

Howard's Dictionary of New Words

<i>a posteriori</i>	Reasoning from facts or causes to general principles
<i>a priori</i>	Deductive reasoning from the general to the specific. In accordance with previous knowledge.
<i>a fortiori</i>	With stronger or more certain reason
abreaction	Free expression - release of pent-up emotion
abrogate	To repeal, annul, officially
abjure	Formally reject, recant formerly held beliefs
accouchement	Child birth Lying-in
acculturation	Process or result of adopting other civilisations' customs or beliefs
acedia	Sloth, laziness, indifference to religious matters
adamantine	Unbreakable
adduce	Put forward as evidence in an argument
<i>ad hominem</i>	Attacking character rather than answering question
adiaphoram	Matters not essential to faith
adumbrate	To outline, hint at, foreshadow
adze	A steel tool for dressing stone (shaped like a mnattock)
aedicule	A small building, shrine
aetiology	Study of causes
Agape	Christian love, Love beyond liking
agglutination	Combining of simple words to form new without change of meaning
agnosia	Partial inability to recognise objects through the senses
agrarian	Pertaining to farming and agriculture
agrestic	Relating to the country, rural or rustic
ailanthus	A tall broad-leaved tree of Asia and Australia
alacrity	Eager readiness
albescent	White or growing / passing into white
aleatory	Dependant on chance - especially musical (extemporisation)
algolagnia	Deriving sexual pleasure from pain - sadism / masochism
alienum	A foreign body
allopathic	Opposite of homeopathy - Treating diseases by chemical medicines
ambry	Used for the holding of sacrament or holy oils
ambulatory	Walk behind the altar in a cathedral or abbey
ambuscade	Ambush to ambush
amerce	To punish with non-fixed fine or arbitrary penalty
amice	Rectangular vestment worn around the shoulders
amortize	To deaden, to alienate, to cancel a debt
amphora	Greek/Roma two handled narrow necked jar for oil
anagogical	Scriptural interpretation by literal statements
ancess	A female recluse
andirons	Log irons, to support burning logs in a fireplace
androgynous	Having male & female characteristics
anfrectuosity	
aniconic	Not employing or allowing images; idols
animism	Belief that all objects have souls Soul is the principle of life and health
Annabaptists	Protestants who do not believe in infant baptism
anodyne	Relief or pain or distress
anomie (y)	Lack of usual social or ethical standards
anserine	Resembling a goose

antebellum	Before the war
antimony	Contradiction between two beliefs - a paradox
antipodes	Places on opposite sides of the globe
anthropic	Pertaining to man or human
aphorism	A saying embodying an absolute truth
apocalypse	Destruction on a massive scale. The final destruction of the world
apodictic	Of clear demonstration, incontrovertible
apologue	Allegory Moral fable
apophatic	Refusing to deny what is meant or advised
apophthegm	A short remark containing a general truth, maxim
apophthegm	A terse saying or maxim
aporia	Doubt, perplexity
apostate	A person who renounces a former belief
apostrophise	To omit one or more letters of a word
apotheosis	Model of excellence or perfection
appanage	A benefit or right belonging to someone
apparatchik	Member of above
apperception	Conscious perception
appetency	Craving or desire
apprise	To make aware, to teach, to inform
approbation	Approval
approbrious	Worthy of approval (HB ?)
appuertenance	Pertaining, possession
apside	Extreme opposites of a planetary orbit (s. apsis)
apterous	Wingless
Arcadian	Ideally rustic
arcane	Esoteric, requiring secret
areology	The study of the geology of Mars
armigerous	Bearing or entitled to a coat of arms
arraign	Indict before a court - find fault - call into question
arrogate	To presume or claim something to which not rightfully just
arrondissement	A large division of a French department (containing several cantons)
artifice	Clever or cunning device Trick
arval	
ashlar	Large square-cut stone
askasis	Severe self-discipline, usually spiritual, religious or meditative
assarts	(n or v) Grubbing up trees to clear land for cultivation
assonant	Correspondence of vowel sounds
asperity	Harshness or sharpness of temper or tone
asseverate	Affirm solemnly, assert emphatically, avow
ataraxic	Soothing, tranquilising
Atheneum	A institution for the promotion of literary and scientific learning
atheous	Atheistic, not dealing with existence of God
athwart	From side-to-side crosswise
aubrey	Small recess in wall of a church
au fond	Basically, fundamentally, essentially
augur	Soothsayer prophet
augury	Practice, rite, ceremony of an augur. Omen, token
<i>auto-da-fe</i>	Sentence passed by Spanish Inquisition
avatar	Descent of a deity to earth incarnation

avuncular	Friendly, like an uncle
bagnio	Bathhouse, brothel, prison for slaves
baldacchino	Permanent or temporary canopy over a throne or altar
balladeer	One who sings ballads
barbican	A walled fortification of any sort attached to a castle abbey etc. etc.
bassinet	Wickerwork baby's pram
bathetic	Producing an unintentional affect, an anticlimax
bathos	Fall from fame, a come-down (bathetically)
Bayle	Pierre - French philosopher
bedint	Tasteless - vulgar bourgeois aspirations
behemoth	Large Biblical beast
<i>bel canto</i>	Beautiful singing rather than powerful
beldame	An ugly old woman, a hag
bellicose	Aggressive, belligerent, pugnacious
benison	A blessing
berm	A narrow edge or ledge (side of road or slope)
besom	A broom
bêtise	Stupidity, a foolish act or remark
bibelot	A bauble, a curiosity, a rarity
Bilphism	
bilk	Obtain or withhold money by deceit, cheat, defraud
biotic	Relating to living organisms
blemya	
bocal	Glass vessel with wide neck for cooling liquids
bosky	Covered in bushes
bombazine	Silk / rayon weave, often black and used for mourning
boondocks	Backwoods, uninhabited wild vegetated area
bot	Scrounger cadger
bothy	Small Scottish communal cottage for labourers etc.
bourn	Boundary, limit, domain, goal, realm limit
brattishing	Decorative work along coping or cornice
brecciated	Decorated with pieces of broken rock
bricolage	Anything created out of bits and pieces of what's available
brio	Liveliness, vigour, spirit
brumal	Relating to winter
bucolic	Relating to the pleasant aspects of country (side & life)
bumbarrel	An English long-tailed tit
burnoose	Arab hooded cloak
buskined	Referring to tragic drama
calamite	An extinct tree-like plant cf horsetails
calefactory	A heated parlour in a monastery
callisthenics	Light exercise to promote fitness
callosity	A callus, thickening of the skin
calumniate	To make false and malicious statements about
canard	A false, derogatory story, or rumour, a lie
caparison	Rich decorative covering for a horse
capricious	Liable to sudden changes of mood or attitude
carapace	Upper body shell of a tortoise

caple (capel)	A composite stone (may contain tin and/or copper)
caplin	Small arctic fish
capricious	Acting on a whim, chance or impulse, rather than reason or necessity
captious	Carping, nit-picking, fault finding
carapace	Hard outer shell of some creatures
carucate	Old land measure (60-160 acres)
cartulary	(<i>see chartulary</i>)
caryatid	Female figure used as a column in architecture
casern	Military French garrison
casuist	Theologian who attempts to solve moral dilemmas with general rules
casuistry	(Using the above)
catabaptist	Person opposed to baptism
cates	A choice food, a tit-bit, a dainty
cavil	To raise irritation or trivial objections
cenacle	An upper room (Oscar Wilde's Group)
cerberus	A monstrous watch-dog at Hades with three or more heads
cess	Tax or levy
chalcedony	Type of quartz - onyx, agate, tiger's eye
chalybeate	adj. Tasting of iron n. 16 th -19 th C Voguish drink to cure all things
chamois	A Eurasian antelope
champain	probably Champagne
chartulary	(cartulary) A collection of charters, title deeds etc: a muniment
chatelaine	Mistress of a castle or large household
chevalure	Pertaining to horses? Or Hair?
chevet	Apse, vaulted semicircular or octagonal east end of a Gothic cathedral
chervils	Herb of the parsley family
chiaroscuro	The distribution of light and shade in a painting
chibols	Spring onion
chiliasm	Doctrine that Christ will reign bodily for 1000 years
chimera	Fire-breathing monster
chimerical	Fanciful
chthonic	Relating to or inhabiting the underworld
chymic	Archaic word for Chemistry
cicerone	Local tour guide
claque	Group of people hired to applaud
clamant	Insistent, urgent
clerisy	Body of scholars - learned people
clunch	Hardened clay or chalk
Circe	Minor Greek goddess of magic
Cochonnery	Rubbish
cognate	Related by blood, descended from common maternal ancestor
colligation	Link facts together into a general description
collogue	To plot mischief, to conspire, to confer secretly
colonnette	A small or thin column or shaft
colporteur	Traveller & seller of Bibles (books)
combinatorial	Relating to combinations
comminatory	Threatening
commote	Secular piece of land in Medieval Wales
concision	Terseness; using few words to express a great deal
condign	Well deserved, fitting, adequate

confect	To make up or prepare from ingredients (confection)
congenerous	Of the same kind or genus
congerly	Action of publishing books for own interest (HB ?)
conjuraton	The act of calling upon a sacred name; incantation; charm
consanguinity	re. people descended from the same ancestors
consigliere	Criminal adviser
consubstantiation	At mass, body & blood coexist with bread and wine (Luther)
contiguous	In close contact without actually touching
contumacious	Stubbornly perverse - insubordinate - rebellious
contumely	Insolent or insulting language or behaviour
conventicler	Secret or unauthorised meeting for worship
cornelian	Dull red or reddish-white chalcedony (q.v.)
corporeal	Physical as opposed to spiritual
coruscate	To flash or sparkle
craven	An abject coward
crepuscular	Active at twilight or just before dawn
crockenbouche	
crupper	A saddle strap to stop slipping
cumbrous	Unwieldy cumbersome
cuspidor	Spittoon
cutpurse	Pick pocket (cut purse from a belt)
cynosure	Something that attracts by its brilliance
Cyrillic	Relating to alphabet of St. Cyril (Russian and Bulgarian)
deep-six	Throw overboard reject discard
defenestrate	Throw someone out of a window
demotic	Of or for the common people
demulcent	Soothing, allaying irritation
denizen	A plant, animal or person which inhabits a particular region
denouement	Final unravelling of story/plot solution resolution
deoppilate	To free from obstruction
depredation	Despoiling, ravaging,
deracinate	To uproot
dérive	
derogate	To put down
derring-do	Boldness or bold action
diachronic	Study of language <u>over time</u> (c.f. synchronic)
diaconal	Pertaining to position of Deacon
diaconate	Position of Deacon
diaper	Medieval repeated pattern in silk or gold cloth
dimpsy	Twilight
diorama	Mode of viewing a picture (cf camera obscura)
disingenuous	Lacking sincerity, morally fraudulent
disquisition	A long discourse or treatise on a subject
Dissenter	English protestant who dissents from the CoE (sometime also RC)
dissimilitude	Unlikeliness, difference, dissimilarity
distich	A rhyming couplet in verse
dithyramb	An ancient Greek hymn in praise of Dionysus
docent	An academic appointment, professor
docetic	Pertaining to the belief that Christ's body was a phantom

doited	Feeble minded, senile
dolour	Sorrow, grief
Domostroy	
donjon	Inner tower, stronghold of a castle
doughtiness	Valiant, steadfastly courageous and resolute
dotard	One in a state of dotage, silly, weak-minded
dottle	A plug of half smoke tobacco at the bottom of a pipe
dreich	Scottish for dreary
dramaturgy	Craft or technique of dramatic composition
dryad	Deity or nymph of the woods
duenna	A woman chaperone, governess
dystopia (n)	A state where life is deprived and poor, or terrorised
effete	Weak or decadent,
efflorescence	Bursting forth, flowering, powdering
egregious	Outstandingly bad, flagrant
eirenical	Tending towards peace
eisegesis	Read any meaning you like into the text
eldritch	Weird, hideous
elenchus	Refutation of an argument, proving the contrary of its conclusion
eleemosynary	Benevolent, philanthropy, charity, pertaining to alms
elide	Suppress, ignore
eluctible	Capable of escaping through struggle
elute	To wash out. The action of a solvent
emendation	Correction, improvement, by alteration and correction
emic	A contrasting unit of language or behaviour: relevance to culture ("see etic")
emollient	A softening or relaxing
emparked	To enclose, to make a park of
emulous	Desiring to emulate or better
encaustic	Art involving burning on wax or colours
enceinte	An enclosed or fortified space
encomium	Writing or speech of high praise, eulogy
enfilade	Sweeping fire (military) Position of doors in long line, - opposite mirrors to give the impression of a line (architecture)
ensorcell	Bewitch
enumerate	To count
entropic	Deterioration of physical state
eparchy	Greek province or subdivision of same
epiphanic	Moment of sudden revelation
epicene	One who shares the characteristics of both sexes
epicure	One dedicated to fine food or sensual pleasure
epistemic	Of or pertaining to knowledge
epistolary	A novel written as a series of letters
eponym	Person after whom something is named
eponymous	After whom something is named
Erastian	Followers of Erastus (16thC Swiss theologian)
eremite	Hermit or recluse
eremitical	Pertaining to a hermit or recluse
ersatz	Made in imitation - artificial

erstwhile	Formerly, a long time ago
eructation	A belch
eschatology	The science of last four things, death, judgement, heaven, hell
escheat	The reverting of property to the Crown (or) Person responsible in law
escutcheon	A shield. A protective plate to avoid soiling. A plate for a coat of arms
espalier	Lattice for trailing plants
estivate	To press or screw cargo onto a boat
etic	The raw data of language or behaviour: factual truth (see emic)
etiolate	To blanch or make colourless, by excluding light
evanescent	Fading away, vanishing, transitory
eviscerate	To disembowel a person or animal
excoriate	Stripping or rubbing away the skin
execrate (ion)	Hate, abominate
exigence	Urgent need or demand, emergency*
exegeis	Explanation, exposition, interpretation of scripture (c.f. hermeneutics)
exiguous	Extremely scanty, meagre
existential	Pertaining to existence
explicate	To make clear, or explicit, explain
extirpate	To pull up by the roots, to root out, to exterminate
extrados	Curved surface of an arch or vault
fabular	Pertaining to a fable or story
faience	Highly decorative glazed earthenware or pottery
febrile	Feverish
feculent	Filthy or foul - pertaining to waste matter
fellahin	pl. of fellah - Egyptian peasant
fenses	
feoffment	A lord's act of granting fief to his man (tenure of land)
fervid	Ardent, intense, hot, passionate
fetor	Foul personal odour
fey	Interested or believing in the supernatural
fiacre	A small four-wheeled French carriage for hire
fiat	Decree, sanction, order
fictive	Fictitious imaginary
fideism	Doctrine that knowledge depends on faith
fiduciary	A person to whom power or property is entrusted on behalf of another
fief fiefdom	A tenure of land subject to feudal law
fillet	A narrow band or strip of wood or metal - worn around the head
finagle	To get or achieve by craftiness or trickery
finial	Small terminal feature at top of a gable or pinnacle - an ornament at top of a piece of furniture
fissile	Capable of being split
fissiparous	Producing new individuals by fission
flaneur	An idler loungeur
fluctuant	Undulating
foment	To stir up public opinion
fordense	
fredoines	
friable	Capable of being easily crumbled or powdered
frith	(or firth) narrow inlet of sea
frore	Frosty, frozen

fulminate	To issue as a thunderbolt - condemn vehemently
funambulism	Tightrope walking
fustian	Heavy cotton fabric twill
futurity	Pertaining to the future
gallimaufry	Hodgepodge, jumble, confused medley
gamelan	Typical Indonesian musical ensemble
gamin	Neglected boy left to roam the streets
gamine	A homeless girl of the streets. A girl of impish appeal
Ganymede	Beautiful Trojan cup-bearer of Zeus
gerent	A ruler or manager
gerund	A noun formed from a verb e.g.
glossolalia	The gift of speaking "in tongues"
goliard	Wandering scholar/poet
graver	A tool for engraving
gravid	Laden, pregnant, weighed down
grimpen	
grisaille	A work of art in monochromatic shades of grey
gryke	A deep fissure in limestone caused by water
gyre	Whirl, gyrate. Pattern of currents in oceans
gyve	A fetter or shackle
hamoazes	Hooked?
hapax	Thing mentioned only once
harle	Red-breasted fish-eating diving duck
harridan	Haggard, bossy old woman
haruspicate	
hauteur	Proud, haughtiness of manner
hebetude	State of being dull or lethargic
hector	To bully, play the brash bully
hegemony	Leadership (esp. by one state of a confederacy)
heresiarch	Leader of a heresy
heriot	Tribute due to a lord on his death by a tenant
heteronymous	Subject to an external law
hermeneutics	Pertaining to interpretation (c.f. exegesis)
hisperic	
hobble	To tie a horse's legs to prevent straying
holocaust	Case of large-scale destruction
holodomor	
homunculus	A tiny fully formed individual
hortation	Encouraging, inciting, exhorting
houri	Beautiful young woman (Muslim)
howdah	Seat esp. with canopy for riding on a elephant or camel
hubris	Arrogant pride or presumption
hypostasis	Regard or treat as real. To embody or personify
iamb	Short followed by lone metre
ichor	Watery discharge from a wound
ignosticism)	Every theological position assumes too much about God
igtheism)	

illative	Inferring, inference,
illitimation	To cause or make illegitimate
immanent	God actually present or in-dwelling the universe
immolate	Kill or offer as a sacrifice
immortelle	Flowers that keep their colour when dried
immote	
immure	To lock up or confine
immolate	Offer as a sacrifice by killing or destruction
importunate	Troublesome, annoying, persistent
imprecation	Cursing, swearing
implacable	That cannot be appeased - inexorable
immanentism	
inanition	Lassitude, lack of vigour, lethargy
inchoate	In an early stage of development, to cause to begin
indigent	Impoverished
indurate	To make hard, stubborn, inure, accustom
ineffable	Too great to be expressed in words
ineluctable	Inescapable
inenarrable	Incapable of being described
infomercial	TV commercial presented as a short documentary
infrangible	Formal, unbreakable, inviolable
ingénue	An artless young girl
ingenuous	Open, genuine
inhere	To be inseparable part
inhumation	The Ritual placing of a body in a grave, burial, interment
inimical	Hostile harmful
inography	
irascible	Irritable, easily provoked to anger
irrumate	To have oral intercourse
insensate	Lacking sensation, cold, butal
insouciance	Carelessness, indifference, unconcern
instinct -ure	Dipping the wafer in the wine
stantiate	Represent by an instance
intercrual	Between the legs
integument	Covering of anything
interdict	An exclusion, prohibition (R.C. Courts)
inviolable	Cannot be transgressed or dishonoured
irascible	Irritable, hot tempered
irenic	Peaceful or conciliatory
irrefragable	Indisputable, unquestionable, incontrovertible
irrefragible	Must not be broken, inviolable
iterate	Perform or utter repeatedly
jag	A bout of drinking or drugs
jocund	Cheerful, merry, joyful
joshing	Good natured banter, taking the Mickey, teasing
lability	Something under constant change chemistry
lachrymose	Tearful, given to weeping, sad
lacuna	Gap or missing part of MS or series. Air space in cells. Ditch, pit, hole

lam	To beat soundly. To thrash
lambent	Light, bright, graceful
lammister	One who beats, or thrashes - (E. L. Doctorow) ??
lapidary	Dealing in cutting or polishing gemstones
laterite	Oxide weathering of tropical rocks
latten	Brasslike alloy, tin plate, made from thin sheets
legerdemain	Skilful use of hands in conjuring tricks
leman	Sweetheart, lover, mistress;
lenite	(Celtic language) To cause
lethe	River in Hades; drink water and soul forgets their Earthly life
Levant the	Countries of Eastern Mediterranean
lide	Old measure of land
liminal (ity)	The level below which a nerve feels nothing a threshold state transition between the familiar and the unknown.
lineament	Diagram, sketch: minute portion, trace: figure of the body/face
litigious	Debatable, disputable, questionable
loggia	Italianate roofed arcade at front or side of building
louche (ness)	Devious (ness), not straightforward
lucent	Shining, bright : translucent
lucerne	Alfalfa, forage vegetable
lubricity	Smoothness, slipperiness, lewdness, lasciviousness, lustfulness,
ludic	Playful
lugubrious	Dismal, mournful
lycanthropy	Patient believes them self to be a wolf
lyceum	Public hall
Madeleine	Small fancy sponge cake
maenad	A female follower of Dionysus
mainpernor	Surety in law CF bail
mainprise	Release on finding surety or mainpernor
malediction	A magical word or phrase - A curse
Malthusian	Pertaining to Malthus,
mantra	Sacred word or symbol - Hinduism
manumission	Freedom from slavery or bondage Emancipation
margrave	Historical German title
maulgre	To spite
maxixe	A brazilian dance resembling the polka or tango
meet	(...and right, so to do.)
memetic	Perceiving the relevance of events before they happen
mensa	Altar slab or altar stone
mephitic	Noxious stench from atmospheric pollution
metastastise	To spread disease or injury
Metathronos	
metonym	Word used in a transferred sense
mimetic	An aptitude for mimicry
midrash	Ancient commentary on Hebrew scripture
mien	A person's look, bearing or character
nimbus	Halo
minatory	Menacing, threatening
misanthrope	One who dislikes or avoids others

miscegenation	Inbreeding of races of different colour
missiology	Study of antiquities (HB ?)
moil	Work. Move around in confusion
Moloch	Semitic god, parents sacrificed their children
Monody	Poem or ode on tragedy of another
monstrance	Demonstrating proof Receptacle for relics Open vessel for the host
morganatic	A marriage of a person of higher rank to one of lower rank, who should have no claim to any estate
mummery	
mumimia	Substance used in embalming (mummies)
mumpsimus	Sticking to a erroneous notion - "woman's place is in the kitchen"
muniment	Document, title deed, charter
myrmidon	One who executes unscrupulous orders
naiad	Nymph of river or springs
narthex	Rectangular entrance hall in church between porch and nave
Nemesis	Greek goddess of wrath and vengeance
nefarious	Extremely wicked
neum	Black rectangular notation in plainchant
nidification	Nest building time nidificate To build a nest
nimbus	Luminous cloud, halo
nipotus	
nixed	Nothing vetoed
nominalism	Doctrine that universalities and general ideas are just names
nostrum	Quack remedy
noumenal	Purely intellectual intuition, devoid of all phenomenal attributes
novena	RC devotion on nine consecutive days
numinous	presence of divinity, spiritual, awe-inspiring
obfuscation	Confusion, bewilderment
obliquity	Having the nature of being oblique
obloquy	Censure blame discredit disgrace
obsequious	Ingratiating - creeping
odalisque	Female slave or concubine in an Eastern harem
odium	Hatred, repugnance
odometer	American for mileometer
oikumene	Civilised world
oeaginous	Oily
oeuvre	The collected works of an author, painter, composer
ontology	The nature of being
opine	To hold and opinion
opprobrious	(Of language) Abusive, disgraceful, shameful, infamous
opprobrium	Harsh criticism, public disgrace for shameful conduct
oppugn	Call into question, dispute
ordure	Dung, manure, excrement
orion	A great hunter
orison	C12 th word for prayer
orotund	Resonant, booming: bombastic, pompous
orrery	Mechanical model of the Solar System

orthopraxy	Rightness of action, correct practice, practical righteousness
ossuary	Receptacle for the bones of the dead
otiose	At leisure, idle, unemployed,
oubliette	Dungeon whose opening is at the top
ouster	expulsion from office
pabulum	Food for thought
pachyderm	Non-ruminant hoofed mammal e.g. Rhinoceros, elephant
palimpsest	Manuscript with two or more erased texts making room for the best,
paean	A song of praise, joy, triumph
palingenesis	Embryonic development
panegyric	Eulogy, public speech or writing in praise of the famous
pantheism	Being of God includes & penetrates the whole universe
pantheism	Theory that God and the Universe are the same thing
pantocrator	Christ the al-powerful Omnipotent
pariah	Social outcast
paravanimity	Small-mindedness, meanness
paraclete	Holy Spirit as counsellor or advocate
parclose	A screen dividing one portion of a church from another
parlous	Dangerous, difficult, cunning
paraenesis	Exhortation, advice
parousia	Second coming of Christ
paroxysm	Sudden uncontrollable attack
parricide	Killer of parents
Parsee Parsi	Follower of Zoroastrianism (driven out of Persia)
Parsimony	Extreme care of money Stinginess
parterre	Ornamental arrangement of flower beds
Parvenu	Side and rear seats of the main floor of a theatre or concert hall Someone suddenly risen financially without corresponding rise in social standing
Parvise	A court or portico in front of a church
Pash (ed)	Kiss or caressed amorously
pastoralia	Pertaining to pastoral, countryside activities (HB???) (E.L. Doctorow)
pathogen	An agent of disease, bacterium, virus
patristic	Pertaining to the writings of the Fathers of the Early Church
(to) paunch	To remove the internal organs of a ruminant (hare or rabbit)
Paysage	French countryside
Peccant	Sinning, guilty of a moral offence, violation of rule or principle
peculation	Embezzlement, steal or take illegally particularly public funds
pederasty	Homosexual relations between men and boys
pellucid	Clear in light and/or meaning
pendentive	Hanging
penumbra	Half shadow
perfervid	Ardent, passionate
perfidious	Treacherous, deceitful
perfidy	Treachery, deceit
periphrastic	A use of several words rather than direct inflection
perspicacity	Acutely perceptive or discerning
perspicuity	Intelligibility
peristyle	A space or court surrounded by pillars

philippic	A bitter verbal attack or denunciation
phylacterya	Small leather box containing Hebrew verses on vellum
picaresque	Pertaining to rogues and knaves - Spanish
pilaster	Small rectangular column, attached to the face of a wall
pizzle	Penis of a bull used for flogging people
plangent	Loud and mournful
plashy	Marshy, wet, splashy
plosive	Sounding of sounds such as (p) and (b)
poesy	The art of composing Poetry
pogrom	Organised massacre
pol	Politician
polemic	Argument or dispute over doctrine or belief
-polis	Used to form nicknames of cities (e.g. Cottonopolis - Manchester)
polity	Civil government, organised society, a state as a political entity
polyglot	A bi- or multi-lingual speaker
poniard	Small slender dagger
portases	Pertaining to carrying?
pothor	Commotion, bother, debate
porringer	Shallow dish or cup with a handle for soup or porridge
percipient	Person - Able to perceive
praxis	Eastern Orthodox worship
prebend	Stipend given to a canon from cathedral monies
precision	A punctilious adherer to forms and rules esp. religious
preclusive	Introductory
precocity	State of being or tendency to be precocious
predation	Relationship between two animals - one hunts, kills, eats the other
prelapsarian	Innocent and unspoilt before The Fall
presbytery	RC residence of priest. Presbyterian court: the sanctuary, place for priests only
prescient	Foresight or foreknowledge
prescind	To cut off or cut short
pricket	Spike for holding a candle
prie-dieu	A kneeling desk for prayer
primogeniture	Ancestor, forefather
proctology	Medicine dealing with colon, bowel or anus
proleptic	A rhetorical devise whereby answers are anticipated for questions
prolix	Speaking, writing, tedious great length, unnecessary
prorogue	To continue, extend, protract
proselyte	A new convert to a religious faith
protean	Readily taking on various shapes or forms
prurient	Having lustful thoughts or desires
prussification	Process of becoming or causing others to become
perdurance	Lasting a long time
perp	perpetrator
plenilune	Full moon
pria	A royal pair of a crime
progenitor	An ancestor
prolegomena	Introduction or essay at the beginning of a book
prolix	Long, tedious, wordy speaking or writing
proximity	(adv. from above)

proscribe	To forbid or prohibit
provisory	With conditions
Psylli	
pugnacious	Quarrelsome,, combative easy to pick a fight
purblind	Partially sighted
purdah	Muslim practice of keeping women screened from view
purl	A stream or brook. Flow with swirling motion, and babbling sound
purlieus	Environs, neighbourhood, edge of town or wood
purling	Rushing, gushing of a stream
putative	Reputed or supposed
putschism	Fidel Castro used as “Being like Hitler”
Pyrrhic	A victory won at too great a cost to be worthwhile
quadrivium	Medieval Un. Course - arithmetic, geometry, astronomy,& music
qualia	Of what kind?
quant	Expert in quantitative analysis
querulous	Complaining in a petulant or whining manner whingeing
quiddity	The quality or essence which makes a thing what it is
quodlibets	Subtle or elaborate debate on ecclesiastical matter
quotidian	Daily fever, recurring often
raillery	
rapprochement	Reconciliation. Re-establishing relationships
ratafia	Liqueur made from fruit or brandy plus fruit
ratiocination	Thinking, arguing logically
rayonnant	Darting out rays of light like the sun
realpolitik	Political system based on practical rather than moral considerations
rebarbative	Causing annoyance, irritation or repulsion; repellent
recondite	Dealing with profound, difficult knowledge, beyond the normal
recreant	Coward, apostate, renegade, traitor
recrudescence	Breaking out or reappearing of disease or trouble
recusant	R.C. who refuses to attend C.ofE.
recuse	stand down withdraw from judging
redact	To put into appropriate form for publication
redolent	Having pleasant smell
redoubt	Independent earthwork, enclosure
referent	The object or event referred to.
reify ied	To convert into or regard something as concrete
regnant	Reigning, ruling, holding sway, influencing, dominating
remige	One of the flight feathers of a bird
restitution	Lutheran school against Prussian union
revanchist	A policy of regaining ground, having first lost it
revenant	Someone who returns - as a spirit or ghost
rictus	Fixed or unnatural grin
risible	Inclined to laughter
roan	(of horses) Sorrel, chestnut, bay, sprinkled with grey or white
rococo	C18 French architecture / music, pretty and ornamental
roil	To stir up, agitate
rood	Cross or crucifix Measure of area ¼ of an acre
rote	Habit

rugose	Rugged, wrinkled
runnel	A small stream, brook or rivulet
sacrilised	Make as per a sacrifice
saltire	in heraldry, a diagonal cross on a flag or shield
samizdat	Russian illegal publishing
sanap	
sanative	Something that cures or restores
saurian	Pertaining to lizards and crocodiles
scabrous	Rough surface Risqué or obscene
scapular	Ecclesiastical shoulder garment with strings
scatology	Scientific study of excrement
schmendrick	(Yiddish) a stupid person
sciapod	Having large feet
scion	Descendent or heir
scofflaw	One who flouts the law
scrip	A scrap of paper - receipt - certificate, list
scry	Fortune telling using a crystal ball or other reflective surface
searce	A fine sieve, to sieve, sift, bolt
sectary	A member of a religious or political party
sedulous	Diligent, assiduous to the matter in hand
seiche	Sudden and occasional oscillations in the water of a lake, bay etc etc
seisin seizin	Feudal possession of estate or land
senescence	The process of deterioration with age - loss of cell regrowth
Sephardim (i)	Jew expelled from Spain or Portugal in 1492
seulture	Burial, interment
semiotic	System of signs and signals used to communicate
Semitic	Afro-Asian family of languages
Sempiternal	Everlasting, eternal
Seneschal	An officer in a noble medieval house
sequester	To remove, withdraw, requisition
seraglio	Muslim harem - Turkish palace
sere	Dry, withered
shirring ed	Gathering cloth into rows Baking eggs in their shell
shul	Synagogue
sibilant	Pertaining to hissing
sibylline	Having a secret or hidden meaning Resembling or characteristic of prophet or prophecy
sibilous	Having a hissing sound
simar cymar	A long dress or scarf. A short fur-trimmed jacket (C17/C18)
simian	Characteristic of a monkey
simoniac	After Simon Magus
simony	Sin of buying or selling ecclesiastical preferments or benefices
simulacra	An image (of a god) to which honour or worship is offered
<i>sine qua non</i>	An essential condition or requirement
Sisyphus	Soon of Aeolus, punished for misdeeds: pushing a boulder up a hill
slype	Covered passage in a cathedral from transept to chapter house
smutch	
sobble	To laugh and cry at the same time
sobriquet	An epithet or nickname

sod	Unpleasant, awkward
soi-disant	Self-styled, so-called, pretended
solar	Medieval private upper living room
solecism	mistake of grammar or manners
solipsism	The theory that self is the only object of real knowledge
somatic	Relating to the physical body (as opposed to the mind)
sommelier	A wine waiter
sonogram	Graph of sound (HB ???)
sooling	
sophistry (er)	Fallacious reasoning, intentionally deceptive arguments
sortal	A concept of criteria of individuation or re-identification
sortilege	Fortune telling using cards or other item drawn at random
soutane	Priest's cassock
spackle	To cover up (plaster over) cracks
spandrel	Area between two adjoining extradoses
specie	In kind, in coin, in same manner
spirochete	A spiral-shaped bacterium
splenetic	Pert. to the spleen - melancholic, depressive - bad tempered spiteful
spoliation	Plunder, pillage, exploitation
spoor	The track or scent of an animal
squitter	A random broadcast of data. To produce a loose stool
stasis	Slow blood flow. Inactivity due to static in opposing forces
stela stela	Ancient stone (Egyptian) usually with inscription
stertorous	Heavy breathing; like snoring
stolid	Unexcitable
stravage stravaiging	To saunter, stroll, wander about aimlessly
atiff (verb)	To cheat out if something
stulp	A short stout post, mile post
sublation	Act of taking away, removal
suborn	To bribe or induce one to commit an unlawful act
Sufism	A mystical Muslim sect
summa	A sum-total, a treatise - the highest public interest
sumptuary	Regulating personal habits on moral or religious grounds
susperficies	Outward appearance, surface
supersession	The act of superseding or being superseded
suspire	To breathe
susurration	(Malicious) whispering
susurrus	Of the nature of whispering
suzerain	Feudal overlord -
swart	Swarthy dark
syborite	Pursuer of pleasure
syllipsis	A grammatical construction
sylogism	Conclusion drawn from two propositions with common middle term
sylvan	Pertaining to trees or woods, woody
syncretise	Combine differing beliefs, teachings, practices of different beliefs
syncretism	Attempted union of all Christian denominations and beliefs
synchronous	Coincident in time

tabouret	A low stool or small table
tammany	US Powerful corrupt organisation within the Democratic Party
telos	End, aim, purpose, ultimate objective
Tenebrae	Service for darkness at end of day
tenebrous	Full of darkness, gloomy, brooding
terebinth	Small southern European tree
thaumaturge	A worker of wonders or miracle, a magician
Themis	A goddess, personification of order and justice
theocracy	Form of government by God
theogony	Genealogy of the gods
theophany	Visible manifestation of God to man
theriomorphic	Possessing or depicting the form of a beast
theurgy	The intervention of god in the affairs of man
thralldom	The state of being in someone's power or power over (in thrall)
threnody	A lament
triadic	Pertaining to three (triad)
trimester	Period of three months
tocsin	Bell to sound alarm
tonsure	Shaved crown of head
toque	A woman's small hat with narrow closely turned-up brim
torpid	Lacking movement, sluggish, dull, stupefied
toxophil	Having an affinity for a toxin / poison
toxophilite	Lover of archery
Tractarian	High churchmen who base belief on Newman's " <i>Tracts for the times</i> "
traduce	To speak evil of, slander, malign, defame, dishonour, disgrace
trammel	Shackle, fowling net, hook in a fireplace for hanging pot or kettle
trent (al)	?? Pertaining to C16 Council of Trent in opposition to protestanism
tribune	Raised platform, dais, for bishop's throne
trochee	A foot consisting of one long syllable followed by a short syllable
trope	A figure of speech - usually used in an alternative meaning
tumbril (el)	A cart for carrying victims to their execution
tumid	Swollen Pompous
turpitude	Base character or action, depravity
tutelary	Having the position of guardian or protector of person or thing
tympanum	Space, often triangular, above a door, between arch and base
ululate	Howl, wail, lament loudly
usurious	Practicing usury, charging high or illegal rates of interest
ventouse	An instrument for assisting in the delivery of a baby
veridical	Truthful, appearing in dreams, verified later
verisimilitude	Something which only seems or appears to be true
verst(s)	Russian measure of distance (2/3 inch)
vertiginous	Relating to vertigo dizziness changeable unstable
vestiarian	Of or pertaining to vestments
vestigial	The remnant of something bigger or more important
vicinage	Vicinity, proximity
vicissitude	A change of circumstance
vilify	To debase or deprecate, to speak evil of
virago	Loud voiced, ill tempered woman a shrew

virgate	Long, shaped like a rod or wand	Old measure of land
vitiate	To spoil, lower the value of	
viridian	Long-lasting, bluish-green pigment	
vitiate	To corrupt morally by sensuousness and intemperance	
vivify	Enliven, animate	
vitrine	A glass show or exhibition case	
vituperative	To berate or rail abusively	
voluptuary	n / v Concerning luxury and sensual pleasure	
votive	Offered or consecrated in fulfilment of a vow, expressing a wish	
vousoir	Wedge shaped pieces of a vault or arch	
wen	A benign tumour	Large or congested city
widdershin	Widowhood?	w in old English
woof	Weft (as in weaving. Warp and ...)	
wry	Dry, mocking	
Zelig	ubiquitous	
Zeitgeist	Spirit, attitude or outlook of a specific period (literature/philosophy)	

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