

**Word of the Day**  
**SECONDARY Schools**  
**2024-2025**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

DAY	DATE	WORD	DEFINTION, WORD-IN-CONTEXT, SYNONYMS
MONDAY	January 6, 2025	<b>earnest</b> (adj.)	<b>*serious and intentional</b> *William made <b>earnest</b> attempts to reconcile with his sister. *syn.: diligent; assiduous; committed
TUESDAY	January 7, 2025	<b>solemn</b> (adj.)	<b>*serious, formal, and grave</b> *Yesterday's memorial ceremony was a <b>solemn</b> affair. *syn.: dignified; portentous
WEDNESDAY	January 8, 2025	<b>deferential</b> (adj.)	<b>*showing respect toward others</b> *The students' behavior was <b>deferential</b> toward the teacher. *syn.: civil; obsequious; reverent
THURSDAY	January 9, 2025	<b>defy</b> (v.)	<b>*to go against; to refuse to obey</b> *The children have continued to <b>defy</b> the rules of the playground. *syn.: resist; oppose; thwart
FRIDAY	January 10, 2025	<b>placid</b> (adj.)	<b>*calm, peaceful</b> *The usually <b>placid</b> waters of the lake were disturbed by the approaching storm. *syn.: tranquil; serene
MONDAY	January 13, 2025	<b>authentic</b> (adj.)	<b>*traditional; based on facts; pure and honest; of undisputed origin</b> *A local chef was hired to provide <b>authentic</b> southern-style meals at the lodge. *syn.: bona fide; veritable; legitimate; genuine
TUESDAY	January 14, 2025	<b>hoax</b> (n.)	<b>*a humorous or malicious deception</b> *Are paranormal videos and photos often viewed as <b>hoaxes</b> ? *syn.: jest; prank; jape; ruse
WEDNESDAY	January 15, 2025	<b>equivocal</b> (adj.)	<b>*unclear; open to more than one interpretation; vague</b> *His <b>equivocal</b> response to questions has increased speculation. *syn.: ambiguous; cryptic; enigmatic
THURSDAY	January 16, 2025	<b>denounce</b> (v.)	<b>*to complain about publicly</b> *His former followers now <b>denounce</b> him as a traitor. * syn.: criticize; censure; castigate; condemn

FRIDAY	January 17, 2025	<b>cower</b> (v.)	<b>*draw back in fear or servility; shrink away from</b> * The little puppy <b><i>cowered</i></b> in the corner of the closet. *syn.: cringe; recoil
MONDAY	January 20, 2025	XXXX	<b>Martin Luther King Holiday</b>
TUESDAY	January 21, 2025	1. <b>muse</b> (v.)	<b>*1. to think about deeply</b> *As she gazed out the window, she <b><i>mused</i></b> about the possibilities of her future. *syn.: contemplate; ponder; ruminate; reflect; daydream
		2. <b>muse</b> (n.)	<b>*2. a person-especially a woman-who is a source of artistic inspiration; source of genius or inspiration</b> *The <b><i>muse</i></b> has left me; I haven't been inspired to write poetry for months. *syn.: inspiration; influence
WEDNESDAY	January 22, 2025	<b>adversary</b> (n.)	<b>*an opponent or enemy</b> *He had to compete against his life-long <b><i>adversary</i></b> . *syn.: rival; antagonist; nemesis; foe
THURSDAY	January 23, 2025	<b>revere</b> (v.)	<b>*to deeply respect and worship; to be in awe of</b> *My grandmother <b><i>revered</i></b> God and went to church every day. *syn.: exalt; cherish; adore; venerate
FRIDAY	January 24, 2025	1. <b>harangue</b> (n.)	<b>*1. noisy, attacking speech; lengthy and aggressive speech; a verbal attack</b> *They were subjected to a ten-minute <b><i>harangue</i></b> from their supervisor. *syn.: tirade; diatribe; censure
		2. <b>harangue</b> (v.)	<b>*2. lecture at length in an aggressive and critical manner</b> *The angry politician <b><i>harangued</i></b> the crowd for over an hour, criticizing their lack of support for his policies. *syn.: berate; castigate
MONDAY	January 27, 2025	<b>fabricate</b> (v.)	<b>*1. to make up from thin air</b> *She was accused of <b><i>fabricating</i></b> the data. *syn.: prevaricate; falsify;
			<b>*2. build; create</b> *Their plan is to <b><i>fabricate</i></b> the house out of synthetic materials. *syn.: forge; manufacture; brainstorm; erect
TUESDAY	January 28, 2025	<b>ubiquitous</b> (adj.)	<b>*appearing to be everywhere</b> *Cell phones have become <b><i>ubiquitous</i></b> . *syn.: omnipresent; pervasive; universal

WEDNESDAY	January 29, 2025	<b>disdain</b> (n.)	<b>*an intense dislike</b> *His eyes blazed with <b>disdain</b> for all the people in the office. *syn.: contempt; scorn; derision
THURSDAY	January 30, 2025	<b>benevolent</b> (adj.)	<b>*well-meaning and charitable</b> *Ben was a kind boss and wanted to create a <b>benevolent</b> environment at his firm. *syn.: altruistic; benign; compassionate
FRIDAY	January 31, 2025	<b>acrid</b> (adj.)	<b>*strong and sharp, as a taste; unpleasant taste or smell</b> *The <b>acrid</b> smell of gunpowder filled the air. *syn.: pungent; acerbic
MONDAY	February 3, 2025	<b>mar</b> (v.)	<b>*to impair or damage and therefore make less than perfect</b> <b>*1.</b> Those brightly painted doors <b>mar</b> the whole appearance of the house. <b>*2.</b> A bitter expression crossed his features, causing angry wrinkles to <b>mar</b> his face. *syn.: disfigure; deface; mutilate; blemish
TUESDAY	February 4, 2025	<b>confidant</b> (n.)	<b>*someone you can trust and share secrets with</b> *The children viewed their long-time nanny as their trusted <b>confidant</b> : a shoulder to cry on and a companion to share their most intense moments of happiness. *syn.: ally; mentor; crony;
WEDNESDAY	February 5, 2025	<b>genesis</b> (n.)	<b>*the origin or mode of formation</b> *This story had its <b>genesis</b> in fireside stories. *syn.: inception; provenance; advent
THURSDAY	February 06, 2025	<b>irrefutable</b> (adj.)	<b>*impossible to deny or disprove</b> *The massive destruction left in the city by the hurricane is <b>irrefutable</b> and proves the wave barriers were not effective. *syn.: indubitable; incontrovertible; final; conclusive
FRIDAY	February 07, 2025	<b>harbinger</b> (n.)	<b>*an indicator; bringer of warnings; a forerunner of something; something that foreshadows a future event</b> *The robin is a <b>harbinger</b> of spring. *syn.: herald; prelude; portent; precursor
MONDAY	February 10, 2025	<b>pragmatic</b> (adj.)	<b>*dealing with things sensibly and realistically in a way that is based on practical rather than theoretical considerations</b> *His <b>pragmatic</b> view of public education comes from years of working in city schools. *syn.: rational; reasonable; unsentimental
TUESDAY	February 11, 2025	<b>flagrant</b> (adj.)	<b>*obviously offensive; clearly wrong</b> *The man was caught in a <b>flagrant</b> breach of company policy. *syn.: blatant; glaring; overt; conspicuous

WEDNESDAY	February 12, 2025	<b>exemplary</b> (adj.)	<b>*serving as a model; represent the best of its kind</b> *She was an <b>exemplary</b> student who worked to the utmost of her ability. *syn.: ideal; consummate; laudable; meritorious
THURSDAY	February 13, 2025	<b>impugn</b> (v.)	<b>*dispute the truth, validity, or honesty of a statement or motive; call into question; oppose or attack as false or lacking integrity</b> *The supervisor <b>impugned</b> her assistant's competence as a professional designer. *syn.: challenge; assail; contravene
FRIDAY	February 14, 2025	<b>ephemeral</b> (adj.)	<b>*lasting a very short time</b> *Fame in the world of rock and pop is largely <b>ephemeral</b> . *syn.: transitory; fleeting; evanescent; brevity
MONDAY	February 17, 2025	XXXX	<b>Presidents' Day Holiday</b>
TUESDAY	February 18, 2025	<b>subtle</b> (adj.)	<b>*making use of clever and indirect methods to achieve something; not obvious</b> *The language of the poem expresses rich and <b>subtle</b> meanings. *syn.: indirect; understated
WEDNESDAY	February 19, 2025	<b>suffrage</b> (n.)	<b>*the right to vote in political elections</b> *Feminists of the early 20 <sup>th</sup> century encouraged other women to join the movement for women's <b>suffrage</b> . *syn.: franchise; rights; vote; participation
THURSDAY	February 20, 2025	<b>entrenched</b> (adj.)	<b>*deeply established; difficult or unlikely to change</b> *Our patterns of behavior are often so <b>entrenched</b> that we are often not aware of them ourselves until we are challenged. *syn.: ingrained; fortified; intrinsic
FRIDAY	February 21, 2025	<b>uniform</b> (adj.)	<b>*same; alike; unchanging in form or character</b> *The office walls and furniture are a <b>uniform</b> gray. *syn.: constant; consistent; stable; static
MONDAY	February 24, 2025	<b>vanquish</b> (v.)	<b>*to defeat and conquer, especially in a war</b> *To <b>vanquish</b> the enemy, the soldiers needed a formidable leader of the army. *syn.: trounce; annihilate; overwhelm; subjugate
TUESDAY	February 25, 2025	<b>impunity</b> (n.)	<b>*freedom from punishment, harm or loss for a wrongdoing or crime</b> *She mistakenly believed that she could insult people with <b>impunity</b> . *syn.: immunity; amnesty; reprieve

WEDNESDAY	February 26, 2025	<b>audacious</b> (adj.)	<b>*1. bold; openly showing a desire to take risks</b> *The new manager made an <b>audacious</b> bid to take control of the company. *syn.: intrepid; mettlesome; gutsy
			<b>*2. showing a shocking lack of respect</b> *His <b>audacious</b> behavior will land him in serious trouble one of these days. *syn.: impertinent; insolent; irreverent; insubordinate; brazen
THURSDAY	February 27, 2025	<b>onerous</b> (adj.)	<b>*difficult to carry out or complete</b> *She faced the <b>onerous</b> task of informing her parents of the truth. *syn.: arduous; cumbersome; oppressive; laborious
FRIDAY	February 28, 2025	<b>pernicious</b> (adj.)	<b>*creating enormous harm, especially when done gradually or gone unnoticed</b> *The psychologist believes television has a <b>pernicious</b> influence on our children. *syn.: detrimental; adverse; deleterious; iniquitous; maleficent
MONDAY	March 03, 2025	<b>empirical</b> (adj.)	<b>*based on experiment; based on or verifiable by observation or experience rather than theory or pure logic</b> *They provided considerable <b>empirical</b> evidence to support their argument. *syn.: factual; actual
TUESDAY	March 04, 2025	<b>ascertain</b> (v.)	<b>*to find out for certain; make sure of</b> *An attempt to <b>ascertain</b> the cause of the accident was difficult since there were no witnesses. *syn.: establish; discern
WEDNESDAY	March 05, 2025	<b>supersede</b> (v.)	<b>*to become outdated; to be replaced</b> *The new dress code <b>superseded</b> the loose regulations of the previous CEO. *syn.: supplant; displace; substitute
THURSDAY	March 06, 2025	<b>enfranchisement</b> (n.)	<b>*granting of a right or privilege; becoming free from political subjugation</b> *The 19 <sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution signified a major <b>enfranchisement</b> for women by giving them the right to vote. *syn.: emancipation; liberation; autonomy; self-determination
FRIDAY	March 07, 2024	<b>transient</b> (adj.)	<b>*impermanent; lasting only a short time</b> *The <b>transient</b> nature of fashion implies constant change. *syn.: transitory; ephemeral; changeable
MON. – FRI.	March 10 – March 14, 2025	<b>XXXX</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>

MONDAY	March 17, 2025	XXXX	Professional Development Day – Teachers Only
TUESDAY	March 18, 2025	blatant (adj.)	<b>*completely obvious</b> *By driving so carelessly, he showed <b>blatant</b> disregard for the safety of other drivers on the highway. *syn.: flagrant; conspicuous; unmistakable
WEDNESDAY	March 19, 2025	abate (v.)	<b>*to become less strong; become less severe; to subside</b> *The heavy rains and strong winds will <b>abate</b> once the storm moves out of the area. *syn.: moderate; alleviate; mitigate; allay; assuage; temper
THURSDAY	March 20, 2025	incongruous (adj.)	<b>*out of place or keeping with the surroundings; inappropriate; not harmonious</b> *The new computer looked <b>incongruous</b> in the dark book-filled library. *syn.: discordant; dissonant; disparate
FRIDAY	March 21, 2025	perennial (adj.)	<b>*lasting for a long time; enduring; timeless</b> *1. His wholesale nursery focuses on <b>perennial</b> plants. *2. Flooding is a <b>perennial</b> problem for people living by the river. *syn.: perpetual; recurrent; annual
MONDAY	March 24, 2025	consensus (adj.)	<b>*general agreement; collective opinion among a group</b> *The consensus among the members is to accept the proposal. *syn.: concurrence; accord; solidarity; concert
TUESDAY	March 25, 2025	irreproachable (adj.)	<b>*beyond criticism; faultless</b> *They must be loyal and <b>irreproachable</b> in their conduct. *syn.: impeccable; exemplary; model; consummate; ideal
WEDNESDAY	March 26, 2025	feasible (adj.)	<b>*possible to do easily or conveniently; likely; probable</b> *I don't think this project is <b>feasible</b> . *syn.: expedient; viable; attainable
THURSDAY	March 27, 2025	clandestine (adj.)	<b>*secretive and hidden; hard to see; sneaky</b> *I took a <b>clandestine</b> peek at the price tag on the diamond necklace. *syn.: covert; furtive; surreptitious; stealthy
FRIDAY	March 28, 2025	thwart (v.)	<b>*to prevent from accomplishing</b> *She did all she could to <b>thwart</b> his plans to take over as leader. *syn.: circumvent; curb; impede; foil

MONDAY	March 31, 2025	<b>contingent</b> (adj.)	<b>*subject to change; dependent on or conditioned by something else.</b> *Our plans are <b>contingent</b> on the weather. *syn.: fortuitous; conditional
		<b>contingent</b> (n.)	<b>*a group of people united by some common feature or chosen as representatives of a larger group</b> *The local scout troop traditionally sends a large <b>contingent</b> to the jamboree. *syn.: delegation; detachment; cohort
TUESDAY	April 01, 2025	<b>evanescent</b> (adj.)	<b>*quickly leaving sight or memory; fleeting</b> *Unfortunately, the best dreams may be <b>evanescent</b> and end at sunrise. *syn.: diminishing; ephemeral; transitory
WEDNESDAY	April 02, 2025	<b>proscribe</b> (v.)	<b>*forbid or condemn as harmful or unlawful</b> *The use of weapons against civilian targets is <b>proscribed</b> by most countries. *syn.: disallow; interdict; ban; enjoin
THURSDAY	April 03, 2025	<b>rapacious</b> (adj.)	<b>*taking without restraint; aggressively greedy or grasping</b> *Because of its <b>rapacious</b> appetite, the shark is often considered to be more an eating machine than a living creature. *syn.: avaricious; predatory; voracious
FRIDAY	April 04, 2025	<b>aspiration</b> (n.)	<b>*a desire to achieve something</b> *My literary <b>aspirations</b> were encouraged by my teachers and family. *syn.: ambition; determination; goals
MONDAY	April 07, 2025	<b>homogenous</b> (adj.)	<b>*being of a similar kind or nature</b> *Although they look <b>homogenous</b> , every grain of sand on the beach is unique. *syn.: analogous; congruent; comparable
TUESDAY	April 08, 2025	<b>incredulous</b> (adj.)	<b>*skeptical; unbelieving</b> *She gave me an <b>incredulous</b> look when I told her the news. *syn.: suspicious; dubious; wary
WEDNESDAY	April 09, 2025	<b>fetid</b> (adj.)	<b>*smelling very bad; stinking</b> *We discovered the <b>fetid</b> smell came from eggs we had forgotten to refrigerate. *syn.: malodorous; pungent; reeking; acrid
THURSDAY	April 10, 2025	<b>enigmatic</b> (adj.).	<b>*difficult to interpret or understand; mysterious</b> *When I was growing up, I viewed my father as an <b>enigmatic</b> man who rarely spent time with me. *syn.: cryptic; inexplicable; inscrutable

FRIDAY	April 11, 2025	<b>baseless</b> (adj.)	<b>*not grounded in fact</b> *She assured me that my fears were <b>baseless</b> . *syn.: unsubstantiated; uncorroborated; irrational
MONDAY	April 14, 2025	<b>replete</b> (adj.)	<b>*filled or well-supplied with something; abundantly supplied or provided; very full or sated, especially by food</b> *The book is <b>replete</b> with historical references. *syn.: copious; abounding; surfeit
TUESDAY	April 15, 2025	<b>plaudit</b> (n.)	<b>*statement giving strong praise; approval</b> *The novel deserves nearly every <b>plaudit</b> it has received. *syn.: acclaim; approbation; accolades; encomiums; kudos
WEDNESDAY	April 16, 2025	<b>reprehensible</b> (adj.)	<b>*shameful; very bad; deserving censure or condemnation</b> *What he did was not only dishonest, it was morally <b>reprehensible</b> . *syn.: deplorable; despicable; ignoble
THURSDAY	April 17, 2025	<b>obdurate</b> (adj.)	<b>*stubborn; refusing to change one's opinion or course of action</b> *Although the hurricane was rapidly coming their way, the townspeople were <b>obdurate</b> and did not leave their homes. *syn.: obstinate; intransigent; implacable; intractable
FRIDAY	April 19, 2025	<b>XXXX</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
MONDAY	April 21, 2025	<b>XXXX</b>	<b>Easter Monday</b>
TUESDAY	April 22, 2025	<b>blithe</b> (adj.)	<b>*free-spirited; carefree; showing a casual and cheerful indifference considered to be callous or improper</b> *The clerks, as usual, were chatting with <b>blithe</b> disregard to the waiting customers. *syn.: heedless; nonchalant; blasé
WEDNESDAY	April 23, 2025	<b>bombast</b> (n.)	<b>*arrogant, pompous language; high-sounding language with little meaning, used to impress people</b> *The leader conveyed strength and reassurance without <b>bombast</b> . *syn.: bluster; grandiloquence; claptrap
THURSDAY	April 24, 2025	<b>lampoon</b> (v.)	<b>*to publicly criticize (someone or something) by using ridicule, irony, or sarcasm</b> *The actor was <b>lampooned</b> by the press. *syn.: parody; satirize
FRIDAY	April 25, 2025	<b>gravity</b> (n.)	<b>*seriousness; extreme or alarming importance</b> *I could not hide from her the <b>gravity</b> of the situation. *syn.: significance; consequence; magnitude; acuteness



MONDAY	April 28, 2025	<b>fervor</b> (n.)	<b>*intense feelings of passion</b> *The patriotic <b>fervor</b> spread throughout the nation. *syn.: ardor; zeal; vehemence
TUESDAY	April 29, 2025	<b>bellicose</b> (adj.)	<b>*having or showing a ready disposition to fight; aggressive</b> *The general made <b>bellicose</b> statements about his country's military strength. *syn.: belligerent; pugnacious; truculent
WEDNESDAY	April 30, 2025	<b>lassitude</b> (n.)	<b>*a feeling of weariness; listlessness; lack of energy</b> *She was overcome by <b>lassitude</b> and retired to bed. *syn.: languor; enervation; lethargy
THURSDAY	May 01, 2025	<b>sanguine</b> (adj.)	<b>*1. of a healthy red color</b> *Her <b>sanguine</b> complexion was the result of a brisk jog around the park. *syn.: ruddy; florid
			<b>*2. Cheerful and optimistic</b> *Her <b>sanguine</b> personality was a welcome addition to the gloomy atmosphere at the meeting. *syn.: buoyant; animated
FRIDAY	May 02, 2025	<b>inundate</b> (v.)	<b>*1. to overwhelm (someone) with things or people to be dealt with</b> *We've been <b>inundated</b> with complaints from listeners. *syn.: besiege; bombard
			<b>*2. flood</b> *The storm surge <b>inundated</b> the beach and adjoining roadways. *syn.: deluge; engulf; submerge
MONDAY	May 05, 2025	<b>malleable</b> (adj.)	<b>*capable of being changed or influenced</b> *Gold is the most <b>malleable</b> of all metals. *syn.: pliable; pliant; tractile <b>*Special note:</b> <i>Malleable</i> can describe a person or a thing. Most often, the term is used pertaining to metals. When a person is described as malleable, this person is either capable of change or easily impressionable and naïve.
TUESDAY	May 06, 2025	<b>cavalier</b> (adj.)	<b>*showing a lack of proper concern; offhand; dismissive</b> *The leaders were <b>cavalier</b> in their treatment of subordinates. *syn.: nonchalant; insouciant; supercilious; haughty
WEDNESDAY	May 07, 2025	<b>effulgence</b> (n.)	<b>*radiance; splendor; brilliance</b> *To capture on canvas the <b>effulgence</b> of the eastern sky at sunrise is a challenge to any painter. *syn.: sheen; luminosity; lucent; resplendent

THURSDAY	May 08, 2025	<b>miscreant</b> (n.)	<b>*a villain or criminal</b> *The <b><i>miscreant</i></b> was identified in a police lineup by an eyewitness. *syn.: culprit; malefactor; brute; rascal
FRIDAY	May 09, 2025	<b>broach</b> (v.)	<b>*to bring up a subject in conversation</b> *There is no right way to <b><i>broach</i></b> such a controversial topic. *syn.: introduce; interject; propose; voice
MONDAY	May 12, 2025	<b>peccadillo</b> (n.)	<b>*a minor fault; a petty offense</b> *Because Josh had grown tired of Patty's criticism of every little <b><i>peccadillo</i></b> , he resigned as her advisor. *syn.: indiscretion; faux pas; transgression; foibles
TUESDAY	May 13, 2025	<b>curt</b> (adj.)	<b>*brief and to the point; rudely brief</b> *His only greeting was a <b><i>curt</i></b> nod. *syn.: terse; brusque; clipped; abrupt
WEDNESDAY	May 14, 2025	<b>thespian</b> (n.)	<b>*an actor or actress</b> *Desiring to be an accomplished <b><i>thespian</i></b> , Jan enrolled in the prestigious drama school. *syn.: performer
THURSDAY	May 15, 2025	<b>caustic</b> (adj.)	<b>*harsh or corrosive in tone; sarcastic in a scathing and bitter way</b> *I was known for my short temper and <b><i>caustic</i></b> wit. *syn.: mordant; sardonic; acerbic; vitriolic
FRIDAY	May 16, 2025	<b>imminent</b> (adj.)	<b>*about to happen; immediate</b> *We were prepared for the <b><i>imminent</i></b> arrival of the President. *syn.: impending; inevitable
MONDAY	May 19, 2025	<b>supplicate</b> (v.)	<b>*ask or beg for something earnestly or humbly</b> *The homeless man was not too prideful to <b><i>supplicate</i></b> for change to buy food. *syn.: entreat; beseech; implore; petition
TUESDAY	May 20, 2025	<b>temporize</b> (v.)	<b>*avoid deciding or committing oneself to gain time</b> *The applicate seemed to <b><i>temporize</i></b> when we asked him about his last job. *syn.: balk; equivocate; procrastinate
WEDNESDAY	May 21, 2025	<b>apprise</b> (v.)	<b>*inform or tell (someone); make (someone) aware</b> *We were fully <b><i>apprised</i></b> of the situation. *syn.: update; notify; enlighten; acquaint
THURSDAY	May 22, 2025	<b>surge</b> (n.)	<b>*a sudden, powerful movement; a sudden large increase</b> *The roads can't cope with the <b><i>surge</i></b> of traffic. *syn.: escalation; heaving

		surge (v.)	<b>*move suddenly and powerfully; increase suddenly</b> *She <b><i>surged</i></b> past the other runners. *syn.: billow; propel; heave
FRIDAY	May 23, 2025	XXXX	<b>END of SEMESTER</b>



School is out for summer!  
Enjoy the sunshine, be safe, and have fun!