

# **Webster's Notebook Thesaurus**

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## Preface

This thesaurus is a conveniently concise guide for the understanding and selection of synonyms and antonyms. It is intended to serve as a quick reference for those who want a compact and handy thesaurus.

This thesaurus shares many details of presentation with more comprehensive works, yet unlike many thesauruses, it provides at each **main entry** a concise statement of the **meaning** shared by the listed synonyms (indicated by a ♦ symbol), and it includes an entry at its own alphabetical place for every synonym that appears at a main entry. Additionally, many entries for which there are words with directly opposite meaning show these **antonyms** to give the user additional pertinent assistance.

For those entries that are not main entries, the first word in the synonym list is in SMALL CAPITALS to indicate that this word is the main entry for the list and that at this entry you will find the shared meaning element for the list.

Words spelled the same but having different meanings are **homographs** and are given separate entries and identified with an italic part-of-speech label, as at **fair** *adj* and **fair** *n* for the adjective *fair*

and the noun *fair*. Headwords that are synonyms and alphabetically close to each other are sometimes listed together, as **finicky, finicking, finical**. Multiple meanings (senses) of an entry word are distinguished by bold numerals.

Headwords ordinarily conform to normal dictionary practice: nouns are styled as singulars, verbs as infinitives. Special situations, such as plural usage, are signaled by the use of boldface, as at the entry **wage, wages** or at sense 2 of **game**, where the plural **games** is shown as the form synonymous with *athletics*.

Parentheses enclose a particle or particles usually associated with a word. They may accompany a headword, as **rely** (on *or* upon), or a word in a list, as *fail* (*in*) in the antonym list at **fulfill** and *fall short* (*of*) at another antonym list in the same entry. Parentheses also enclose material indicating a typical or, occasionally, a sole object of reference, as in the meaning core at **money** or the antonym list at **gaudy**, where the antonym *quiet* carries the parenthetical note (*in taste or style*).

A semicolon separates subgroups of words which differ in their relation to the headword.

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# A

**abaft** ♦ toward or at the stern (of a vessel) **Syn** aft, astern **Ant** afore

**abandon** *vb* 1 ♦ to quit absolutely **Syn** desert, forsake **Ant** reclaim 2 **Syn** RELINQUISH, surrender, yield, resign, leave **Ant** cherish (*hopes, opinions*); restrain (*oneself*)

**abandon** *n* **Syn** UNCONSTRAINT, spontaneity **Ant** self-restraint

**abandoned** ♦ utterly depraved **Syn** reprobate, profligate, dissolute **Ant** redeemed, regenerate

**abase** ♦ to lower in one's own estimation or in that of others **Syn** demean, debase, degrade, humble, humiliate **Ant** exalt; extol (*especially oneself*)

**abash** **Syn** EMBARRASS, discomfit, disconcert, faze, rattle **Ant** embolden; reassure

**abate** 1 **Syn** ABOLISH, extinguish, annihilate **Ant** perpetuate 2 **Syn** DECREASE, reduce, diminish, lessen **Ant** augment; accelerate (*pace, speed*); intensify (*hopes, fears, a fever*) 3 ♦ to die down in force or intensity **Syn** subside, wane, ebb **Ant** rise; revive

**abatement** **Syn** DEDUCTION, rebate, discount **Ant** addition

**abbey** **Syn** CLOISTER, convent, nunnery, monastery, priory

**abbreviate** **Syn** SHORTEN, abridge, curtail **Ant** elongate, lengthen

**abdicate** ♦ to give up formally or definitely a position of trust, honor, or glory **Syn** renounce, resign **Ant** assume; usurp

**abdomen** ♦ the part of the body between the chest and the pelvis **Syn** belly, stomach, paunch, gut

**abduct** ♦ to carry off (a person) surreptitiously for an illegal purpose **Syn** kidnap

**aberrant** **Syn** ABNORMAL, atypical **Ant** true (*to a type*)

**aberration** 1 **Syn** DEVIATION, deflection **Ant** conformity; regularity 2 ♦ mental disorder **Syn** derangement, alienation **Ant** soundness (*of mind*)

**abet** **Syn** INCITE, foment, instigate **Ant** deter (*with a personal subject*)

**abettor** **Syn** CONFEDERATE, accessory, accomplice, conspirator

**abeyant** **Syn** LATENT, dormant, quiescent, potential **Ant** operative; active; revived

**abhor** **Syn** HATE, abominate, loathe, detest **Ant** admire

**abhorrence** ♦ a feeling of extreme disgust or dislike **Syn** detestation, loathing, abomination, hatred, hate **Ant** admiration; enjoyment

**abhorrent** 1 **Syn** HATEFUL, abominable, detestable, odious **Ant** admirable; enjoyable 2 **Syn** REPUGNANT, repellent, obnoxious, distasteful, invidious **Ant** congenial

**abide** 1 **Syn** STAY, wait, remain, tarry, linger **Ant** depart 2 **Syn** CONTINUE, endure, last, persist **Ant** pass 3 **Syn** BEAR, endure, suffer, tolerate, stand, brook

**ability** ♦ physical, mental, or legal power to perform **Syn** capacity, capability **Ant** inability, incapacity

**abject** **Syn** MEAN, ignoble, sordid **Ant** exalted (*in rank, state, condition, mood, behavior*); imperious (*in manner, speech, attitude*)

**abjure** ♦ to abandon irrevocably and, usu., with solemnity or publicity **Syn** renounce, forswear, recant, retract **Ant** pledge (*allegiance, a vow*); elect (*a way of life, a means to an end, an end*)

**able** ♦ having marked power or fitness for work **Syn** capable, competent, qualified **Ant** inept; unable

**abnegate** **Syn** FORGO, sacrifice, eschew, forbear **Ant** indulge (in)

**abnegation** **Syn** RENUNCIATION, self-abnegation, self-denial **Ant** indulgence, self-indulgence

**abnormal** ♦ deviating markedly from the rule or

standard of its kind **Syn** atypical, aberrant **Ant** normal

**abode** **Syn** HABITATION, dwelling, residence, domicile, home, house

**abolish** ♦ to make nonexistent **Syn** annihilate, extinguish, abate **Ant** establish

**abominable** **Syn** HATEFUL, detestable, odious, abhorrent **Ant** laudable; enjoyable, delightful

**abominate** **Syn** HATE, loathe, detest, abhor **Ant** esteem; enjoy

**abomination** 1 **Syn** ABHORRENCE, detestation, loathing, hatred, hate **Ant** esteem; enjoyment 2 ♦ a person or thing from which one shrinks with intense dislike **Syn** anathema, bugbear, bête noire **Ant** joy

**aboriginal** **Syn** NATIVE, indigenous, autochthonous

**abortive** **Syn** FUTILE, fruitless, vain, bootless **Ant** consummated

**abound** **Syn** TEEM, overflow, swarm **Ant** fail, fall short

**about** ♦ in reference to **Syn** concerning, regarding, respecting

**above** ♦ at a higher level **Syn** over **Ant** below

**aboveboard** **Syn** STRAIGHTFORWARD, forthright **Ant** underhand, underhanded

**abracadabra** **Syn** GIBBERISH, hocus-pocus, mummerly

**abrade** ♦ to affect a surface by rubbing, scraping, or wearing away **Syn** excoriate, chafe, fret, gall

**abridge** **Syn** SHORTEN, curtail, abbreviate, retrench **Ant** expand; extend

**abridgment** ♦ a condensation of a larger work **Syn** abstract, epitome, brief, synopsis, conspectus **Ant** expansion

**abrogate** 1 **Syn** ANNUL, vacate, quash, void **Ant** institute (*by enacting, decreeing*) 2 **Syn** NULLIFY, annul, negate, invalidate **Ant** establish, fix (*a right, a character, a quality, a custom*)

**abrupt** 1 **Syn** STEEP, precipitous, sheer **Ant** sloping 2 **Syn** PRECIPITATE, sudden, headlong, impetuous, hasty **Ant** deliberate, leisurely

**abscess** ♦ a localized swollen area of infection containing pus **Syn** boil, furuncle, carbuncle, pimple, pustule

**abscond** **Syn** ESCAPE, decamp, flee, fly **Ant** give (*oneself*) up

**absence** **Syn** LACK, want, dearth, defect, privation **Ant** presence

**absent** **Syn** ABSTRACTED, preoccupied, absent-minded, distraught **Ant** attentive

**absentminded** **Syn** ABSTRACTED, absent, preoccupied, distraught **Ant** wide-awake

**absolute** 1 **Syn** PURE, simple, sheer **Ant** mixed, qualified 2 ♦ exercising power or authority without external restraint **Syn** autocratic, arbitrary, despotic, tyrannical, tyrannous **Ant** restrained; limited 3 **Syn** ULTIMATE, categorical **Ant** conditioned

**absolution** **Syn** PARDON, amnesty **Ant** condemnation

**absolve** **Syn** EXCULPATE, exonerate, acquit, vindicate **Ant** hold (*to a promise, an obligation*); charge (*with a sin, the blame, the responsibility*)

**absorb** 1 ♦ to take (something) in so as to become imbued with it or to make it a part of one's being **Syn** imbibe, assimilate **Ant** exude, give out 2 **Syn** MONOPOLIZE, engross, consume **Ant** dissipate (*time, attention, energies*)

**absorbed** **Syn** INTENT, engrossed, rapt **Ant** distracted

**absorbing** **Syn** INTERESTING, engrossing, intriguing **Ant** irksome

**abstain** **Syn** REFRAIN, forbear **Ant** indulge

**abstemiousness** **Syn** TEMPERANCE, abstinence, sobriety, continence **Ant** gluttony

**abstinence** **Syn** TEMPERANCE, continence, abstemiousness, sobriety **Ant** self-indulgence

**abstract** *adj* ♦ having conceptual rather than concrete existence **Syn** ideal, transcendent, transcendental **Ant** concrete

**abstract** *n* **Syn** ABRIDGMENT, brief, synopsis, epitome, conspectus **Ant** amplification

**abstract** *vb* **Syn** DETACH, disengage **Ant** insert, introduce

**abstracted** ♦ inattentive to what presently claims or demands consideration **Syn** preoccupied, absent, absentminded, distraught **Ant** alert

**abstruse** **Syn** RECONDITE, occult, esoteric **Ant** obvious, plain

**absurd** **Syn** FOOLISH, silly, preposterous **Ant** rational, sensible

**abundant** **Syn** PLENTIFUL, copious, ample, plentiful **Ant** scarce

**abuse** *vb* ♦ to use or treat a person or thing improperly or wrongfully **Syn** misuse, mistreat, maltreat, ill-treat, outrage **Ant** respect, honor

**abuse** *n* ♦ vehemently expressed condemnation or disapproval **Syn** vituperation, invective, obloquy, scurrility, billingsgate **Ant** adulation

**abusive** ♦ coarse, insulting, and contemptuous in character or utterance **Syn** opprobrious, vituperative, contumelious, scurrilous **Ant** complementary; respectful

**abutment** **Syn** BUTTRESS, pier

**abutting** **Syn** ADJACENT, contiguous, adjoining, tangent, conterminous, juxtaposed

**abysm** **Syn** GULF, chasm, abyss

**abysmal** **Syn** DEEP, profound

**abyss** **Syn** GULF, chasm, abyss

**academic** 1 **Syn** PEDANTIC, scholastic, bookish 2 **Syn** THEORETICAL, speculative

**accede** **Syn** ASSENT, acquiesce, consent, agree, subscribe **Ant** demur

**accelerate** **Syn** SPEED, quicken, hurry, hasten, precipitate **Ant** decelerate; retard

**accent** 1 **Syn** EMPHASIS, stress, accentuation 2 **Syn** INFLECTION, intonation

**accentuation** **Syn** EMPHASIS, accent, stress **Ant** inaccentuation

**accept** **Syn** RECEIVE, admit, take **Ant** reject

**acceptance** ♦ the act or fact of accepting or the state of being accepted **Syn** acceptance

**acceptation** 1 **Syn** MEANING, sense, signification, significance, import 2 **Syn** ACCEPTANCE

**access** 1 **Syn** ENTRANCE, ingress, entrée, entry **Ant** outlet 2 **Syn** FIT, accession, attack, paroxysm, spasm, convulsion

**accession** 1 **Syn** ADDITION, accretion, increment **Ant** discard 2 **Syn** FIT, access, attack, paroxysm, spasm, convulsion

**accessory** *n* 1 **Syn** APPENDAGE, appurtenance, adjunct 2 **Syn** CONFEDERATE, accomplice, abettor, conspirator **Ant** principal

**accessory** *adj* **Syn** AUXILIARY, contributory, subsidiary, adjuvant, ancillary, subservient **Ant** constituent, integral; principal (*in law*)

**accident** 1 **Syn** QUALITY, character, attribute, property **Ant** substance (*in philosophy*) 2 **Syn** CHANCE, hazard, luck, fortune, hap **Ant** design, intent 3 ♦ chance or a chance event bringing injury or loss **Syn** casualty, mishap

**accidental** ♦ not amenable to planning or prediction **Syn** casual, fortuitous, contingent, incidental **Ant** planned; essential

**acclaim** *vb* **Syn** PRAISE, extol, laud, eulogize **Ant** vituperate

**acclaim** *n* **Syn** APPLAUSE, acclamation, plaudits **Ant** vituperation

**acclamation** **Syn** APPLAUSE, acclaim, plaudits

**acclimate** **Syn** HARDEN, acclimatize, season

**acclimatize** **Syn** HARDEN, acclimate, season

**accommodate** 1 **Syn** ADAPT, adjust, conform, reconcile **Ant** constrain 2 **Syn** OBLIGE, favor **Ant** incommode 3 **Syn** CONTAIN, hold

**accompaniment** ♦ something attendant upon or

found in association with another thing. **Syn** concomitant

**accompany** ♦ to go or be together with **Syn** attend, conduct, escort, convoy, chaperone

**accomplice** **Syn** CONFEDERATE, accessory, abettor, conspirator

**accomplish** **Syn** PERFORM, achieve, effect, fulfill, discharge, execute **Ant** undo

**accomplished** **Syn** CONSUMMATE, finished

**accomplishment** **Syn** ACQUIREMENT, attainment, acquisition

**accord** *vb* 1 **Syn** AGREE, harmonize, correspond, tally, conform, square, jibe **Ant** conflict 2 **Syn** GRANT, vouchsafe, concede, award **Ant** withhold

**accord** *n* 1 **Syn** HARMONY, concord, consonance **Ant** dissension, strife; antagonism 2 **Syn** AGREEMENT, understanding

**accordingly** **Syn** THEREFORE, so, consequently, hence, then

**accost** **Syn** ADDRESS, greet, hail, salute

**account** *n* 1 **Syn** USE, service, advantage, profit, avail 2 ♦ a statement of actual events or conditions or of purported occurrences or conditions **Syn** report, chronicle, version, story

**account** *vb* 1 **Syn** CONSIDER, deem, regard, reckon 2 **Syn** EXPLAIN, justify, rationalize

**accountable** **Syn** RESPONSIBLE, answerable, amenable, liable

**accouter** **Syn** FURNISH, equip, arm, outfit, appoint

**accredit** 1 **Syn** APPROVE, certify, endorse, sanction 2 **Syn** AUTHORIZE, commission, license 3 **Syn** ASCRIBE, credit, charge, assign, attribute, impute

**accretion** **Syn** ADDITION, increment, accession

**accumulate** ♦ to bring together so as to make a store or great quantity **Syn** amass, hoard **Ant** dissipate

**accumulative** **Syn** CUMULATIVE, summative, additive

**accurate** **Syn** CORRECT, exact, precise, nice, right **Ant** inaccurate

**accursed** **Syn** EXECRABLE, damnable, cursed **Ant** blessed

**accuse** ♦ to declare a person guilty of a fault or offense **Syn** charge, incriminate, indict, impeach, arraign **Ant** exculpate

**accustom** **Syn** HABITUATE, addict, inure **Ant** disaccustom

**accustomed** **Syn** USUAL, wonted, customary, habitual **Ant** unaccustomed

**acerbity** **Syn** ACRIMONY, asperity **Ant** mellowness

**ache** **Syn** PAIN, pang, throe, twinge, effect

**achieve** 1 **Syn** PERFORM, accomplish, effect, fulfill, execute, discharge **Ant** fail 2 **Syn** REACH, attain, gain, compass **Ant** miss (*getting or attaining*)

**achievement** **Syn** FEAT, exploit **Ant** failure

**achromatic** **Syn** COLORLESS, uncolored **Ant** chromatic

**acid** **Syn** SOUR, acidulous, tart, dry **Ant** bland; sweet; alkaline

**acidulous** **Syn** SOUR, acid, tart, dry **Ant** saccharine

**acknowledge** 1 ♦ to disclose something against one's will or inclination **Syn** admit, own, avow, confess **Ant** deny 2 ♦ to take cognizance of in some way, usually in a way dictated by custom or convention and implying acceptance or assent **Syn** recognize **Ant** ignore

**acme** **Syn** SUMMIT, apex, zenith, culmination, climax, peak, apogee, pinnacle, meridian

**acoustic, acoustical** **Syn** AUDITORY

**acquaint** **Syn** INFORM, apprise, advise, notify

**acquaintance** **Syn** FRIEND, intimate, confidant

**acquiesce** **Syn** ASSENT, consent, agree, accede, subscribe **Ant** object

**acquiescence** **Syn** compliance, resignation **Ant** rebelliousness, rebellion

**acquiescent** **Syn** COMPLIANT, resigned **Ant** rebellious

**acquire** **Syn** GET, obtain, gain, win, secure, procure **Ant** forfeit

**acquirement** ♦ a power or skill that is the fruit of exertion or effort **Syn** acquisition, attainment, accomplishment

**acquisition** **Syn** ACQUIREMENT, attainment, accomplishment

**acquisitive** **Syn** COVETOUS, grasping, avaricious, greedy **Ant** sacrificing, abnegating

**acquit** 1 **Syn** EXCULPATE, absolve, exonerate, vindicate **Ant** convict 2 **Syn** BEHAVE, quit, conduct, demean, deport, comport

**acid** 1 **Syn** BITTER **Ant** SAVORY 2 **Syn** CAUSTIC, mordant, scathing **Ant** benign, kindly

**acrimonious** **Syn** ANGRY, irate, indignant, wrathful, wroth, mad **Ant** irenic, peaceable

**acrimony** ♦ temper or language marked by irritation or some degree of anger or resentment **Syn** acerbity, asperity **Ant** suavety

**across** ♦ so as to intersect the length of something **Syn** crosswise, crossways, athwart

**act** *n* **Syn** ACTION, deed

**act** *vb* 1 ♦ to perform esp. in an indicated way **Syn** behave, work, operate, function, react 2 ♦ to assume the appearance or role of another person or character **Syn** play, impersonate

**acting** **Syn** TEMPORARY, ad interim, provisional

**action** 1 ♦ something done or effected **Syn** act, deed 2 **Syn** SUIT, cause, case, lawsuit 3 **Syn** BATTLE, engagement

**activate** **Syn** VITALIZE, energize **Ant** arrest

**active** ♦ at work or in effective action **Syn** operative, dynamic, live **Ant** inactive

**actor** ♦ one who, for the entertainment or edification of an audience, takes part in an exhibition simulating happenings in real life **Syn** player, performer, mummer, mime, mimic, thespian, impersonator, trouper

**actual** **Syn** REAL, true **Ant** ideal; imaginary

**actuality** **Syn** EXISTENCE, being **Ant** potentiality, possibility

**actualize** **Syn** REALIZE, embody, incarnate, externalize, objectify, materialize, hypostatize, reify

**actuate** 1 **Syn** MOVE, drive, impel 2 **Syn** ACTIVATE, motivate **Ant** deter

**acumen** **Syn** DISCERNMENT, penetration, insight, perception, discrimination **Ant** obtuseness

**acute** 1 **Syn** SHARP, keen **Ant** obtuse 2 ♦ of uncertain outcome **Syn** critical, crucial

**adage** **Syn** SAYING, saw, proverb, maxim, motto, epigram, aphorism, apothegm

**adamant, adamantine** **Syn** INFLEXIBLE, obdurate, inexorable **Ant** yielding

**adapt** 1 ♦ to bring into correspondence **Syn** adjust, accommodate, conform, reconcile **Ant** unfit 2 **Syn** EDIT, rewrite, revise, redact, compile

**adaptable** **Syn** PLASTIC, pliant, ductile, pliable, malleable **Ant** inadaptable, unadaptable

**add** 1 ♦ to find or represent the amount reached by putting together arithmetically a series of numbers of quantities **Syn** sum, total, tot, cast, figure, foot 2 ♦ to bring in or join on something more so as to form a larger or more inclusive whole **Syn** append, annex, subjoin, superadd **Ant** subtract, deduct

**addendum** **Syn** APPENDIX, supplement

**addict** *vb* **Syn** HABITUATE, accustom, inure **Ant** wean

**addict** *n* ♦ a person who by habit and strong inclination indulges in something or the pursuit of something **Syn** votary, devotee, habitué

**addition** ♦ a thing that serves to increase another in size, amount, or content **Syn** accretion, increment, accession

**additive** **Syn** CUMULATIVE, summative, accumulative

**addle** **Syn** CONFUSE, muddle, fuddle, befuddle **Ant** refresh (*mentally*)

**address** *vb* 1 **Syn** DIRECT, devote, apply 2 ♦ to speak to or, less often, to write or make a sign to a person in recognition or in order to obtain recognition **Syn** accost, greet, salute, hail

**address** *n* 1 **Syn** TACT, savoir faire, poise **Ant** maladroitness, gaucherie 2 **Syn** SPEECH, oration, harangue, lecture, talk, sermon, homily

**adduce** ♦ to bring forward by way of explanation, proof, illustration, or demonstration **Syn** advance, allege, cite

**adept** *n* **Syn** EXPERT, wizard, artiste, artist, virtuoso **Ant** bungler

**adept** *adj* **Syn** PROFICIENT, skilled, skillful, expert, masterly **Ant** inept, inept; bungling

**adequate** **Syn** SUFFICIENT, enough, competent

**adhere** **Syn** STICK, cohere, cling, cleave

**adherence** ♦ a physical adhering **Syn** adhesion **Ant** inadherence, nonadherence

**adherent** **Syn** FOLLOWER, disciple, partisan, satellite, henchman, sectary **Ant** renegade

**adhesion** **Syn** ADHERENCE **Ant** nonadhesion, inadhesion

**ad interim** **Syn** TEMPORARY, provisional, acting **Ant** permanent

**adjacent** ♦ in close proximity **Syn** adjoining, contiguous, abutting, tangent, conterminous, juxtaposed **Ant** nonadjacent

**adjoining** **Syn** ADJACENT, contiguous, abutting, tangent, conterminous, juxtaposed **Ant** detached, disjointed

**adjudge** **Syn** JUDGE, adjudicate, arbitrate

**adjudicate** **Syn** JUDGE, adjudge, arbitrate

**adjunct** **Syn** APPENDAGE, appurtenance, accessory

**adjure** **Syn** BEG, entreat, beseech, implore, importune, supplicate

**adjust** 1 ♦ to set right or to rights **Syn** regulate, fix **Ant** derange 2 **Syn** ADAPT, accommodate, conform, reconcile

**adjuvant** **Syn** AUXILIARY, contributory, ancillary, accessory, subsidiary, subservient **Ant** counteractive

**administer** ♦ to act on the behalf of another in or as if in the capacity of a steward **Syn** dispense

**admiration** 1 **Syn** WONDER, wonderment, amazement 2 **Syn** REGARD, esteem, respect **Ant** abhorrence

**admire** **Syn** REGARD, esteem, respect **Ant** abhor

**admission** **Syn** ADMITTANCE

**admit** 1 **Syn** RECEIVE, accept, take **Ant** eject, expel 2 **Syn** ACKNOWLEDGE, own, confess, avow **Ant** gainsay; disdain 3 **Syn** ENTER, introduce **Ant** exclude

**admittance** ♦ permitted entrance **Syn** admission

**admixture** 1 **Syn** MIXTURE, composite, blend, compound, amalgam 2 ♦ an added ingredient that destroys the purity or genuineness of a substance **Syn** alloy, adulterant

**admonish** **Syn** REPROVE, chide, reproach, rebuke, reprimand **Ant** commend

**ado** **Syn** STIR, fuss, pother, flurry, bustle

**adolescence** **Syn** YOUTH, puberty, pubescence **Ant** senescence

**adopt** ♦ to make one's own what in some fashion one owes to another **Syn** embrace, espouse **Ant** repudiate; discard

**adoration** **Syn** REVERENCE, worship, veneration **Ant** blasphemy

**adore** 1 **Syn** REVERE, worship, venerate, reverence **Ant** blaspheme 2 ♦ to love or admire excessively **Syn** worship, idolize **Ant** detest

**adorn** ♦ to add something unessential in order to enhance the appearance **Syn** decorate, ornament, embellish, beautify, deck, bedeck, garnish **Ant** disfigure

**adroit** 1 **Syn** DEXTEROUS, deft, handy **Ant** maladroit 2 **Syn** CLEVER, cunning, ingenious **Ant** stolid

**adulation** **Syn** COMPLIMENT, flattery **Ant** abuse

**adult** **Syn** MATURE, grown-up, matured, ripe, mellow **Ant** juvenile; puerile

**adulterant** **Syn** ADMIXTURE, alloy

**adulterate** ♦ to alter fraudulently esp. for profit **Syn** sophisticate, load, weight, doctor **Ant** refine

**adumbrate** **Syn** SUGGEST, shadow

**adumbration** **Syn** SHADE, shadow, umbra, penumbra, umbrage **Ant** revelation

**advance** *vb* 1 ♦ to move or put ahead **Syn** promote, forward, further **Ant** retard; check 2 ♦ to move forward in space, in time, or in approach to a material or ideal objective **Syn** progress **Ant** recede 3 **Syn** ADDUCE, allege, cite

**advance** *n* 1 ♦ movement forward in space, in time, or in approach to a material or ideal objec-

tive **Syn** progress **Ant** recession, retrogression 2  
**Syn** OVERTURE, approach, tender, bid  
**advanced 1 Syn** PREMATURE, forward, precocious,  
 untimely **Ant** backward 2 **Syn** LIBERAL, radical,  
 progressive **Ant** conservative  
**advancement** ♦ the act of raising a person in  
 grade, rank, or dignity, or the honor that comes  
 to one who is so raised **Syn** preferment, promo-  
 tion, elevation **Ant** degradation; reduction (*in*  
*rank or status*)  
**advantage 1** ♦ a factor or set of factors in a com-  
 petition or rivalry giving one person or side a  
 position of superiority over the other **Syn** handi-  
 cap, allowance, odds, edge **Ant** disadvantage;  
 handicap 2 **Syn** USE, service, account, profit,  
 avail **Ant** detriment  
**advantageous Syn** BENEFICIAL, profitable **Ant**  
 disadvantageous  
**advent Syn** ARRIVAL **Ant** leaving, passing  
**adventure** ♦ an undertaking, an exploit, or an ex-  
 perience involving hazards and requiring bold-  
 ness **Syn** enterprise, quest  
**adventurous** ♦ courting danger or exposing one-  
 self to danger in a greater degree than is required  
 for courage **Syn** venturesome, daring, daredevil,  
 rash, reckless, foolhardy **Ant** unadventurous;  
 cautious  
**adversary Syn** OPPONENT, antagonist **Ant** ally  
**adverse** ♦ so opposed as to cause interference,  
 often harmful or fatal interference **Syn** antago-  
 nistic, counter, counteractive **Ant** propitious  
**adversity Syn** MISFORTUNE, mischance, mishap  
**Ant** prosperity  
**advert Syn** REFER, allude  
**advertise Syn** DECLARE, publish, announce, pro-  
 claim, broadcast, promulgate  
**advertisement Syn** DECLARATION, publication, an-  
 nouncement, broadcasting, proclamation, prom-  
 ulgation  
**advice 1** ♦ a recommendation as to a decision or  
 a course of conduct **Syn** counsel 2 **Syn** NEWS, in-  
 telligence, tidings  
**advisable Syn** EXPEDIENT, politic **Ant** inadvisable  
**advise 1** ♦ to make a recommendation as to a de-  
 cision or a course of conduct **Syn** counsel 2 **Syn**  
 CONFER, consult, commune, parley, treat, negoti-  
 ate 3 **Syn** INFORM, notify, apprise, acquaint  
**advised Syn** DELIBERATE, considered, premed-  
 itated, designed, studied  
**advocate n Syn** LAWYER, counselor, barrister,  
 counsel, attorney, solicitor  
**advocate vb Syn** SUPPORT, uphold, champion,  
 back **Ant** impugn  
**aeon Syn** PERIOD, age, era, epoch  
**aerial Syn** AIRY, ethereal  
**aesthete** ♦ a person conspicuous for his enjoy-  
 ment and appreciation of the beautiful, the ex-  
 quisite, or the choice **Syn** dilettante, connoisseur  
**affable Syn** GRACIOUS, cordial, genial, sociable  
**Ant** reserved  
**affair 1** ♦ something done or dealt with **Syn** busi-  
 ness, concern, matter, thing 2 **Syn** AMOUR, in-  
 trigue, liaison  
**affect Syn** ASSUME, simulate, pretend, feign,  
 counterfeit, sham  
**affect** ♦ to produce or to have an effect upon a  
 person or upon a thing capable of a reaction **Syn**  
 influence, touch, impress, strike, sway  
**affectionation Syn** POSE, air, mannerism **Ant** artless-  
 ness  
**affecting Syn** MOVING, touching, pathetic, poignant,  
 impressive  
**affection 1 Syn** FEELING, emotion, passion, senti-  
 ment **Ant** antipathy 2 **Syn** ATTACHMENT, love **Ant**  
 coldness 3 **Syn** DISEASE, disorder, condition, ail-  
 ment, malady, complaint, distemper, syndrome  
**affectionate Syn** LOVING, devoted, fond, doting  
**Ant** cold; undemonstrative  
**affiliated Syn** RELATED, allied, kindred, cognate  
**Ant** unaffiliated  
**affinity 1 Syn** ATTRACTION, sympathy 2 **Syn** LIKE-  
 NESS, resemblance, similarity, similitude, analogy

**affirm Syn** ASSERT, profess, aver, avow, protest,  
 vouch, declare, warrant, predicate **Ant** deny  
**affix Syn** FASTEN, attach, fix **Ant** detach  
**afflatus Syn** INSPIRATION, fury, frenzy  
**afflict** ♦ to inflict upon a person something which  
 he finds hard to endure **Syn** try, torment, torture,  
 rack **Ant** comfort  
**affliction Syn** TRIAL, visitation, tribulation, cross  
**Ant** solace, consolation  
**affluent Syn** RICH, wealthy, opulent **Ant** impecu-  
 nious; straitened  
**afford Syn** GIVE, confer, bestow, present, donate  
**Ant** deny (*something one wants*)  
**affray n Syn** CONTEST, fray, fight, combat, conflict  
**affray vb Syn** FRIGHTEN, fright, affright, scare,  
 alarm, terrify, terrorize, startle  
**affright Syn** FRIGHTEN, fright, affray, scare, alarm,  
 terrify, terrorize, startle **Ant** nerve, embolden  
**affront vb Syn** OFFEND, outrage, insult **Ant** gratify  
*(by an attention)*  
**affront n** ♦ a speech or an action having for its in-  
 tention or effect the dishonoring of something or  
 someone **Syn** insult, indignity **Ant** gratification  
**afraid Syn** FEARFUL, apprehensive **Ant** unafraid;  
 sanguine  
**aft Syn** ABAFT, astern **Ant** fore  
**after prep, adj, adv** ♦ following upon, esp. in  
 place or in time **Syn** behind **Ant** before  
**after adj Syn** POSTERIOR, hinder, hind, rear, back  
**aftereffect, aftermath Syn** EFFECT, result, conse-  
 quence, upshot, sequel, issue, outcome, event  
**age n 1** ♦ the period in one's life when one is old  
 in years and declining in body or mind or both  
**Syn** senility, senescence, dotage **Ant** youth 2  
**Syn** PERIOD, era, epoch, aeon  
**age vb Syn** MATURE, ripen, develop  
**aged** ♦ far advanced in years **Syn** old, elderly, su-  
 perannuated **Ant** youthful  
**agency Syn** MEAN, agent, instrumentality, instru-  
 ment, medium, vehicle, channel, organ  
**agenda Syn** PROGRAM, schedule, timetable  
**agent 1 Syn** MEAN, instrument, agency, instru-  
 mentality, medium, vehicle, organ, channel **Ant**  
 patient 2 ♦ one who performs the duties of or  
 transacts business for another **Syn** factor, attor-  
 ney, deputy, proxy **Ant** principal  
**agglomerate, agglomeration Syn** AGGREGATE,  
 conglomerate, conglomeration, aggregation  
**aggrandize Syn** EXALT, magnify **Ant** belittle  
**aggravate 1 Syn** INTENSIFY, heighten, enhance  
**Ant** alleviate 2 **Syn** IRRITATE, exasperate, pro-  
 voke, rile, peeve, nettle **Ant** appease  
**aggregate 1 Syn** SUM, total, whole, number,  
 amount, quantity **Ant** individual; particular 2 ♦ a  
 mass formed by parts or particles that are not  
 merged into each other **Syn** aggregation, con-  
 glomerate, conglomeration, agglomerate, ag-  
 glomeration **Ant** constituent  
**aggregation Syn** AGGREGATE, conglomerate, con-  
 glomeration, agglomerate, agglomeration  
**aggression Syn** ATTACK, offense, offensive **Ant**  
 resistance  
**aggressive 1 Syn** attacking, offensive **Ant** resist-  
 ing; repelling 2 ♦ conspicuously or obtrusively  
 active or energetic **Syn** militant, assertive, self-  
 assertive, pushing, pushy  
**aggrieve Syn** WRONG, oppress, persecute **Ant** re-  
 joice  
**agile** ♦ acting or moving with quickness and  
 alacrity **Syn** nimble, brisk, spry **Ant** torpid  
**agitate 1 Syn** SHAKE, rock, convulse **Ant** quiet,  
 lull, still 2 **Syn** DISCOMPOSE, perturb, upset, flus-  
 ter, flurry, disturb, disquiet **Ant** calm, tranquilize  
**3 Syn** DISCUSS, argue, dispute, debate  
**agitation Syn** COMMOTION, tumult, turmoil, turbu-  
 lence, confusion, convulsion, upheaval **Ant** tran-  
 quillity  
**agnostic Syn** ATHEIST, deist, freethinker, unbe-  
 liever, infidel  
**agog Syn** EAGER, keen, anxious, avid, athirst **Ant**  
 aloof  
**agonize Syn** WRITHE, squirm

**agonizing Syn** EXCRUCIATING, racking  
**agony Syn** DISTRESS, suffering, passion, misery,  
 dolor  
**agrarian Syn** agricultural  
**agree 1 Syn** ASSENT, accede, consent, acquiesce,  
 subscribe **Ant** protest (*against*); differ (*with*) 2 ♦  
 to come into or to be in harmony regarding a  
 matter of opinion or a policy **Syn** concur, coin-  
 cide **Ant** differ; disagree 3 ♦ to exist or go to-  
 gether without conflict or incongruity **Syn**  
 square, conform, accord, harmonize, corre-  
 spond, tally, jibe **Ant** differ (*from*)  
**agreeable Syn** PLEASANT, grateful, pleasing, grat-  
 ifying, welcome **Ant** disagreeable  
**agreement** ♦ a reconciliation of differences as to  
 what should be done or not done **Syn** accord,  
 understanding  
**agriculture** ♦ the science or the business of rais-  
 ing useful plants and animals **Syn** farming, hus-  
 bandry  
**ahead Syn** BEFORE, forward **Ant** behind  
**aid vb Syn** HELP, assist **Ant** injure  
**aid n 1 Syn** help, assistance **Ant** impediment 2  
**Syn** ASSISTANT, helper, coadjutor, aide, aide-de-  
 camp  
**aide Syn** ASSISTANT, aide-de-camp, coadjutor,  
 helper, aid  
**aide-de-camp Syn** ASSISTANT, aide, aid  
**ail Syn** TROUBLE, distress  
**ailment Syn** DISEASE, disorder, condition, affec-  
 tion, malady, complaint, distemper, syndrome  
**aim vb 1 Syn** DIRECT, point, level, train, lay 2 ♦ to  
 have as a controlling desire something beyond  
 one's present power of attainment **Syn** aspire,  
 pant  
**aim n Syn** INTENTION, end, goal, objective, pur-  
 pose, object, intent, design  
**air n 1 Syn** POSE, affectation, mannerism 2 **Syn**  
 MELODY, air, tune  
**air vb Syn** EXPRESS, ventilate, vent, utter, voice,  
 broach  
**airport** ♦ a place where airplanes take off and  
 land **Syn** airdrome, airfield, airstrip, landing  
 strip, flying field, landing field  
**airy** ♦ as light and insubstantial as air **Syn** aerial,  
 ethereal **Ant** substantial  
**aisle Syn** PASSAGE, passageway, ambulatory, cor-  
 ridor, gallery, hall, hallway, cloister, arcade  
**akin Syn** LIKE, alike, similar, analogous, compa-  
 rable, parallel, uniform, identical **Ant** alien  
**alacrity Syn** CELERITY, legerity **Ant** languor  
**alarm n 1** ♦ a signal that serves as a call to action  
 or to be on guard esp. in a time of imminent dan-  
 ger **Syn** tocsin, alert 2 **Syn** FEAR, fright, panic,  
 terror, horror, dismay, dread, consternation,  
 trepidation **Ant** assurance; composure  
**alarm vb Syn** FRIGHTEN, fright, scare, startle, ter-  
 rify, affright, terrorize, affray **Ant** assure; relieve  
**albeit Syn** THOUGH, although  
**alchemy Syn** MAGIC, thaumaturgy, wizardry, sor-  
 cery, witchery, witchcraft  
**alcoholic Syn** DRUNKARD, inebriate, dipsomaniac,  
 sot, soak, toper, tosspot, tippler  
**alert adj 1 Syn** WATCHFUL, wide-awake, vigilant 2  
**Syn** INTELLIGENT, clever, smart, bright, quick-  
 witted, brilliant, knowing  
**alert n Syn** ALARM, TOCSIN  
**alias Syn** PSEUDONYM, nom de guerre, incognito,  
 nom de plume, pen name  
**alibi Syn** APOLOGY, excuse, pretext, plea, apologia  
**alien adj Syn** EXTRINSIC, foreign, extraneous **Ant**  
 akin; assimilable  
**alien n Syn** STRANGER, foreigner, outlander, out-  
 sider, immigrant, émigré **Ant** citizen  
**alienate 1 Syn** TRANSFER, convey, deed 2 **Syn** ES-  
 TRANGE, disaffect, wean **Ant** unite; reunite  
**alienation 1 Syn** ABERRATION, derangement 2 **Syn**  
 SOLITUDE, isolation, seclusion  
**alight 1 Syn** DESCEND, dismount 2 ♦ to come to  
 rest after or as if after a flight, a descent, or a fall  
**Syn** light, land, perch, roost  
**align Syn** LINE, line up, range, array