

MADISON CENTRAL
Words of the Day
2020 - 2021

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
		imperative	1. (adj) necessary, pressing 2. (n) a rule, command, or order
		nonchalant(ly)	(adj) having a lack of concern, indifference
		concoct(ion)	(n) something fabricated or made up
		quandary	(n) a perplexed, irresolvable state
		notorious	(adj) widely and unfavorably known
		ominous	(adj) foreboding or foreshadowing evil
		oblivious	(adj) lacking consciousness or awareness of something
		adroit(ly)	with skill, dexterously
		haughtiness	acting disdainfully proud
		quotidian	(adj) daily
		sophomoric	(adj) immature, uninformed
		veracity	(n) truthfulness, accuracy
		ingenious	(adj) clever, resourceful
		ingenuous	(adj) not devious; innocent and candid
		gregarious	(adj) drawn to the company of others, sociable
		appropriate (verb)	(v) to take, make use of
		blemish	(n) an imperfection, flaw
		pinnacle	(n) the highest point
		behemoth	(n) something of tremendous power or size
		blight	1. (n) a plague, disease 2. (n) something that destroys hope
		nadir	(n) the lowest point of something
		indomitable	(adj) not capable of being conquered
		audacious	(adj) excessively bold
		equivocal	(adj) ambiguous, uncertain, undecided
		contemporaneous	(adj) existing during the same time
		cacophony	(n) tremendous noise, disharmonious sound
		obstreperous	(adj) noisy, unruly
		camaraderie	(n) brotherhood, jovial unity
		garrulous	(adj) talkative, wordy
		amalgamate	(v) to bring together, unite
		tenable	(adj) able to be defended or maintained
		tenuous	(adj) having little substance or strength
		juxtaposition	(n) the act of placing two things next to each other for implicit comparison
		adumbrate	(v) to sketch out in a vague way
		abstruse	(adj) hard to comprehend
		blandish	(v) to coax by using flattery
		capacious	(adj) very spacious
		etymology	(n) the history of words, their origin and development
		archetypal	(adj) the most representative or typical example of something
		denigrate	(v) to belittle, diminish the opinion of

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		fastidious	(adj) meticulous, demanding, having high and often unattainable standards
		florid	(adj) flowery, ornate
		concise	(adj) brief and direct in expression
		furtive	(adj) secretive, sly
		immutable	(adj) not changeable
		ennui	(n) boredom, weariness
		inane	(adj) silly and meaningless
		pacific	(adj) soothing
		munificence	(n) generosity in giving
		largess	(n) the generous giving of lavish gifts
		panacea	(n) a remedy for all ills or difficulties
		parsimony	(n) frugality, stinginess
		magnanimous	(adj) noble, generous
		pellucid	(adj) easily intelligible, clear
		coup	1. (n) a brilliant, unexpected act 2. (n) the overthrow of a government and assumption of authority
		plethora	(n) an abundance, excess
		demagogue	(n) a leader who appeals to a people's prejudices
		anecdote	(n) a short, humorous account
		boon	(n) a gift or blessing
		conundrum	(n) puzzle, problem
		placid	(adj) calm, peaceful
		diffident	(adj) shy, quiet, modest
		modicum	(n) a small amount of something
		portent	(n) an omen
		presage	(n) an omen
		replete	(adj) full, abundant
		penultimate	(adj) next to last
		clandestine	(adj) secret
		abrogate	(v) to abolish, usually by authority
		conflagration	(n) great fire
		incendiary	1. (n) a person who agitates, 2. (adj) inflammatory, causing combustion
		culpable	(adj) deserving blame
		antiquated	(adj) old, out of date
		circumvent	(v) to get around
		circumlocution	(n) indirect and wordy language
		circuitous	(adj) roundabout
		pithy	(adj) concisely meaningful
		infamy	(n) reputation brought about by something grossly criminal, shocking, or brutal
		rhapsodize	(v) to engage in excessive enthusiasm
		restive	(adj) resistant, stubborn, impatient
		arrogate	(v) to take without justification
		mendacious	(adj) having a lying, false character

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		semaphore	(n) a visual signal
		hallowed	(adj) revered, consecrated
		sacrosanct	(adj) holy, something that should not be criticized
		convoluted	(adj) intricate, complicated
		somnolent	(adj) sleepy, drowsy
		copious	(adj) profuse, abundant
		didactic	1. (adj) intended to instruct 2. (adj) overly moralistic
		trite	(adj) not original, overused
		probity	(n) virtue, integrity
		incumbent	1. (n) one who holds an office 2. (adj) obligatory
		caucus	(n) a meeting usually held by people working toward the same goal
		calumny	(n) an attempt to spoil someone else's reputation by spreading lies
		commodious	(adj) roomy
		dissemble	(v) to conceal, fake
		ameliorate	(v) to improve
		palliate	(v) to reduce the severity of
		cloying	(adj) sickeningly sweet
		egregious	(adj) extremely bad
		punctilious	(adj) eager to follow rules or conventions
		maverick	(n) an independent, nonconformist person
		phlegmatic	(adj) uninterested, unresponsive
		solipsistic	(adj) believing that oneself is all that exists
		abnegation	(n) denial of comfort to oneself
		assiduous	(adj) hardworking, diligent
		quagmire	(n) a difficult situation
		debacle	(n) a disastrous failure, disruption
		presumptuous	(adj) disrespectfully bold
		stolid	(adj) unaffected by passion or feeling
		tangential	(adj) incidental, peripheral, divergent
		anathema	(n) a cursed, detested person
		torpid	(adj) lethargic, dormant, lacking motion
		intrepid	(adj) brave in the face of danger
		trite	(adj) not original, overused
		tome	(n) a large book
		superfluous	(adj) exceeding what is necessary
		dilatory	(adj) tending to delay, causing delay
		ambiguous	(adj) uncertain, variably interpretable
		pulchritude	(n) physical beauty
		cupidity	(n) greed, strong desire
		platitude	(n) an uninspired remark, cliché
		quixotic	(adj) idealistic, impractical
		vicarious	(adj) experiencing through another

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
		subjugate	(v) to bring under control, subdue
		vestige	(n) a mark or trace of something lost or vanished
		evanescent	(adj) fleeting, momentary
		catalyze	(v) to charge, inspire
		antecedent	(n) something that came before
		antediluvian	(adj) of or relating to the period before the Great Flood, ancient
		anachronistic	(adj) being out of correct chronological order
		fatuous	(adj) silly, foolish
		trenchant	(adj) effective, articulate, clear-cut
		exacerbate	(v) to make more violent, intense
		despot	(n) one who has total power and rules brutally
		zephyr	(n) a gentle breeze
		sycophant	(n) one who flatters for self-gain
		colloquial	(adj) characteristic of informal conversation
		elucidate	(v) to clarify, explain
		contentious	(adj) having a tendency to quarrel or dispute
		arable	(adj) suitable for growing crops
		toady	(n) one who flatters in the hope of gaining favors
		fecund	(adj) fruitful, fertile
		abate	(v) to reduce, lessen
		vituperate	(v) to berate
		kudos	(n) praise for an achievement
		fractious	(adj) troublesome or irritable
		scintillating	(adj) sparkling
		paradox	(n) an apparently contradictory statement that is perhaps true
		taciturn	(adj) not inclined to talk
		insular	(adj) separated and narrow-minded; tight-knit, closed off
		paucity	(adj) small in quantity
		impecunious	(adj) poor
		malleable	(adj) capable of being shaped or transformed
		perspicacity	(adj) shrewdness, perceptiveness
		usurp	(v) to seize by force, take possession of without right
		verdant	(adj) green in tint or color
		legerdemain	(n) deception, slight-of-hand
		sagacity	(n) shrewdness, soundness of perspective
		harangue	1. (n) a ranting speech 2. (v) to give such a speech
		vicissitude	(n) event that occurs by chance
		insipid	(adj) dull, boring
		dither	(v) to be indecisive
		wane	(n) to decrease in size, dwindle
		arboreal	(adj) of or relating to trees
		wizened	(adj) dry, shrunken, wrinkled

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
		ambivalent	(adj) having opposing feelings
		winsome	(adj) charming, pleasing
		multifarious	(adj) having great diversity or variety
		pariah	(n) an outcast
		vapid	(adj) lacking liveliness, dull
		sanctimonious	(adj) giving a hypocritical appearance of piety
		approbation	(n) praise
		obdurate	(adj) unyielding to persuasion or moral influences
		obfuscate	(v) to render incomprehensible
		hegemony	(n) domination over others
		laconic	(adj) terse in speech or writing
		recapitulate	(v) to sum up, repeat
		abase	(v) to humiliate, degrade
		travesty	(n) a grossly inferior imitation
		cogent	(adj) intellectually convincing