ISEE Middle Level Vocabulary List: 500 Words

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Core 200 (start here)

adamant *adj.*	refusing to change your mind; very firm	firm
adept *adj.*	very skilled	skilled
adversity *n.*	serious hardship or bad luck	hardship
alleviate *v.*	to make pain or a problem less severe	ease
amicable *adj.*	friendly and peaceful	friendly
anguish *n.*	severe pain or very great sorrow	agony
animosity *n.*	strong dislike or hostility toward someone	hostility
aptitude *n.*	a natural ability to learn or do something	talent
ardent *adj.*	very devoted and enthusiastic	devoted
arduous *adj.*	requiring great effort; very difficult	difficult
arrogant *adj.*	acting as if you are better than others	conceited
assess *v.*	to judge the value, size, or quality of	evaluate
astute *adj.*	sharp at noticing and understanding things	sharp
attain *v.*	to reach or achieve a goal	achieve
authentic *adj.*	real and genuine, not a copy	genuine
avid *adj.*	very eager and enthusiastic	eager
benefactor *n.*	a person who gives money or help	donor
benign *adj.*	harmless; not dangerous	harmless
bias *n.*	an unfair preference for or against something	prejudice
bland *adj.*	lacking flavor or interest; dull	tasteless
blatant *adj.*	very obvious and done openly, without shame	obvious
bolster *v.*	to support or make stronger	support
brazen *adj.*	bold and shameless	shameless
callous *adj.*	not caring about others' feelings	heartless
camaraderie *n.*	friendship and trust among a group	friendship
catalyst *n.*	something that causes or speeds up change	spark
compromise *n.*	an agreement where each side gives up something	deal
concede *v.*	to admit something is true, often unwillingly	admit
concise *adj.*	brief but clear and complete	brief
condemn *v.*	to say strongly that something is wrong	criticize
confide *v.*	to tell a secret to someone you trust	share
confront *v.*	to face a problem or person directly	face
conscientious *adj.*	careful to do your work well and correctly	careful
consensus *n.*	general agreement among a group	agreement

conserve *v.*	to protect something from waste or loss	save
conspicuous *adj.*	easy to notice; standing out	noticeable
contempt *n.*	a feeling that someone is worthless	scorn
contradict *v.*	to say the opposite of	dispute
controversy *n.*	a public disagreement that many people argue about	dispute
credible *adj.*	believable; able to be trusted	believable
cryptic *adj.*	mysterious and hard to understand	mysterious
cumbersome *adj.*	large, heavy, and hard to carry or use	bulky
decisive *adj.*	able to make choices quickly and firmly	firm
deficiency *n.*	a lack or shortage of something needed	lack
deplete *v.*	to use up the supply of	use up
deprive *v.*	to take away or keep something needed from	deny
desperate *adj.*	feeling hopeless and ready to try anything	hopeless
despondent *adj.*	very sad and without hope	discouraged
devious *adj.*	sneaky and dishonest	sneaky
discern *v.*	to notice or tell apart, often with difficulty	detect
disclose *v.*	to make known information that was secret	reveal
discord *n.*	disagreement and lack of harmony	conflict
disdain *n.*	a feeling that something is beneath you	scorn
dispel *v.*	to make a doubt, fear, or belief disappear	banish
dissent *n.*	disagreement with an official or popular opinion	disagreement
diverse *adj.*	showing great variety; made of different kinds	varied
divulge *v.*	to reveal private or secret information	reveal
dubious *adj.*	doubtful; not to be trusted	doubtful
dynamic *adj.*	full of energy and new ideas	energetic
eccentric *adj.*	odd or unusual in a harmless way	odd
elaborate *adj.*	having many detailed parts; complicated	detailed
elicit *v.*	to draw out a response or reaction	draw out
embellish *v.*	to decorate or add details to	decorate
emulate *v.*	to copy someone you admire	imitate
endorse *v.*	to publicly support or approve	support
enthusiastic *adj.*	showing great excitement and interest	eager
entice *v.*	to attract someone by offering something pleasant	tempt
envy *n.*	wanting what someone else has	jealousy
eradicate *v.*	to destroy completely; wipe out	eliminate
evoke *v.*	to bring a feeling or memory to mind	summon
exasperated *adj.*	very annoyed and frustrated	frustrated
exert *v.*	to use strength, effort, or influence	apply
expel *v.*	to force someone or something out	eject
exuberant *adj.*	overflowing with energy, joy, and excitement	joyful

fabricate *v.*	to make up something false	invent
facade *n.*	a false outward appearance that hides feelings	front
feat *n.*	an achievement that takes great skill or courage	achievement
ferocious *adj.*	extremely fierce or intense	fierce
fervent *adj.*	showing very strong and sincere feeling	passionate
finesse *n.*	great skill and grace in handling something	skill
fluctuate *v.*	to rise and fall in an irregular way	vary
folly *n.*	a foolish act or idea	foolishness
formidable *adj.*	impressive and very hard to beat	daunting
fortify *v.*	to make stronger, especially for protection	strengthen
foster *v.*	to encourage the growth or development of	encourage
frantic *adj.*	wild with worry or hurry	panicked
fraud *n.*	dishonest trickery used to gain money	scam
frivolous *adj.*	silly and not serious or important	silly
gregarious *adj.*	liking to be with other people; sociable	outgoing
grievance *n.*	a complaint about something unfair	complaint
hamper *v.*	to slow down or get in the way of	hinder
heritage *n.*	traditions and culture passed down from ancestors	tradition
hoax *n.*	a trick meant to fool people	trick
hospitable *adj.*	friendly and welcoming to guests	welcoming
hypocrite *n.*	someone who does what they tell others not to	phony
illusion *n.*	something that looks real but is not	deception
imminent *adj.*	about to happen very soon	approaching
impeccable *adj.*	perfect; without any flaws	flawless
impede *v.*	to slow or block progress	delay
impetuous *adj.*	acting quickly without thinking first	hasty
imply *v.*	to suggest something without saying it directly	suggest
incentive *n.*	something that encourages you to act	reward
incite *v.*	to stir up or provoke	provoke
incredulous *adj.*	unable to believe something	disbelieving
indignant *adj.*	angry about something unfair	offended
indulge *v.*	to allow yourself or others a special pleasure	treat
inept *adj.*	lacking skill; clumsy	unskilled
infer *v.*	to figure out from clues or evidence	conclude
ingenious *adj.*	very clever and original	clever
inhibit *v.*	to hold back or prevent	restrain
inquisitive *adj.*	eager to learn and full of questions	curious
insolent *adj.*	rudely disrespectful, especially toward someone in charge	rude
instigate *v.*	to deliberately cause something to start	start
integrity *n.*	honesty and strong moral principles	honesty

intrepid *adj.*	fearless and adventurous	fearless
intuition *n.*	knowing something without proof; a gut feeling	instinct
irate *adj.*	very angry	furious
jeopardize *v.*	to put at risk	endanger
justify *v.*	to give a good reason for	defend
legacy *n.*	something handed down from the past	inheritance
listless *adj.*	lacking energy or interest	sluggish
lucrative *adj.*	producing a lot of money or profit	profitable
ludicrous *adj.*	so silly it is laughable	ridiculous
mediate *v.*	to help two sides settle a disagreement	referee
mediocre *adj.*	only ordinary or average; not very good	average
melancholy *adj.*	sad in a quiet, thoughtful, lasting way	gloomy
mentor *n.*	an experienced person who guides someone	guide
misconception *n.*	a mistaken belief or idea	error
morale *n.*	the spirit and confidence of a group	spirit
motive *n.*	a reason for doing something	reason
mundane *adj.*	ordinary and dull; everyday	everyday
nonchalant *adj.*	calm and seeming not to care or worry	casual
notorious *adj.*	famous for something bad	infamous
oblivious *adj.*	not aware of what is happening around you	unaware
obnoxious *adj.*	very annoying or unpleasant	annoying
obsolete *adj.*	no longer used because something newer exists	outdated
obstruct *v.*	to block a path or view	block
omen *n.*	a sign of something to come	sign
opulent *adj.*	rich, expensive, and showy	luxurious
ordeal *n.*	a very painful or difficult experience	trial
ornate *adj.*	decorated with lots of fancy detail	fancy
pacify *v.*	to calm someone who is upset	calm
painstaking *adj.*	done with great care and effort	careful
paradox *n.*	a true statement that seems self-contradictory	contradiction
passive *adj.*	accepting what happens without taking action	inactive
perceive *v.*	to notice or become aware of	notice
perplexed *adj.*	completely confused; puzzled	puzzled
petty *adj.*	small and unimportant; mean about little things	trivial
plummet *v.*	to fall straight down very fast	plunge
pompous *adj.*	showing off how important you think you are	self-important
precarious *adj.*	unsafe and likely to fall or fail	unstable
prejudice *n.*	an unfair opinion formed without knowing the facts	bias
prestige *n.*	respect earned through success or high rank	status
prevail *v.*	to win or succeed after a struggle	win

pristine *adj.*	perfectly clean and untouched	spotless
prodigy *n.*	a young person with exceptional talent	genius
proficient *adj.*	skilled from practice	skilled
profound *adj.*	very deep or meaningful	deep
prolong *v.*	to make something last longer	extend
prominent *adj.*	important and well known	famous
prospect *n.*	the possibility of something happening in the future	chance
protagonist *n.*	the main character in a story	hero
quell *v.*	put an end to; calm or crush	calm
rapport *n.*	a friendly, understanding relationship	bond
rational *adj.*	based on clear thinking and reason	logical
reassure *v.*	make someone feel less worried	comfort
refute *v.*	prove that a statement or idea is wrong	disprove
relentless *adj.*	never stopping or easing up	nonstop
relinquish *v.*	give up or let go of something	give up
renowned *adj.*	famous and widely admired	famous
replenish *v.*	fill up again after being used	refill
reprimand *v.*	scold someone formally for doing wrong	scold
resolute *adj.*	firmly determined	determined
resourceful *adj.*	good at finding clever ways to solve problems	inventive
retaliate *v.*	strike back after being harmed or insulted	strike back
retrieve *v.*	get something back; bring back	fetch
rigorous *adj.*	very strict, thorough, and demanding	demanding
rivalry *n.*	competition between two people or groups	competition
ruthless *adj.*	showing no mercy or pity	merciless
sarcastic *adj.*	saying the opposite of what you mean to mock	mocking
scoff *v.*	laugh at or mock something as foolish	mock
sedentary *adj.*	involving much sitting and little physical activity	inactive
sinister *adj.*	seeming evil or threatening	menacing
stagnant *adj.*	not flowing or moving; not growing	still
steadfast *adj.*	loyal and unwavering	loyal
subtle *adj.*	so slight it is hard to notice	slight
succinct *adj.*	brief and clearly expressed	brief
superficial *adj.*	only on the surface; not deep	shallow
tenacious *adj.*	holding on firmly; refusing to give up	persistent
tentative *adj.*	uncertain; not yet final	uncertain
thorough *adj.*	complete and careful about every detail	complete
transparent *adj.*	clear enough to see through	clear
unruly *adj.*	hard to control; wild	wild
vain *adj.*	too proud of your looks or abilities	conceited

verbose *adj.*	using more words than needed	wordy
vindictive *adj.*	wanting to get revenge	spiteful
volatile *adj.*	likely to change suddenly	unpredictable
voracious *adj.*	having a huge appetite; extremely eager	hungry
whimsical *adj.*	playful and fanciful in an odd way	playful
wistful *adj.*	sadly longing for something	longing

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abhor *v.*	hate strongly	hate
abrasive *adj.*	harsh and rough in manner or texture	harsh
accelerate *v.*	speed up	speed up
admonish *v.*	to warn or scold firmly	warn
advocate *v.*	publicly support or speak in favor of	support
affliction *n.*	something that causes pain or suffering	suffering
aggravate *v.*	make a problem or injury worse	worsen
agitated *adj.*	nervous, upset, and unable to stay calm	upset
allot *v.*	to give out shares for a purpose	assign
amass *v.*	to gather a large amount over time	collect
ambush *n.*	a surprise attack from a hidden spot	trap
amend *v.*	change something to improve or correct it	revise
animated *adj.*	full of life and excitement	lively
apathetic *adj.*	showing no interest or concern	uninterested
appall *v.*	shock and disgust greatly	shock
apparition *n.*	a ghostly figure	ghost
appraise *v.*	to judge the value or quality of	evaluate
articulate *adj.*	able to express ideas clearly in words	well-spoken
artifact *n.*	an object made by people long ago	relic
attentive *adj.*	carefully listening, watching, and noticing	alert
audible *adj.*	loud enough to be heard	detectable
augment *v.*	make larger by adding to	increase
awkward *adj.*	uncomfortable or clumsy	clumsy
belligerent *adj.*	eager to fight or argue	hostile
beseech *v.*	to beg someone urgently	beg
bizarre *adj.*	very strange or unusual	strange
blight *n.*	a disease that destroys plants	disease
brash *adj.*	overly bold and self-confident, often rude	cocky
bravado *n.*	showy, fake boldness	swagger
brawl *n.*	a rough, noisy fight	fight
brusque *adj.*	short and rude in speech or manner	abrupt

calamity *n.*	a terrible disaster	disaster
careen *v.*	to rush along while swerving out of control	swerve
censor *v.*	remove parts considered unacceptable	edit
chasm *n.*	a deep crack in the earth	gorge
chide *v.*	to scold mildly	scold
chronic *adj.*	lasting a long time or returning often	long-lasting
chronicle *n.*	a record of events in time order	record
clamber *v.*	to climb awkwardly using hands and feet	scramble
coerce *v.*	to force someone by using threats	force
coherent *adj.*	logical and clearly connected	logical
collaborate *v.*	to work together	cooperate
compatible *adj.*	able to work or exist well together	suited
compensate *v.*	to pay back or make up for	repay
complacent *adj.*	too satisfied with oneself to keep trying hard	smug
conform *v.*	to follow a group's rules or customs	comply
congregate *v.*	to gather together in a crowd	gather
consolidate *v.*	to combine into one stronger whole	combine
contagious *adj.*	able to spread from person to person	catching
contaminate *v.*	to make impure by adding something harmful	pollute
contrite *adj.*	feeling sorry for doing wrong	sorry
convene *v.*	to come together for a formal meeting	assemble
copious *adj.*	large in amount; plentiful	plentiful
corrode *v.*	to wear away slowly by chemical action	rust
covert *adj.*	secret or hidden	secret
credulous *adj.*	too ready to believe things	gullible
culprit *n.*	the one responsible for a problem	offender
curtail *v.*	to cut short or reduce	reduce
cynical *adj.*	believing people act only out of selfishness	distrustful
dauntless *adj.*	fearless and determined	fearless
decipher *v.*	to figure out something hard to read	decode
decree *n.*	an official order from a ruler	order
decrepit *adj.*	old and in very poor condition	worn-out
deduce *v.*	to figure out by reasoning	conclude
defer *v.*	put off until later	delay
deluge *n.*	a huge flood or overwhelming amount	flood
demeanor *n.*	the way a person looks and behaves	manner
demure *adj.*	quiet, shy, and modest	shy
deplorable *adj.*	very bad and deserving strong disapproval	shameful
deviate *v.*	turn away from the usual course or plan	stray
devoted *adj.*	very loving and loyal	loyal

devout *adj.*	deeply religious or loyal	faithful
dexterity *n.*	skill in using the hands	skill
disarray *n.*	a messy, disorganized state	mess
discourage *v.*	make someone less eager or confident to try	put off
discreet *adj.*	careful not to draw attention or reveal secrets	tactful
distraught *adj.*	extremely upset and worried	frantic
drastic *adj.*	extreme and having a strong effect	extreme
eligible *adj.*	allowed or qualified to do something	qualified
elite *adj.*	among the best of a group	top
empathetic *adj.*	able to understand and share others' feelings	understanding
emphatic *adj.*	said with force to show importance	forceful
endearing *adj.*	causing affection; lovable	lovable
enigma *n.*	a mystery; something hard to understand	mystery
enlighten *v.*	give someone knowledge or understanding	inform
enrage *v.*	make extremely angry	anger
epidemic *n.*	a fast spread of disease among many people	outbreak
ethical *adj.*	morally right and fair	moral
evident *adj.*	plain to see; obvious	obvious
excessive *adj.*	more than is reasonable or needed	unreasonable
exemplary *adj.*	so good it is a model for others	ideal
exhilarate *v.*	make very happy and excited	thrill
explicit *adj.*	stated clearly and in detail	specific
exploit *v.*	to take full or unfair advantage of	use
fallible *adj.*	capable of making mistakes	imperfect
fatal *adj.*	causing death or disaster	deadly
feral *adj.*	wild, especially after once being tame	wild
fictitious *adj.*	made up; not real	imaginary
flagrant *adj.*	shockingly obvious, usually of wrongdoing	blatant
flamboyant *adj.*	showy, bold, and colorful	showy
flounder *v.*	to struggle clumsily or in confusion	struggle
fluent *adj.*	able to speak or write easily and smoothly	smooth
forlorn *adj.*	sad and lonely	lonely
frenzy *n.*	a state of wild excitement	madness
furtive *adj.*	secretive; trying not to be noticed	sneaky
gaudy *adj.*	too bright or showy, in poor taste	flashy
genial *adj.*	friendly and cheerful	friendly
gloat *v.*	to brag about your success or others' failure	brag
grotesque *adj.*	ugly or distorted in a strange way	hideous
grueling *adj.*	extremely tiring and demanding	exhausting
guile *n.*	clever trickery used to get what you want	trickery

haphazard *adj.*	lacking order or plan; random	random
hapless *adj.*	unlucky	unlucky
hefty *adj.*	large and heavy	heavy
hierarchy *n.*	a system ranking people or things by level	ranking
homage *n.*	public honor or respect shown to someone	tribute
humane *adj.*	kind and gentle, avoiding cruelty	kind
hypothetical *adj.*	imagined or supposed, not actually real	supposed
illustrious *adj.*	famous and admired for great achievements	celebrated
immune *adj.*	protected from a disease or effect	resistant
impair *v.*	weaken or damage	harm
impasse *n.*	a situation where no progress is possible	standstill
impertinent *adj.*	rude and disrespectful	disrespectful
impose *v.*	force a rule or burden on others	force
improvise *v.*	make or do something without planning	invent
inert *adj.*	not moving or not chemically active	inactive
infamous *adj.*	well known for something bad	notorious
inflict *v.*	cause something harmful or unpleasant	cause
innate *adj.*	present from birth; natural	natural
insatiable *adj.*	impossible to satisfy	endless
interrogate *v.*	to question someone closely and thoroughly	question
intervene *v.*	step in to change or stop something	step in
intricate *adj.*	having many small, complicated parts	complex
invincible *adj.*	too strong to be defeated	unbeatable
irrelevant *adj.*	not connected to the topic	unrelated
irritable *adj.*	easily annoyed	grumpy
jaded *adj.*	bored or unexcited from too much experience	weary
jargon *n.*	special words used by a particular group	lingo
judicious *adj.*	showing good judgment and sense	wise
lackluster *adj.*	dull, with no energy or sparkle	dull
languid *adj.*	slow, relaxed, and lacking energy	lazy
lax *adj.*	not strict or careful enough	loose
lethal *adj.*	able to cause death	deadly
lucid *adj.*	clear and easy to understand	clear
malady *n.*	a disease or illness	illness
malleable *adj.*	easily shaped or changed	bendable
meddle *v.*	interfere in other people's business	interfere
methodical *adj.*	careful and orderly, following a plan	orderly
milestone *n.*	an important event or stage in progress	landmark
minuscule *adj.*	extremely small	tiny
mirth *n.*	amusement shown through laughter	laughter

momentous *adj.*	very important, with big effects	important
monotonous *adj.*	dull because it never changes	dull
morose *adj.*	gloomy and sullen	gloomy
mutual *adj.*	shared equally by two or more people	shared
nemesis *n.*	a long-time opponent who is hard to beat	rival
nostalgic *adj.*	longing fondly for the past	sentimental
notion *n.*	an idea or belief	idea
noxious *adj.*	harmful or poisonous, especially to breathe	harmful
oasis *n.*	a green spot with water in a desert	refuge
obliterate *v.*	destroy completely	destroy
onslaught *n.*	a fierce, overwhelming rush or attack	assault
outcast *n.*	a person rejected by a group	outsider
outlandish *adj.*	very strange or bizarre	strange
outspoken *adj.*	openly and boldly stating opinions	frank
overbearing *adj.*	bossy and controlling	bossy
paltry *adj.*	pitifully small or meager	small
peevish *adj.*	easily annoyed and whiny	cranky
perish *v.*	to die or be destroyed	die
pessimistic *adj.*	expecting the worst to happen	negative
petition *n.*	a formal written request signed by many	request
pinnacle *n.*	the highest point	peak
pious *adj.*	deeply religious	religious
plaintive *adj.*	sounding sad and mournful	mournful
plentiful *adj.*	existing in large amounts	abundant
pliable *adj.*	easily bent or shaped	bendable
posterity *n.*	all future generations of people	descendants
precedent *n.*	an earlier example that guides later decisions	example
precocious *adj.*	showing adult abilities very early in life	gifted
predecessor *n.*	someone who held a position before another	forerunner
predominant *adj.*	strongest or most common	main
preliminary *adj.*	coming before the main event	initial
premise *n.*	the basic idea a story or argument rests on	basis
prevalent *adj.*	widespread; very common	common
prim *adj.*	stiffly proper and neat	proper
procure *v.*	to get something, often with effort	obtain
prolific *adj.*	producing a great amount of work	productive
propel *v.*	to push or drive forward	push
proponent *n.*	a person who supports an idea	supporter
qualm *n.*	an uneasy feeling of doubt or guilt	doubt
quandary *n.*	a state of not knowing what to do	dilemma

rambunctious *adj.*	wild, noisy, and full of energy	rowdy
rampant *adj.*	spreading wildly and out of control	unchecked
rancid *adj.*	smelling or tasting spoiled	spoiled
ratify *v.*	to formally approve or confirm	approve
raucous *adj.*	loud and harsh-sounding	noisy
rebellious *adj.*	resisting authority or rules	defiant
rebuttal *n.*	an argument answering and opposing another	reply
receptive *adj.*	open and willing to accept new ideas	open
reclusive *adj.*	avoiding other people; living alone	solitary
rectify *v.*	fix a mistake; set something right	fix
recuperate *v.*	to recover after illness or exhaustion	recover
redundant *adj.*	unnecessary because it repeats something	repetitive
regal *adj.*	fit for a king or queen	royal
reiterate *v.*	say again, often for emphasis	repeat
rejuvenate *v.*	to make fresh or lively again	refresh
relevant *adj.*	closely connected to the topic	related
renounce *v.*	to formally give up a claim or belief	give up
reprieve *n.*	a short break from something unpleasant	relief
reproach *n.*	a look or word showing disapproval	blame
repulsive *adj.*	causing strong disgust	disgusting
reputable *adj.*	well thought of and trusted	respected
resent *v.*	to feel bitter about unfair treatment	dislike
restless *adj.*	unable to stay still or relax	fidgety
retract *v.*	to take back or pull back	withdraw
revelry *n.*	lively, noisy celebration	celebration
revoke *v.*	officially cancel or take back	cancel
rift *n.*	a break in a friendship; a split	split
rotund *adj.*	round and plump	plump
rudimentary *adj.*	basic; at the simplest early stage	basic
rugged *adj.*	rough and uneven; tough	rough
sabotage *n.*	deliberate damage done to ruin plans	destruction
saunter *v.*	to walk in a slow, relaxed way	stroll
savory *adj.*	salty or spicy rather than sweet	tasty
scant *adj.*	barely enough; very little	meager
scapegoat *n.*	someone unfairly blamed for others' mistakes	fall guy
scornful *adj.*	showing that you look down on something	mocking
secluded *adj.*	hidden away from other people	isolated
sentiment *n.*	a feeling or opinion	feeling
sever *v.*	to cut off or break apart completely	cut
shirk *v.*	to avoid a duty or task	dodge

shrill *adj.*	high-pitched and piercing	piercing
simulate *v.*	to imitate how something looks or works	imitate
simultaneous *adj.*	happening at the same time	concurrent
slander *v.*	say false things that damage someone's reputation	smear
sleek *adj.*	smooth, shiny, and streamlined	smooth
smother *v.*	to cover something so it gets no air	suffocate
solicit *v.*	to ask for something, such as money or help	request
spectacle *n.*	an impressive or unusual sight	sight
speculate *v.*	guess without having all the facts	guess
spirited *adj.*	full of energy and enthusiasm	lively
spurn *v.*	reject with scorn	reject
stamina *n.*	the energy to keep going a long time	endurance
stature *n.*	importance or reputation earned by achievement	standing
stifle *v.*	hold back or stop from happening	hold back
stigma *n.*	a mark of shame or disgrace	shame
strategy *n.*	a careful plan for reaching a goal	plan
strenuous *adj.*	needing great effort or energy	exhausting
stringent *adj.*	very strict and exact	strict
subdue *v.*	bring under control; overcome	control
submissive *adj.*	too ready to obey others	obedient
succumb *v.*	give in to a force or pressure	give in
sumptuous *adj.*	rich, splendid, and costly-looking	luxurious
supple *adj.*	bending easily; flexible	flexible
suppress *v.*	to hold back or keep from showing	restrain
surly *adj.*	rude and bad-tempered	rude
surplus *n.*	an amount more than what is needed	excess
susceptible *adj.*	easily affected or harmed	prone
sustain *v.*	to keep something going over time	maintain
tangible *adj.*	able to be touched; real	concrete
tardy *adj.*	arriving after the expected time	late
tarnish *v.*	dull the shine of; damage a reputation	stain
taunt *v.*	to tease someone in a mean way	mock
temperate *adj.*	mild in climate; not extreme	mild
terse *adj.*	using very few words, often rudely	curt
threshold *n.*	a doorway; the point where something begins	edge
thwart *v.*	stop someone from doing what they planned	prevent
tirade *n.*	a long, angry speech	rant
toxic *adj.*	poisonous	poisonous
trespass *v.*	enter someone's property without permission	intrude
tribute *n.*	something done or given to show respect	honor

trite *adj.*	used so often it seems dull	overused
turmoil *n.*	a state of great confusion or disorder	chaos
undermine *v.*	weaken gradually or secretly	weaken
unearth *v.*	dig up or discover something hidden	uncover
unkempt *adj.*	messy and not cared for	messy
unrest *n.*	a state of anger and disturbance	turmoil
unscathed *adj.*	not hurt or harmed at all	unharmed
unveil *v.*	to reveal or show for the first time	reveal
upheaval *n.*	a sudden, major change or disturbance	disruption
uphold *v.*	to support and keep a rule or tradition	support
utmost *adj.*	greatest; highest possible	greatest
vagabond *n.*	a person who wanders with no home	wanderer
valid *adj.*	based on good reasons; acceptable	sound
vehement *adj.*	showing strong, forceful feeling	forceful
vendetta *n.*	a long, bitter feud	feud
venomous *adj.*	able to inject poison by biting or stinging	poisonous
vindicate *v.*	to prove someone right or innocent	clear
virtue *n.*	a good quality in a person's character	goodness
vocal *adj.*	expressing opinions loudly and freely	outspoken
voluntary *adj.*	done by choice, not required	optional
wane *v.*	gradually become smaller or weaker	fade
whimper *v.*	to make soft, weak crying sounds	whine
wield *v.*	hold and use a tool or power with skill	handle
wily *adj.*	clever in a tricky way	sly
withstand *v.*	hold up against force and survive undamaged	resist
wrath *n.*	extreme anger	rage
writhe *v.*	to twist and squirm	squirm
wry *adj.*	dryly funny, with gentle mockery	dry
zany *adj.*	wildly silly and funny	silly

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