for alienating all of the wealthy donors. And film critics have LAMBASTED "The Dukes of Hazzard" for being hackneyed and vapid.
192. ANOMALOUS - deviating from a general rule, an irregularity, something that is out of place, incongruous. In the movie, "Legally Blonde," Elle originally stands out because she is an ANOMALY among the students enrolled at Harvard Law School. And in "Mean Girls," Cady (pronounced Katy) was an ANOMALY when she arrived at North Shore High School. She had been home schooled her entire life and grew up in Africa.
193. EMPATHETIC - very compassionate, very sympathetic. In the movie, "Billy Madison," Billy shows unexpected EMPATHY for Ernie when the young 4th grader pees in his pants. And in "Freaky Friday" when Tess and Anna are forced to walk in each other's shoes they ultimately gain respect and understanding (EMPATHY!) for the other's point of view.
194. BRUSQUE and CURT – both words mean to be blunt in manner or speech to the point of being rude. In the reality show, "The Apprentice," Donald Trump is BRUSQUE when he tells each week's losing apprentice: "You're fired!" And the Montgomery Bus Boycott began when bus driver, J.F. Blake BRUSQUELY ordered Rosa Parks to give up her seat. Rosa's refusal sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott.
195. SANCTIMONIOUS - making a show out of being devout and thus giving a sense of false piousness. In short, a person who comes across as being "holier than thou." For example, Patty (Ned's wife and Dewey's nemesis) was a SANCTIMONIOUS busybody, who revealed Dewey's true identity.
196. PROLIFIC – very productive. J.K. Rowling is a very productive author. She has already written six very large books in Harry Potter SAGA. In contrast, Martha Mitchell (Gone With the Wind) and Harper Lee (To Kill A Mockingbird) were not PROLIFIC writers. Each wrote only one book.

197. **DECOROUS** – proper, correct, respectable behavior. Actors playing Disney characters are always expected to maintain strict rules of **DECOROUS** behavior. For example, actors can never speak while they are in character. And needless to say, smoking and drinking in public are strictly forbidden.
198. **GARRULOUS, LOQUACIOUS** and **VERBOSE** - all mean very talkative. For example, when the movie "Shrek" begins, Donkey pretends to be **TACITURN** or silent. But, in reality, Donkey is very **GARRULOUS** and doesn't stop talking during the rest of the movie.
199. **RECANT, REPUDIATE, and RENOUNCE** – to take back, withdraw. At the Diet of Worms, a Church official demanded that Martin Luther **RECANT** his criticisms of the Church and the Pope. Luther defiantly refused saying, "I cannot and will not **RECANT** anything ... Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise."
200. **OBSEQUIOUS** and **SERVILE**– to act in a submissive manner, to **FAWN** or attempt to ingratiate oneself. In "Anchorman," Veronica Corningstone angered the male dominated news team because she refused to act in an **OBSEQUIOUS** manner. In contrast, Happy Gilmore was forced to be briefly **OBSEQUIOUS** when he apologized to Chubb ("You're right, I'm wrong. You're smart, I'm stupid).
201. **VIRULENT** – dangerously infectious, deadly, very toxic. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, yellow fever was a **VIRULENT** disease that claimed thousands of lives.
202. **CIRCUMSPECT** – very cautious, very careful, prudent. A **CIRCUMSPECT** person looks before he/she leaps. My beloved cat Binkie Sue is very **CIRCUMSPECT** when she goes outside in the morning. Binkie always looks to her left and then to her right before finally going out to inspect HER deck!