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| **allude**  uh-lood | *v.* To refer to in an indirect way (used with *to*).  “I made a misstate that night,” he said, **alluding** to the way he lost his temper.  **allusion** *n.*  The poem “An Ancient Gesture,” by Edna St. Vincent Millay, is an **allusion** to Penelope in Homer’s *The Odyssey*. |
| **consecrate**  kon-si-kreyt | *v.* 1. To set apart as holy.  Hagia Sophia, in Constantinople (today Istanbul), was **consecrated** as a church in 537 and is now a museum.  2. To dedicate to a cause; to devote.  Mother Teresa **consecrated** her life to helping Calcutta’s poor. |
| **disseminate**  dih-sem-uh-neyt | *v.* To scatter or spread widely.  The wind **disseminated** the spores from the milkweed pods.  **dissemination** *n.*  **Dissemination** of information about the transmission of HIV infection is essential for preventing AIDS. |
| **dote**  doht | *v.* To show excessive fondness for (used with *on* or *upon*).  She **dotes** on her grandson and indulges his every whim. |
| **exhort**  ig-zawrt | *v.* To urge strongly; to warn or appeal.  His wife **exhorted** him to ignore the urgings of the salesman at the boatyard.  **exhortation** *n.*  The *Bhagavad-Gita*, a text sacred to Hindus, contains **exhortations** for humans to do their duty. |
| **feckless**  fek-lis | *adj.* Careless or irresponsible.  Pip’s **feckless** ways in London left him devoid of cash. |
| **implicate**  im-pli-keyt | *v.* To show to be involved with something, especially something dishonest or illegal.  The defense attorney insisted that her client could not be **implicated** in the theft. |
| **lament**  luh-ment | *v.* To feel or express grief.  Uncountable mourners lined the streets to **lament** the 1997 death of Diana, Princess of Wales.  **Lamentation** (or **lament**) *n.* An expression of sorrow or grief in the form of a poem, song, etc.  “Natalia,” sung by Joan Baez, is a **lamentation** for an especially brave political prisoner in the former Czechoslovakia. |
| **monetary**  mon-i-ter-ee | *adj.* Of or relating to money or currency.  The basic **monetary** unit of Mexico is the peso. |
| **pensive**  pen-siv | *adj.* Deep in thought; dreamily thoughtful.  Lying on my back, I grew **pensive** as I watched the drifting summer clouds. |
| **pomp**  pomp | *n.* A showy or dignified display.  The commencement exercises at major universities are usually marked by **pomp** and ceremony. |
| **stilted**  stil-tid | *adj.*  Artificially stiff or formal in manner.  His **stilted** conversation reflected his unease at the gathering of artists in the gallery. |
| **subjugate**  suhb-juh-geyt | *v.* To bring under control; or conquer.  In the late eighteenth century, Russia **subjugated** the country of Georgia, in western Asia, and made it part of the Russian empire.  **Subjugation** *n.*  The organization Amnesty International received the Nobel Peace Prize for “its efforts on behalf of defending human dignity against violence and **subjugation**.” |
| **trauma**  traw-muh | *n.* 1. A severe bodily injury.  The accident victims who suffered **trauma** were airlifted to major hospitals for emergency services.  2. Emotional shock.  Nguyen Hui survived the **trauma** of fleeting Vietnam by boat in 1979 and eventually settled in the United States.  **traumatic** *adj.*  Simply watching on television the devastation resulting from the bombing in Oklahoma City had a **traumatic** effect on me. |
| **wanton**  won-tn | *adj.* 1. Ignoring what is right.  In refusing to remove asbestos from the ceilings, the company showed a **wanton** disregard for its employees’ health and safety.  2. Excessive or unrestrained.  During the holidays, I try to avoid **wanton** eating of sweets.  3. Playful or frolicsome.  It was a pleasure to hear the **wanton** shouts of the children in the backyard. |