

Secondary Three Vocabulary List

Vocabulary List

1 **Aback (adv)**

M to be shocked or surprised

S He was taken **aback** by her actions.

2 **Abase (v)**

M behave in a way that makes other people respect you less

S The President was willing to **abase** himself before the nation, and admit that he made a mistake.

3 **Abate (v)**

M gradually become less serious or extreme

S The fighting showed no sign of **abating**.

4 **Abdicate (v)**

M stop accepting a particular responsibility that you have

S The government cannot **abdicate** responsibility for national security.

5 **Abet (v)**

M help or encourage someone to do something illegal or immoral

S They claimed that the riot had been **abetted** by the police.

6 **Abort (v)**

M stop something before it is finished

S The mission had to be **aborted** because of a technical problem.

7 **Abound (v)**

M to be present in large numbers or amounts

S Rumours **abound** about the breakup of her marriage.

8 **Aboveboard (adj)**

M honest

S The deal was completely open and **aboveboard**.

9 **Abscond (v)**

M escape from a place where you are being kept as a punishment

S He was put into jail but **absconded** within a few days.

10 **Absolve (v)**

M state officially that someone is free of any blame or responsibility in a particular matter

S The report **absolves** the pilot from any blame for the crash.

11 **Abstain (v)**

M deliberately avoid doing something that is likely to cause serious problems

S A high percentage of women said they had **abstained** from alcohol during pregnancy.

12 **Abysmal (adj)**

M extremely bad or low in quality

S He was disappointed by his **abysmal** results in the preliminary exams and started to work harder for the O Level exams.

13 **Acclaim (n)**

M public praise for someone or something

S In a recent poll, the President won **acclaim** for introducing effective strategies to improve the country's economy.

14 **Acclimatise (v)**

M become familiar with a new place, different weather conditions or new situation

S She arrived in Germany one week earlier to **acclimatise** to the new living condition.

15 **Accolade (n)**

M an expression of praise and admiration

S She was full of **accolades** for his work.

16 **Accost (v)**

M stop someone and speak to them, especially in a way that could annoy them

S Wherever he goes he is **accosted** by young people asking for his autograph.

17 **Accustom (v)**

M gradually start to feel that something is normal or natural

S She had to **accustom** herself to eating later in the evening.

18 **Acquit (v)**

M state officially that someone is not guilty of the crime

S He was eventually **acquitted** of all the charges.

19 **Acrid (adj)**

M causing a burning feeling in the throat

S Clouds of **acrid** smoke issued from the building.

20 **Acrimonious (adj)**

M describing an unpleasant situation because people feel angry towards each other

S The whole issue provoked an **acrimonious** debate which lasted all afternoon.

21 **Acuity (adj)**

M accuracy and effectiveness (of eyesight, hearing and thought)

S Tiredness also affects visual **acuity**.

22 **Acute (adj)**

M1 very serious or severe

S1 The volunteers could not do anything to help the victims because there was an **acute** shortage of medical supplies.

M2 describing the senses and abilities of someone who notices things very quickly

S2 He gave an **acute** analysis of the situation.

23 **Adhere (v)**

M obey a rule, law, agreement etc

S We must strictly **adhere** to the terms of the contract.

24 **Admonish (v)**

M advise someone to do or not do something

S He was **admonished** by his teacher for making too much noise.

25 **Advent (n)**

M the introduction of a new product, idea, custom, etc

S Before the **advent** of computers, not many people know how to type.

26 **Adversity (n)**

M a difficult period in your life in which you have many problems

S We struggled on in the face of **adversity**.

27 **Affirm (v)**

M state that something is true or you agree with it, especially in public

S He **affirmed** his loyalty to his country by returning to work for the government after graduating from an overseas University.

28 **Affluent (adj)**

M having an abundance of wealth, property, or material goods; prosperous; rich

S He comes from an **affluent** family as his father is a successful businessman.

29 **Affront (v)**

M insult someone or make them shocked and angry

S Ben was deeply **affronted** by the curt remark made by his friend.

30 **Afoot (adj)**

M being planned or starting to happen

S Plans are **afoot** to build a new leisure complex.

31 **Aftermath (n)**

M the effects and results of something bad or important

S How would they cope with the **aftermath** of the war?

32 **Aggrieved (adj)**

M unhappy, hurt and angry because of unfair treatment

S He felt **aggrieved** at not being chosen for the team.

33 **Aghast (adj)**

M struck with overwhelming shock or amazement

S They stood **aghast** at the sight of the plane crashing.

34 **Airy-fairy (adj)**

M not practical or sensible

S He spent his time dreaming up **airy-fairy** schemes that would never make the company any money.

35 **Akin (adj)**

M similar to something

S They speak a language **akin** to French.

36 **Alienate (v)**

M make someone feel that they do not belong to a place or group

S That handicapped boy was **alienated** by his classmates.

37 **Alleviate (v)**

M make something less painful, severe or serious

S The doctor has prescribed some drugs to **alleviate** the pain.

38 **Altruistic (adj)**

M willing to do something which benefit other people even if it results in disadvantage for yourself

S I doubt whether her motives for donating the money are **altruistic** - she is probably looking for publicity.

39 **Amass (v)**

M collect a lot of something such as money or information over a period of time

S They had **amassed** a fortune of \$51 billion over a few years.

40 **Amateur (n)**

M someone who does not do something very well

S He is just an **amateur** on the golf course because he only just started learning six months ago.

Vocabulary List

1 **Babble (v)**

M speak quickly in a way that other people cannot understand easily

S In his haste, he **babbled** something about witnessing an accident.

2 **Backfire (v)**

M if a plan or idea backfires, it has the opposite effect to the one you wanted

S His plan **backfired** when his wife discovered the hidden present.

3 **Backlash (n)**

M a strong, negative and often angry reaction to something that has happened

S They feared a **backlash** against the new laws.

4 **Badger (v)**

M make someone do something by asking them many times

S The children kept **badgering** their father to take them to the show.

5 **Banal (adj)**

M boring

S I am so tired of watching another **banal** TV sitcom.

6 **Bane (n)**

M something that annoys someone very much or causes them a lot of problems

S Noisy and disobedient children are the **bane** of many mothers.

7 **Banter (n)**

M friendly conversation in which people tell jokes and laugh at each other

S The two good friends like to engage in a friendly **banter** once in a while.

8 **Barge (v)**

M move in a fast careless way, often hitting people or things

S He **barged** past me without looking.

9 **Beckon (v)**

M signal to someone to come towards you

S He **beckoned** the waiter to ask for another bottle of wine.

10 **Befuddled (adj)**

M confused

S **Befuddled** by drink, he could not remember where he had left his bike.

11 **Begrudge (v)**

M feel annoyed that you have to do something; resent

S I **begrudge** paying so much just to park the car here for one hour.

12 **Beguile (v)**

M persuade or trick someone into doing something, especially by saying something nice to them

S She was **beguiled** by that swindler's charm and lost all her money.

13 **Belligerent (adj)**

M very unfriendly and angry

S I do not know why she is always so **belligerent** towards me.

14 **Bemoan (v)**

M complain

S Teenagers **bemoan** the lack of facilities in the town.

15 **Benign (adj)**

M1 a benign disease is not cancer and will not kill you

M2 kind and nice

S My neighbour is a **benign** old lady.

16 **Berate (v)**

M talk to someone in an angry way because they have done something wrong

S The discipline master berated the students for being late.

17 **Beseech (v)**

M ask someone for something in an urgent and sincere way

S The lost little boy **beseeched** the lady to bring him to the nearest police station.

18 **Bicker (v)**

M argue about things that are not important

S The children **bickered** with each other over whose turn was next.

19 **Binge (v)**

M do too much of something you enjoy, especially eating

S She would **binge** on chocolates whenever she felt stressed from work.

20 **Blare (v)**

M make a loud and unpleasant noise

S The radio has been **blaring** out that dreadful music all morning.

Vocabulary List

1 **Cackle (v)**

M laugh in a loud and unpleasant way

S A group of ladies were **cackling** in a corner.

2 **Cacophony (n)**

M an unpleasant mixture of loud sounds

S As we entered the farmyard, we were met with a **cacophony** of animal sounds.

3 **Cahoots (n)**

M acting together with others for an illegal purpose

S The robber was in **cahoots** with a bank employee.

4 **Camaraderie (n)**

M friendship and trust between people in a group

S After being in the same class for three years, this group of students has developed a very strong **camaraderie**.

5 **Candour (n)**

M honesty, even when the truth is not pleasant

S With brutal **candour**, he pointed out all the flaws in our plans.

6 **Cantankerous (adj)**

M always complaining or arguing and easily annoyed

S Everyone found it very difficult to get along with that **cantankerous** old man.

7 **Capricious (adj)**

M suddenly and unexpectedly changing your opinion or behaviour without any good reason

S His subordinates are very cautious because they never know how their **capricious** boss will react.

8 **Careen (v)**

M move forward or change quickly and suddenly

S1 The bus **careened** off the road and plunged into the river.

S2 The country has **careened** from one crisis to another.

9 **Carnage (n)**

M a lot of death and destruction

S It was a scene of **carnage** at the site of the landslide.

10 **Castigate (v)**

M criticise someone severely

S The team was **castigated** by the coach for the lack of team work in the game.

11 **Cavalier (adj)**

M not caring about other people's feelings or about the seriousness of a situation

S He is not well-liked by his peers because of his **cavalier** attitude towards other people.

12 **Caveat (n)**

M a warning of the limits of a particular agreement

S She will be offered radiation treatment - with the **caveat** that the method has only around a 30% chance of success.

13 **Cease (v)**

M stop happening or continuing

S All conversation **ceased** when the teacher walked into the classroom.

14 **Cessation (n)**

M an end to something

S The money saved from the **cessation** of the road project will be invested in public education.

15 **Chaperone (v)**

M go somewhere with a young woman or a group of children to look after them

S Three teachers were asked to go along on the school trip to Malaysia to **chaperone** the twenty students.

16 **Charismatic (adj)**

M a charismatic person has strong personal qualities that make other people like them and be attracted to them

S He was a **charismatic** leader who easily won over the hearts of the people.

17 **Chivalry (n)**

M polite and kind behaviour by which men show respect to women

S Many women are charmed by his acts of **chivalry**.

18 **Circumvent (v)**

M find a way of avoiding a rule or law that limits you, especially using a clever trick that does not break the law

S She planned a way to **circumvent** all the bureaucratic red tape.

19 **Clamour (v)**

M say that you want something and must have it

S The children were **clamouring** for their mother's attention.

20 **Claustrophobic (adj)**

M feeling unhappy because you are in a situation in which you do not have enough

freedom

S I am starting to feel **claustrophobic** in my relationship with John.

21 **Clemency (n)**

M a decision not to punish someone severely, made by someone in a position of authority

S The judge granted the convict **clemency** for his good behaviour over the past six months.

22 **Cliché (n)**

M a phrase or idea that is boring because people use it a lot and it is no longer original

S Giving a woman a bouquet of roses as a gesture of love is so **cliché**.

23 **Clique (n)**

M a small group of people who seem unfriendly to other people

S This class is not united because there are many different **cliques** within the class.

24 **Cloister (v)**

M make someone spend time in a quiet or private place away from other people

S She **cloistered** herself in the office from day to night.

25 **Coax (v)**

M gently persuade someone to do something

S After dinner Lily was **coaxed** into singing several songs for the guests.

26 **Cobble (v)**

M make something quickly and without a lot of care, using whatever is available

S He **cobbled** together a meal from leftovers in the fridge.

27 **Coddle (v)**

M treat someone in a way that gives them too much protection from harm or difficult experiences

S It is a mother's instinct to **coddle** her children when they are sick.

28 **Cogent (adj)**

M clearly expressed and persuasive

S She convinced everyone to change their minds with her **cogent** speech.

29 **Coherent (adj)**

M speaking in a way that is sensible and that people can understand

S She is more **coherent** now than she had been last night when she was drunk.

30 **Colossal (adj)**

M extremely great and large

S Receiving the President Award was a **colossal** achievement for him.

31 **Commute (v)**

M travel regularly to and from work

S I have to wake up very early in the morning to **commute** by train.

32 **Compel (v)**

M force someone to do something or to get something from someone using force

S The court order **compelled** him to appear in court as a witness.

33 **Competence (n)**

M the ability to do something in a satisfactory or effective way

S He demonstrated thorough **competence** in dealing with the issues.

34 **Complacent (adj)**

M too confident and relaxed because you think you can deal with something easily, even though this may not be true

S Your preliminary examination results are good, but you cannot afford to be **complacent** now before the actual O' Level examination.

35 **Comprehensive (adj)**

M including many details

S We offer a **comprehensive** range of goods and services.

Vocabulary List

1 **Dabble (v)**

M to be involved in an activity for a short time in a way that is not very serious

S When he was younger, he **dabbled** in astrology.

2 **Daunt (v)**

M if something daunts you, it makes you worried because you think it will be very difficult or dangerous to do

S I admit I am **daunted** by the new job, but I am going to try my best.

3 **Dawdle (v)**

M go somewhere or do something so slowly that people become annoyed with you

S He **dawdled** the whole morning away in bed.

4 **Debase (v)**

M reduce in quality or value

S The word 'sale' has been **debased** by shops who hold sales at all times of the year.

5 **Debatable (adj)**

M something that is debatable is not certain because it is possible for people to have different opinions about it

S It is **debatable** whether the plan would actually work.

6 **Debilitate (v)**

M make someone physically or mentally weak

S The disease **debilitated** him to such an extent that he could no longer get out of bed.

7 **Decadence (n)**

M so much pleasure that it almost seems morally wrong

S Eating like that every night is sheer **decadence**.

8 **Decorum (n)**

M polite behaviour

S As young ladies, we are expected to behave with proper **decorum**.

9 **Decrepit (adj)**

M old and no longer in good condition

S No one should have to live in a house that is so run-down and **decrepit**.

10 **Decry (v)**

M criticise

S She **decried** the appalling state of the house when she came back from her

holiday.

11 **Deem (v)**

M consider that someone or something has a particular quality

S These buildings are **deemed** to be of architectural importance and must be protected.

12 **Deep-rooted (adj)**

M a feeling, belief, idea etc that is strong and you have had it for so long that it is difficult to change

S He has a **deep-rooted** fear for spiders.

13 **Deface (v)**

M deliberately damage something valuable by writing on it or breaking it

S Those graffiti **defaced** the once white washed walls.

14 **Defame (v)**

M say or write something bad about someone that is not true and make other people have a bad opinion of them

S He tried to gain an advantage over his rival by publicly passing a remark that **defamed** him.

15 **Deference (n)**

M respect and politeness

S He treats his mother with as much **deference** as if she were the Queen.

16 **Defray (v)**

M provide money to pay for something

S Bursaries are given to students to help **defray** the cost of education.

17 **Deft (adj)**

M skilful

S His piano-playing is extremely **deft**.

18 **Defunct (adj)**

M no longer existing

S They used to be members of a now **defunct** communist organisation.

19 **Defuse (v)**

M make a situation more relaxed by making people feel less angry or less worried

S The Prime Minister tried to **defuse** public tension by submitting his resignation this morning.

20 **Déjà vu (n)**

M a strange feeling that in some way you have already experienced what is happening now

S When I met her, I had a strange feeling of **déjà vu**.

21 **Delegate (v)**

M give part of your work, duties or responsibilities to someone who is junior to you

S He always **delegates** boring tasks to his assistant.

22 **Deliberate (v)**

M think about or discuss something very carefully, especially before you make an important decision

S John **deliberated** for a long time before finally deciding to take up the new job offer in China.

23 **Delirium (n)**

M extreme excitement or happiness

S The Singapore fans were in **delirium** after the Singapore bowling team won gold medal for the first time at the Olympics.

24 **Delve (v)**

M search for something in a bag, pocket, etc

S Frank **delved** into his pocket and brought out a few coins.

25 **Demarcate (v)**

M show the limits of

S Parking spaces are **demarcated** by white lines.

26 **Demean (v)**

M make people have less respect for someone

S Advertisements like this **demean** women.

27 **Demeanour (n)**

M the way you look and behave

S He is a shy boy; his **demeanour** is usually quiet and timid.

28 **Demise (n)**

M the death of a person

S She was devastated by the **demise** of her grandmother who had brought her up since young.

29 **Depict (v)**

M describe someone or something using words or pictures

S The television drama **depicted** the life of a modern student.

30 **Deprive (v)**

M take away something from a person or prevent them from having it

S As a child he had been **deprived** of love and attention.

31 **Derelict (adj)**

M not cared for and in bad condition

S The house has been left to stand **derelict**.

32 **Deride (v)**

M laugh at someone or something

S I was **derided** for making such a stupid suggestion.

33 **Derive (v)**

M receive or obtain something from something else

S The orphans **derive** such great joy from these simple games.

34 **Derogatory (adj)**

M showing that you have a bad opinion of something or someone, usually in an insulting way

S The **derogatory** remarks passed by Mary showed how much hatred she had towards her father who had abandoned her from birth.

35 **Despicable (adj)**

M extremely unpleasant

S The **despicable** acts of terrorism killed hundreds of innocent lives.

36 **Despondent (adj)**

M very unhappy because you do not believe that an unpleasant situation will improve

S She was absolutely **despondent** over her illness and did not believe that she would ever walk again.

37 **Deteriorate (v)**

M become worse

S The weather **deteriorated** rapidly so the game was abandoned.

38 **Deterrant (n)**

M something that makes people decide not to do something by making them realise that something unpleasant could happen to them

S Fear of being caught acts as a **deterrant** to breaking the law.

39 **Detest (v)**

M hate

S She said that she **detests** any kind of cruelty.

40 **Detrimental (adj)**

M harmful or damaging

S Overexposure to sunlight can have a **detrimental** effect on the skin.

Vocabulary List

1 **Earful (n)**

M if someone gives you an earful, they speak to you angrily

S I'd better not be late or my granny will give me an **earful** about my laziness.

2 **Ebullient (adj)**

M very happy and enthusiastic

S The award winner was in an **ebullient** mood after receiving the award from the President.

3 **Eclectic (adj)**

M an eclectic group of people, things or ideas is interesting or unusual because it consists of many different types

S The song displays an **eclectic** mix of influences from different cultures.

4 **Efface (v)**

M make something disappear

S Jonah thought that by running away from home he could **efface** his unhappy childhood memories.

5 **Efficacy (n)**

M effectiveness in producing the results that you intended

S The results of the test should reflect the **efficacy** of the new teaching strategy adopted by the teacher.

6 **Effusive (adj)**

M expressing happiness, admiration, praise etc in an extremely enthusiastic way

S My mother came home with **effusive** praise for the young policeman who retrieved her stolen handbag after catching the snatch thief.

7 **Elope (v)**

M if time elapses, it passes

S Another hour **elapsed** and still the wind continued to howl.

8 **Electrify (v)**

M make someone feel extremely excited

S News of the discovery has **electrified** scientists worldwide.

9 **Elephantine (adj)**

M very large, slow and not graceful

S Lucy will not be successful as a ballerina because of her **elephantine** movement.

10 **Elicit (v)**

M make someone react in that way

S The question **elicited** a positive response from 60% of the voters.

11 **Elusive (adj)**

M an elusive person or animal is difficult or impossible to find or catch

S The fugitive proved **elusive**; after six months the police were still not able to find him.

12 **Emanate (v)**

M come from a particular place

S She heard shouts **emanate** from her parents' room.

13 **Embark (v)**

M start a new project or activity, usually one that will be difficult and take time

S After graduation from university, Tim **embarked** on an acting career.

14 **Embed (v)**

M fix something firmly in a surface or object

S She let go of the knife, leaving it **embedded** in the wood.

15 **Embellish (v)**

M make a story more interesting by adding details

S In an attempt to boost sales, the reporter decided to **embellish** the truth in his article.

16 **Embittered (adj)**

M angry and unhappy about things that have happened to you in the past

S John was **embittered** by years of unrewarded labour.

17 **Embodiment (n)**

M something or someone that is the best possible example of a particular quality, especially a good one

S He is the very **embodiment** of kindness.

18 **Embroid (v)**

M cause someone to become involved in an argument or difficult situation

S She has no desire to **embroid** herself in lengthy lawsuits with the newspapers.

19 **Emphatic (adj)**

M said or shown in a very strong clear way

S He refused my offer with an **emphatic** shake of the head.

20 **Emulate (v)**

M try to be like someone or something else, usually because you admire them

S She is working hard to **emulate** the achievements of her successful sister.

Vocabulary List

1 **Façade (n)**

M a superficial appearance or illusion of something

S They managed somehow to maintain a **façade** of wealth.

2 **Facetious (adj)**

M not meant to be taken seriously or literally; witty; humorous, "tongue-in-cheek"

S Her **facetious** remark amused everyone except the teacher.

3 **Fallacy (n)**

M a false idea

S It is a common **fallacy** that women are worse drivers than men.

4 **Fallible (adj)**

M not perfect and likely to be wrong or make mistakes

S Everyone is **fallible**.

5 **Farce (n)**

M a badly organised, unsuccessful or unfair situation

S The trial has been a complete **farce**, from beginning to end.

6 **Fastidious (adj)**

M caring a lot about small details

S He is very **fastidious** about how a suitcase should be packed.

7 **Fashion (v)**

M make something

S My grandfather was very good at **fashioning** toy guns out of bits of wood.

8 **Felon (n)**

M someone who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime

S Due to his careful planning, the **felon** escaped unscathed.

9 **Feverishly (adj)**

M being busy in doing something

S We are working **feverishly** hard to meet the deadline.

10 **Fiasco (n)**

M a complete failure

S Due to the rain, the barbecue was a complete **fiasco**.

Janet considered her new classmates. It was the beginning of the year and they had just started. She blamed herself for being streamed into this class. Her exam results were a disappointment. She had not been able to focus on her revision and her revision had been fickle, at best. She stared as the boy known as Jason turned ferocious as he faced feisty Thomas. Clara was fabled to have cheated during the exam and had fabricated her way out. Whatever the case, Clara had the faculty to attract attention as a group of boys sat around her. As, for herself, Jean was determined to keep up a brave façade, though she felt frightened. She greeted her new classmates with fervour, displaying confidence and tried not to show her nerves. She looked out of the class forlornly as she saw her best friend pass by arm in arm with Angela. Perhaps she had been wrong about Angela.

They had been best friends last year but lately, she had been fractious and had been distant. Janet wished she had the foresight to pick her friends more carefully and wondered if it was too late. She sighed with forebearance. There was nothing she could do but start afresh with a clean slate. She looked at the facets of her character. She had tried to be facetious most of the time but Miss Wong had advised her to be herself.

She was a nice teacher who spent time with her trying to facilitate more self-awareness. Janet decided to look for Miss Wong. She did not feel at all comfortable in this new environment.

Vocabulary List

1 **Gait (n)**

M manner of walking

S He had a strange rolling **gait**, like a sailor on a ship.

2 **Gallant (adj)**

M courageous

S He was a **gallant** soldier and died for his country.

3 **Gallivant (v)**

M go from place to place looking for enjoyment

S You should be in school instead of **gallivanting** around on the streets!

4 **Galvanise (v)**

M shock someone into sudden action

S She was **galvanised** into action when the date of the ceremony was brought forward by a month.

5 **Gambit (n)**

M an action made to produce a future advantage

S The government's promise to lower taxes is so obviously an election-year **gambit**.

6 **Gamut (n)**

M the complete range of things of a particular type

S She expressed the whole **gamut** of emotions from happiness to sorrow in all the stories she wrote.

7 **Garbled (adj)**

M confusing, not accurate

S He gave the police a **garbled** and unconvincing explanation of how he found the stolen car.

8 **Gargantuan (adj)**

M extremely big

S It is surprising that the petite girl has such a **gargantuan** appetite.

9 **Garner (v)**

M collect or obtain a large amount of something useful

S His lawyer has **garnered** considerable evidence in his defence.

Vocabulary List

1 **Hanker (v)**

M have a restless or incessant longing

S1 He is lonely and **hankers** for friendship.

S2 He is **hankering** after fame and fortune.

2 **Harbinger (n)**

M someone or a thing that shows that something is going to happen soon

S The blackbird is a welcome sight in the garden as it is the **harbinger** of spring.

3 **Harrowing (adj)**

M extremely upsetting because connected with suffering

S His first novel tells the **harrowing** story of how he lost his family in the war.

4 **Haul (v, n)**

M1 pull or draw with force (v)

S1 They **hailed** the boat up onto the beach.

M2 the load hauled at one time; quantity carried or transported over a long period of time

S2 The thieves' **haul** included several valuable paintings.

5 **Hazardous (adj)**

M full of risk; perilous; marked by danger

S Being a fireman is a **hazardous** occupation.

6 **Heave (v)**

M1 throw

S1 She **heaved** a stone through the window to break it.

M2 raise or lift with effort; hoist

S2 The captain **heaved** the anchor and sailed off.

M3 utter laboriously or painfully

S3 She **heaved** a sigh of relief when the exam was over.

7 **Herald (v)**

M proclaim; announce

S The sound of gunfire **heralded** the start of another day of war.

8 **Hiatus (n)**

M a short pause in which nothing happens

S Tourists are once again visiting the country's capital after a brief **hiatus** caused by the war.

9 **Hideous (adj)**

M horrible or frightful to the senses; repulsive; very ugly

S1 The killing of the innocent child was a **hideous** crime.

S2 After too many cosmetic operations, her face had turned **hideous**.

10 **Hinder (v)**

M cause delay; interruption; impede

S The travellers were **hindered** by storms.

His obsession with online games **hindered** his progress in his studies.

Janet was hesitant about going for the trek to Nepal. Paul had spread so much hy
Hypothetically, the trek could be done in ten days, but she felt it would be hazardou
Paul was hazy about the details but hankered to go. He declared himself fit and re: Janet

Vocabulary List

1 **Idyllic (adj)**

M a scene or event of a peaceful, simple and tranquil nature

S The remote island was **idyllic** and a perfect place for the stressed businessman to rest.

2 **Illuminate (v)**

M1 give light; fill with light

S1 A sudden smile illuminated her face.

M2 make clear

S2 His explanation helped to **illuminate** the differences between studying at a Polytechnic or Junior College.

3 **Imbue (v)**

M fill with a strong feeling or opinion

S The Class Chairman should be **imbued** with a strong sense of responsibility for the welfare of the class.

4 **Immaculate (adj)**

M clean and unspoilt; pure

S Movie stars have an image to maintain and usually make sure that their hair, attire and shoes are **immaculate** before they leave the house.

5 **Immerse (v)**

M1 put deep into a body of liquid

S1 He **immersed** himself in a hot bath.

M2 enter deeply into an activity

S2 I **immersed** myself in work to forget my family problems.

6 **Impassable (adj)**

M not passable; not allowing passage over, through or along

S Heavy snow made the roads **impassable**.

7 **Impasse (n)**

M a point at which further progress, development or movement is blocked

S The negotiations have reached an **impasse**; no one wants to compromise.

8 **Impeccable (adj)**

M free from fault or blame; flawless

S1 He was **impeccably** dressed for the dinner.

S2 He has such **impeccable** taste; his home is beautifully furnished.

9 **Impending (adj)**

M about to happen; imminent

S The **impending** exams are causing a great deal of stress on the students.

10 **Implacable (adj)**

M impossible to satisfy, change or make less angry; unable to appease or mollify

S The teacher made **implacable** demands on us which we cannot fulfill.

11 **Incandescent (adj)**

M characterised by ardent emotion, intensity, or brilliance

S1 His dance shows the **incandescent** vitality of youth.

S2 His performance was simply **incandescent**.

12 **Incongruous (adj)**

M strange or surprising in relation to the surroundings; out of place

S Her actions are **incongruous** with her religious beliefs; she is such a hypocrite!

13 **Inconspicuous (adj)**

M not noticeable, prominent, attracting attention or obvious

S Feeling out of place at the party, he tried to be **inconspicuous** by hiding in a corner with his drink.

14 **Indistinguishable (adj)**

M Impossible to differentiate or tell apart

S1 The moth has markings that make it **indistinguishable** from its background

S2 Those twins are **indistinguishable** from each other.

15 **Indulge (v)**

M give in to the desires of; allow one to have or do what they want

S Grandparents usually **indulge** their grandchildren and spoil them.

Vocabulary List

1 **Jaded (adj)**

M worn out or wearied

S1 She was so jaded by the work that she lost her zeal to do it.

S2 After so many parties, her appetite was so **jaded** that she only wanted plain porridge.

2 **Jargon (n)**

M the language, especially the vocabulary, peculiar to a particular trade, profession, or group

S I do not understand all this medical **jargon**. Doctor, please explain it in simple English.

3 **Jaunt (n)**

M a short journey for pleasure

S It is nice to take a **jaunt** to the farm areas in Jurong with the family on weekends.

4 **Jeopardise (v)**

M in danger; hazard; risk; imperil

S You **jeopardise** your life everytime you jaywalk.

5 **Jettison (v)**

M1 cast goods overboard in order to lighten a vessel or aircraft or to improve its stability in an emergency-discard

S1 When one of the engines broke down, the pilot **jettisoned** his cargo to try to stabilise the diving plane.

M2 get rid of

S2 Let's **jettison** the marketing plan - it is not working.

6 **Jiffy (n)**

M a very short space of time

S Just a moment, I will be with you in a **jiffy**.

Vocabulary List

1 **Keep-sake (n)**

M a small present, usually not expensive, that is given to you by someone so that you will remember that person

S Her aunt gave her a little wooden doll as a **keep-sake**.

2 **Knack (n)**

M a skill or an ability to do something easily and well

S As a politician, she has to have the **knack** of inspiring confidence in her listeners.

Vocabulary List

1 **Lacerated (adj)**

M cut or torn

S The man's face was badly **lacerated** in the accident.

2 **Lais-sez-faire (adj)**

M unwillingness to get involved in or influence other people's activities

S The problems worsened when the manager practised a **lais-sez-faire** approach.

3 **Lapse (v)**

M temporary failure

S Can you explain why the quality of your work has **lapsed**?

4 **Launch (v)**

M send something out

S The space shuttle was **launched** despite the bad weather.

5 **Laurels (n)**

M praise for something which they have done well

S The **laurels** must certainly go to the director of the play.

6 **Leeway (n)**

M freedom to act within certain limits

S We need some **leeway** if we are to act effectively.

7 **Legendary (adj)**

M famous and admired

S He became the editor of the **legendary** journal, 'The Bell'.

8 **Lewd (adj)**

M disapproving of behaviour or dressing in an obvious and usually socially unacceptable way

S He is being accused of making **lewd** comments to a female colleague.

9 **Liable (adj)**

M very likely to happen

S The low-lying areas in this town are **liable** to flooding.

10 **Life-line (n)**

M something on which you depend to lead your life in a satisfactory way

S The small local shop provides the **life-line** for the community.

11 **Limelight (n)**

M public attention and interest

S The popular actor has been in the **limelight** ever since news of his wedding was released.

Vocabulary List

1 **Magnate (n)**

M a person who is very rich and successful in business or industry

S He was once a well-known shipping **magnate**.

2 **Makeshift (adj)**

M temporary and of low quality but used because of a sudden need

S Thousands of refugees are living in **makeshift** camps.

3 **Maladjusted (adj)**

M unable to adjust to the demands of life, leading to problems with behaviour in the future

S She is the head of a residential school for disturbed and **maladjusted** children.

4 **Maladroit (adj)**

M awkward in movement or unskilled in behaviour or action

S Her lack of self-confidence does make her rather **maladroit** in social situations.

5 **Malaise (n)**

M general feeling of bad health or lack of energy; an uncomfortable feeling that something is wrong

S Many people are discussing the roots of the current economic **malaise**.

6 **Malodorous (adj)**

M having an unpleasant smell

S The town is built on a **malodorous** swamp.

7 **Maltreat (v)**

M treat cruelly or violently

S His behaviour patterns suggested he had been **maltreated** as a child.

8 **Manifest (v)**

M show something clearly through signs or actions

S The workers chose to **manifest** their dissatisfaction in a series of strikes.

9 **Marauding (adj)**

M going from one place to another, killing or using violence

S Witnesses reported a gang of **marauding** soldiers breaking into houses in the night.

Vocabulary List

1 **Nagging (adj)**

M continuous

S He keeps entertaining his own **nagging** doubts and fears, despite much counselling.

2 **Navigate (v)**

M direct the way; find a direction across

S Some birds can **navigate** for thousands of miles and return to their original home.

3 **Nebulous (adj)**

M unclear and vague; lacking form

S She had a few **nebulous** ideas about what she wanted to do in the near future.

4 **Negligent (adj)**

M not being careful enough or giving enough attention to people or things that are your responsibility

S The judge said that the teacher had been **negligent** in allowing the children to swim in dangerous waters.

5 **Negligible (adj)**

M too slight or small in amount to be of importance

S I have a **negligible** knowledge of French.

6 **Negotiate (v)**

M1 manage to travel along a difficult route

S1 The only way to **negotiate** the path is by foot.

M2

S2

7 **Nerve (n)**

M bravery or confidence necessary to do something difficult

S I lost my **nerve** before the jump and stayed in the plane.

8 **Nicety (n)**

M details or small differences which are only obvious after careful consideration

S We do not bother with such social **niceties** here.

9 **Niche (n)**

M a job or position which is very suitable for someone

S Michael has carved a **niche** for himself as a professional tennis star.

10 **Nifty (adj)**

M good, pleasing or effective

S The students managed to produce a **nifty** piece of artwork for public display.

Vocabulary List

1 **Obdurate (adj)**

M extremely determined to act in a certain way

S The President remains **obdurate** on the question of cutting taxes.

2 **Obfuscate (v)**

M intentionally make something less clear and harder to understand

S She was criticised for using arguments that **obscuated** the main issue.

3 **Obliterate (v)**

M remove all signs of something either by destroying or covering it so it cannot be seen

S The view was suddenly **obliterated** by the fog.

4 **Oblivion (n)**

M state of being unconscious

S He sought **oblivion** in a bottle of whisky.

5 **Obscure (adj)**

M not known to many people

S They spoke in an **obscure** jargon which is almost incomprehensible to anyone.

6 **Obsequious (adj)**

M over-eager to praise or obey someone

S She is embarrassingly **obsequious** to anyone in authority.

7 **Obstrusive (adj)**

M something so unpleasantly noticeable that you cannot miss it

S Bright orange wall paper certainly looks **obstrusive** in that study room.

8 **Obtuse (adj)**

M unwilling to try to understand

S Surely the answer is obvious - or are you being deliberately **obtuse**?

9 **Obsolete (adj)**

M not in use anymore because something newer, more useful or fashionable has replaced it

S Gas lamps became **obsolete** when electric lighting became possible.

10 **Onslaught (n)**

M a very powerful attack

S The President faces an **onslaught** of criticism for his handling of the crisis.

Vocabulary List

1 **Pallid (adj)**

M pale

S The sick man had a **pallid** complexion.

2 **Palpitation (n)**

M a physical condition in which your heart beats very quickly and in an irregular way; nervous

S Just the thought of flying gives me **palpitation**.

3 **Pandora's Box (n)**

M a process that if started will cause many problems that cannot be solved

S The court case could open a **pandora's box** of similar claims.

4 **Paradigm (n)**

M a typical example or pattern of something

S The war was a **paradigm** of the evil and destructive side of human nature.

5 **Paradox (n)**

M a person, thing or situation that has two opposite features and therefore seems strange

S He was a **paradox** - a loner who loves to chat to strangers.

6 **Paranoid (adj)**

M being afraid or suspicious of other people
you

S She is getting really **paranoid** about what other people say about her.

7 **Paramount (adj)**

M more important than anything else

S The financial crisis is of **paramount** importance.

8 **Pauper (n)**

M a very poor person

S He died a **pauper**.

9 **Peeved (adj)**

M annoyed

S He sounded **peeved** about not being invited to the birthday party.

10 **Peripheral (adj)**

M not as important as the main aim

S Fund raising is **peripheral** to their main activities.

11 **Pernicious (adj)**

M having a very harmful effect on somebody or something

S Most parents are unaware of the **pernicious** influence of TV violence on children.

12 **Perverse (adj)**

M showing deliberate determination to behave in a way that most people think is wrong, unacceptable or unreasonable

S She finds a **perverse** pleasure in upsetting her parents.

13 **Phenomenal (adj)**

M very great or impressive

S The product has been a **phenomenal** success.

14 **Pilfer (v)**

M steal things of little value or in small quantities especially from the place where you work

S She regularly **pilfered** stamps and stationery from work.

Vocabulary List

1 **Qualm (n)**

M a feeling of doubt or worry about whether what you are doing is right

S He had been working very hard so he had no **qualms** about taking a few days off.

2 **Quantum leap (n)**

M a sudden, great and important change

S The discovery marks a **quantum leap** forward in the fight against cancer.

3 **Quavering (adj)**

M nervous or afraid

S "I am not safe here, am I?" she asked in a **quavering** voice.

4 **Queasy (adj)**

M feeling sick; wanting to vomit

S Travelling by boat makes me **queasy**.

5 **Quell (v)**

M stop something such as violent behaviour

S The police was called in to **quell** the disturbances.

6 **Quibble (v)**

M argue or quarrel

S It is not worth **quibbling** over a small amount.

Vocabulary List

1 **Ramshackle (adj)**

M in a very bad condition

S She entered the **ramshackle** house.

2 **Rancour (n)**

M feeling of hatred and desire to hurt others especially when you think that somebody has done something unfair to you

S She learned to accept criticism without **rancour**.

3 **Ravage (v)**

M badly damage something

S Cambodia is a country **ravaged** by civil war.

4 **Recede (v)**

M move gradually away from somebody or away from a previous position

S The sound of the truck **receded** into the distance.

5 **Reclusive (adj)**

M living alone and avoiding other people

S He is a **reclusive** nomad.

6 **Refuge (n)**

M shelter or protection from danger

S A further 300 people have taken **refuge** in the US embassy.

7 **Relent (v)**

M finally agree to something after refusing

S The police will not **relent** in their fight against crime.

8 **Relinquish (v)**

M stop having something, especially when this happens unwillingly

S He was forced to **relinquish** control of the company.

9 **Relish (v)**

M get great pleasure from something

S I do not **relish** the prospect of getting up early tomorrow.

10 **Reminiscence (n)**

M a spoken or written description of something that somebody remembers about their past life

S The book is a collection of his **reminiscences** about the actress.

11 **Remote (adj)**

M slight chance

S There is still a **remote** chance that they will find her alive.

12 **Replica (n)**

M a very good or exact copy of something

S The weapon used in the raid was a **replica**.

13 **Repository (n)**

M a place where a large number of things can be kept or stored

S The barrack was a **repository** for radioactive waste.

14 **Reprehensible (adj)**

M morally wrong and deserving criticism

S His conduct was thoroughly **reprehensible**.

15 **Reprisal (n)**

M a violent or aggressive act towards somebody because of something bad that they have done towards you

S They shot ten hostages in **reprisal** for the assassination of their leader.

16 **Repudiate (v)**

M refuse to accept something

S The West has chosen to **repudiate** all responsibility for these refugees.

17 **Repugnant (adj)**

M causing disgust

S We found his suggestion absolutely **repugnant**.

18 **Repulse (v)**

M make somebody feel disgust or strong dislike

S I was **repulsed** by the horrible smell.

19 **Resentment (n)**

M a feeling of anger or unhappiness about something

S She could not conceal the deep **resentment** she felt at the way she had been treated.

20 **Resonate (v)**

M to be filled with sound

S The room **resonated** with the chatter of 100 people.

21 **Respite (n)**

M a short break

S The drug brought a brief **respite** from the pain.

Vocabulary List

1 **Salient (adj)**

M most important

S She pointed out the **salient** features of her design.

2 **Sanguine (adj)**

M cheerful and confident about the future

S They are less **sanguine** about the company's long term prospects.

3 **Savage (adj)**

M aggressive and violent

S She was badly hurt by the **savage** dogs.

4 **Scant (adj)**

M little

S I paid **scant** attention to what she was saying.

5 **Scrupulous (adj)**

M to be honest and do what is right

S He was **scrupulous** in all his business dealings.

6 **Scurrilous (adj)**

M very rude and insulting, and intending to damage somebody's reputation

S He was responsible for the **scurrilous** gossip.

7 **Scuttle (v)**

M run with quick short steps

S She **scuttled** off when she heard the sound of his voice.

8 **Seasoned (adj)**

M having a lot of experience of a particular activity

S He was a **seasoned** performer.

9 **Seething (adj)**

M to be extremely angry

S He marched off, **seething** with frustration.

10 **Segregate (v)**

M separate

S The notorious boy was **segregated** from his classmates.

11 **Shambles (n)**

M a situation in which there is a lot of confusion or disorder

S The press conference was a complete **shambles**.

12 **Shroud (v)**

M cover or hide something

S The city was **shrouded** in mist.

13 **Shuffle (v)**

M walk slowly without lifting your feet completely off the ground

S He **shuffled** across the room to the toilet.

14 **Significance (n)**

M the importance of something

S They discussed the **significance** of the results.

15 **Silhouette (n)**

M the dark outline or shape of a person or an object that you see against a light background

S The mountains stood out in **silhouette**.

16 **Sinister (adj)**

M evil or dangerous

S There was something cold and **sinister** about him.

17 **Skirmish (adj)**

M fight

S Several people were killed in the **skirmish**.

18 **Skirt (v)**

M go around the edge of something

S They followed the road that **skirted** the lake.

19 **Sleek (adj)**

M smooth and shiny

S He has **sleek**, black hair.

20 **Sneer (v)**

M have no respect for somebody

S He **sneered** at people who liked pop music.

21 **Solidarity (n)**

M support by one person or group of people for another because they share the same feeling, opinion

S Demonstrations were held as a gesture of **solidarity** with the hunger strikers.

22 **Solitary (adj)**

M done alone

S She enjoys long, **solitary** walks.

23 **Solitude (n)**

M the state of being alone especially when you find this pleasant

S I returned to the **solitude** of my room.

24 **Sombre (adj)**

M sad and serious

S Paul was in a **sombre** mood.

25 **Sparse (adj)**

M only present in small amounts

S Vegetation becomes **sparse** higher up the mountains.

26 **Spellbound (adj)**

M capture your attention completely

S The experienced storyteller can hold his audience **spellbound** with his storytelling skills.

27 **Spiralling (adj)**

M move in continuous circles, going upwards

S Prices are **spiralling** out of control.

Vocabulary List

1 **Tacit (adj)**

M implied, that is suggested indirectly or understood

S By **tacit** agreement, the subject was never mentioned again.

2 **Tactics (n)**

M the particular method you use to achieve something

S They tried all kinds of **tactics** to get us to go.

3 **Tactless (adj)**

M saying or doing things that are likely to annoy or upset other people

S It was **tactless** of you to comment about his hair.

4 **Tantalising (adj)**

M make a person want something that they cannot have

S The **tantalising** aroma of fresh coffee wafted towards him.

5 **Tardy (adj)**

M slow to act

S They are always **tardy** in paying their bills.

6 **Taunt (v)**

M make somebody angry or upset

S The other kids continually **taunted** him about his size.

7 **Teeming (adj)**

M fall heavily

S The rain was **teeming** down.

8 **Temerity (adj)**

M rude

S He had the **temerity** to call me a liar.

9 **Temperament (n)**

M a person's or an animal's nature as shown in the way they behave or react to situations or people

S She has a fiery **temperament**.

10 **Tempestuous (adj)**

M full of extreme emotions and excitement

S The married man was involved in a **tempestuous** relationship with another woman.

11 **Tenacious (adj)**

M describing someone who does not give up something easily

S The party has kept its **tenacious** hold on power for more than twenty years.

12 **Tense (adj)**

M nervous or worried

S She sounded **tense** and angry.

13 **Tenterhooks (n)**

M very anxious or excited

S I have been on **tenterhooks** all week waiting for the results.

14 **Tenuous (adj)**

M so weak or uncertain that it hardly exists

S His links with the organisation turned out to be at best **tenuous**.

15 **Tepid (adj)**

M slightly warm

S He had a **tepid** bath after his basketball match.

16 **Terse (adj)**

M using only a few words, often not friendly or polite

S The president issued a **terse** statement denying the charges.

Vocabulary List

1 **Ubiquitous (adj)**

M existing or found everywhere

S The Swedes are not alone in finding their language under pressure from the **ubiquitous** spread of English.

2 **Ulterior (adj)**

M secret, often bad, and usually different from the claimed reason

S He claims that his attempts to help everyone were genuine, but I suspect he may have some **ulterior** motives.

3 **Ultimatum (n)**

M a threat in which a person is warned if he/she does not do a particular thing, something unpleasant will happen to them

S She gave him the **ultimatum** - he could resign on his own or face disciplinary action.

4 **Umbrage (n)**

M to feel upset or annoyed

S You don't think she'll take umbrage if she isn't invited to the party, do you?

5 **Umpteen (determiner)**

M a lot of

S She has watched the movie, *Titanic* **umpteens** times and she still cries each time she watches it.

6 **Unabashed (adj)**

M without any worry about possible criticism

S She was completely **unabashed** in praising herself.

7 **Unabated (adj)**

M without weakening in strength or force

S The fighting has continued **unabated** throughout last week.

8 **Unadorned (adj)**

M Not decorated or made to look attractive

S They were shocked that the hall looked **unadorned** although the event was going to start soon.

9 **Unadulterated (adj)**

M pure, complete and used for emphasising how bad or good a quality is

S People injecting drugs can never be sure that they are using **unadulterated** substances.

10 **Unassailable (adj)**

M impossible to defeat or argue with

S The Manchester United established an **unassailable** 3-0 lead.

11 **Unassuming (adj)**

M quiet and showing no desire for attention

S He was shy and **unassuming** and not at all how you expect an actor to be.

12 **Unavailing (adj)**

M unsuccessful

S Diplomatic efforts at peace-making have so far proved **unavailing**.

13 **Unbeknown (n)**

M without the knowledge of

S **Unbeknown** to me, he is gone and rented out the apartment in my absence.

14 **Unbecoming (adj)**

M unacceptable behaviour

S He was charged with conduct **unbecoming** of a police officer.

15 **Unbending (adj)**

M too strict or unwilling to change your opinions

S He has earned a reputation as a stern and **unbending** politician.

16 **Unbowed (adj)**

M strong and determined despite criticisms

S He remained **unbowed** despite hostile reviews.

17 **Unbridgeable (adj)**

M used for describing differences between people that are so great that they will never be resolved

S The gulf between us was **unbridgeable**.

18 **Unbridled (adj)**

M free or uncontrolled

S She spoke with **unbridled** passion about her work in the developing countries.

19 **Uncalled for (adj)**

M insulting or offensive

S I consider your remarks quite **uncalled for**.

20 **Uncanny (adj)**

M strange and mysterious

S He predicted the winners of each race with **uncanny** accuracy.

21 **Unceremoniously (adv)**

M done suddenly and with no attempt to be polite

S He was **unceremoniously** fired last month.

22 **Uncharacteristic (adj)**

M not typical of someone's usual behaviour

S The champion's performance was full of **uncharacteristic** mistakes.

23 **Uncharted (adj) territory / waters**

M an activity or subject that people do not know about

S Genetic engineers are entering **uncharted territory**.

24 **Unchecked (adj)**

M not controlled

S The Discipline Master has to mete out the punishment because he will not allow such a behaviour to go unchecked.

25 **Uncivil (adj)**

M rude

S There really is no need to be **uncivil** even if you object to the idea strongly.

26 **Unconditional (adj)**

M without conditions

S All parents care for their children with an **unconditional** love.

27 **Underlie (v)**

M the real cause of or reason for something

S The safety of children **underlies** all our decisions.

28 **Undertone (n)**

M1 suggest a particular idea of feeling without directly saying it

S1 He wrote a humorous article with an **undertone** of anger.

M2 use a quiet voice

S2 "It's all your fault," he added in an **undertone**.

29 **Underway (adj)**

M already started

S Rescue efforts are **underway** to find the lost climbers.

30 **Undoing (n)**

M the cause of someone's failure

S The team's weak defence was their **undoing**.

31 **Undue (adj)**

M not necessary

S These minor improvements have caused **undue** expense and delay.

32 **Undulating (adj)**

M moving gently up and down in the shapes of waves

S It was a breathtaking experience looking at the landscape of wide and **undulating** fields.

33 **Unencumbered (adj)**

M without responsibilities or problems

S She liked to live free and **unencumbered** by marriage.

Vocabulary List

1 **Vacate (v)**

M leave, especially in order to make available for other people

S Hotel guests are requested to **vacate** their rooms by twelve noon.

2 **Vaccinate (v)**

M treat a person or animal with vaccine to protect them against a disease

S Have you been **vaccinated** against yellow fever?

3 **Vacillate (v)**

M keep changing your ideas about something

S He **vacillated** for too long and lost the opportunity to clinch the business deal.

4 **Vacuous (adj)**

M completely lacking in intelligence or serious thought

S Television viewers criticised the **vacuous** TV game show and demanded it to be removed.

5 **Vagaries (n)**

M unexpected changes that cannot be controlled

S The success of the event will be determined by the **vagaries** of the weather.

6 **Valiant (adj)**

M very brave and determined

S He made a **valiant** effort in the last two years to start his business all over again.

7 **Validate (v)**

M officially prove that something is correct

S The evidence does seem to **validate** his claim.

8 **Vanguard (n)**

M people who developed and introduced new ways of thinking, technologies, etc

S The students considered themselves the **vanguard** of the independence movement.

9 **Vanquish (v)**

M defeat someone completely

S Napoleon was **vanquished** at the battle of Waterloo in 1815.

10 **Vantage point (n)**

M a position from which you can see things well

S The war is described from the **vantage point** of those on the winning side.

11 **Variance (n)**

M differences between two or more similar things

S A recent study has found wide **variance** in death rates nationwide.

12 **Veer (v)**

M suddenly move in a different direction

S The car **veered** off the road crashed into a fence.

13 **Vendetta (n)**

M a situation in which someone has angry and negative feelings towards someone else and keeps trying to harm them

S The families have been engaged in a brutal **vendetta** which so far has claimed five lives.

14 **Venerable (adj)**

M very old and wise or respected

S The **venerable** rock star received a special award for his 30 years in the music industry.

15 **Venerate (v)**

M respect or worship someone or something

S Robert Burns is perhaps Scotland's most **venerated** poet.

16 **Vengeance (n)**

M the act of harming or killing someone because they have done something bad to you

S He was desperate to take **vengeance** on his wife's killer.

17 **Venomous (adj)**

M1 capable of producing poison

S1 The farmer died shortly after being bitten by the **venomous** snake.

M2 extremely unpleasant and full of very strong anger

S2 She gave her husband's killer a **venomous** glance before she left the courtroom.

18 **Venture (v)**

M go somewhere dangerous, unpleasant, or exciting

S They **ventured** into the dark damp forest.

19 **Verablise (v)**

M express your feelings or ideas with words

S He found it hard to **verbalise** his feelings towards his son.

20 **Verbatim (adj)**

M repeating the exact words that were said

S She had an amazing memory and could recall **verbatim** complex conversations.

Vocabulary List

1 **Wade (v)**

M walk in or through water

S She **waded** across the stream to get the ball.

2 **Waft (v)**

M float through the air in a gentle way

S The aroma of freshly made pancakes **wafted** through the air.

3 **Waggle (v)**

M move up and down or from side to side with short quick movements

S A woman suddenly jumped out and started **wagging** a gun in my direction.

4 **Waive (v)**

M not to demand for something

S The bank manager **waived** the charge and said we did not have to pay because we were old and valued customers.

5 **Wan (adj)**

M looking very pale and weak

S He would remember the child's **wan** face at the window.

6 **Wane (v)**

M become weaker or less important

S By the late seventies the band's popularity was beginning to **wane**.

7 **Wanton (adj)**

M show complete lack of care

S The judge said that his driving showed a **wanton** disregard for the safety of his passengers.

8 **Warped (adj)**

M strange and unpleasant

S I suppose I should not be laughing about death - perhaps I've got a **warped** sense of humour.

9 **Watchdog (n)**

M a person or organisation who works to stop people from doing illegal things

S Customers who are not satisfied with any products or services can lodge a complaint with the consumer **watchdog**.

10 **Watered-down (adj)**

M made less offensive, detailed, or powerful than it originally was

S They have returned with a **watered-down** and more acceptable version of the

proposal.

11 **Watertight (adj)**

M formed very carefully in every detail so that there is no doubt or uncertainty

S A lot of trouble could have been avoided if he had made sure that his plans were **watertight**.

12 **Wayward (adj)**

M behaviour that is changeable, selfish and difficult to control

S Parents should not pamper their children too much or the latter may become **wayward**.

13 **Wean (v)**

M make someone gradually stop depending on something that they like

S We are trying to **wean** ourselves off watching too much television.

14 **Weighty (adj)**

M serious and important

S We need more time to discuss this **weighty** issue before we make any decision.

15 **Well-read (adj)**

M having obtained a lot of information on different subjects by reading

S She is **well-read**, multilingual and with extensive experience of cultures other than her own.

16 **Well-trodden (adj)**

M much used or visited

S We followed the **well-trodden** tourist route from Paris to Chartres.