

Eighth Grade Vocabulary - Fall Semester 2009

Week 1 – August 24 – August 28

aperture- n. a hole or opening.

catacomb- n. an underground tunnel or area with holes for graves.

clamor- n. loud noise or shouting.

connoisseur- n. a person who is able to be a judge in matters of art or taste.

fetter- v. to restrict by shackling or chaining

Week 2 – August 31 – September 4

conflagration- n. a large, destructive fire.

obstinate- adj. unyielding regardless of reason or logic.

preclude- v. to make impossible.

trowel- n. a flat-bladed hand tool used to work with mortar or to dig holes for plants.

virtuoso- n. one skilled in the fine arts as an accomplished musician, a savant.

Week 3 – Tuesday, September 8 – September 11

allusion- n. implied or indirect reference; a hinting at.

anomalous- adj. out of place, abnormal.

chimera- n. a fantasy; a horrible creature of the imagination.

debauchery- n. a lack of integrity or honesty; moral corruption.

expedient- adj. appropriate for a purpose but not necessarily moral, right, or just.

Week 4 - September 14 – September 18

felicitous- adj. happy or delightful.

malevolence- n. ill will or evil intentions.

odious- adj. deserving hate or contempt.

pertinacity- n. stubborn persistence or act of refusing to yield on an opinion or belief.

scrupulous- adj. very principled, very careful and conscientious.

Week 5 - September 21 – September 25

aesthetic- adj. relating or pertaining to a sense of beauty or art.

blasphemous- adj. irreverent, profane.

conglomerate- n. a mixture of many things.

decorum- n. appropriate conduct, correct and proper behavior.

divination- n. foretelling the future by means of magic.

Week 6 – September 29 – October 2 - Study for your six weeks test! (October 2)

Week 7 – October 5 – October 9

muse- v. to ponder.

nebulous- adj. lacking clarity of feature or sharpness of outline; vague.

peevish- adj. marked by ill temper; fretful.

regimen- n. the regular process, procedure, or system of doing something.

resilient- adj. able to return to a former state.

Week 8 – Tuesday, October 13 – October 16

ruminate- v. to consider for a long time at a slow pace, to ponder.

scintillating- adj. sparkling, shining, or flashing.

serene- adj. calm, placid.

tactile- adj. perceptible by touch; capable of being felt.

temperate- adj. keeping or held within limits; not extreme or excessive.

Week 9- October 19 – October 23

acuity- n. sharpness of perception.
arduous- adj. very difficult to accomplish or to achieve.
articulate- v. to speak distinctly; to express oneself clearly.
cajole- v. to persuade with flattery or gentle urging.
callow- adj. immature, inexperienced.

Week 10 – October 26 – October 30

copious- adj. plentiful in number; abundant.
deft- adj. quick, skillful.
dubious- adj. giving rise to uncertainty; questionable.
ferocity- n. savagery; fierceness.
galvanize- v. to stimulate or to excite as if by an electric shock.

Week 11 - November 2 – November 6

innocuous- adj. harmless, producing no injury.
insidious- adj. treacherous or dangerous in a secret sort of way.
lugubrious- adj. excessively and dramatically mournful.
malingering- v. to pretend or feign illness to avoid work or duty.
preeminence- n. superiority to all others.

Week 12 – November 9 – November 13 - Study for your six weeks test! (November 13)

Week 13 – November 16 – November 20

primeval- adj. ancient, relating to the earliest ages.
progeny- n. children, descendants, offspring.
superfluous- adj. beyond what is needed or required, an overflow.
vigilant – n. very alert, watchful.
voracious- adj. having a large appetite, ravenous.

Week 14 - November 23 – 27 Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 15 – November 30 – December 4

adulation- n. excessive flattery or admiration.
brazen- adj. shameless, insolent, disrespectful.
monotony- n. tedious sameness or repetition.
propriety- n. conformity to what is socially acceptable; appropriateness.
sagacious- adj. wise, shrewd, very discerning.

Week 16 – December 7 – December 11

apathy- n. a lack of concern or feeling, indifference.
conjecture- n. an inference or conclusion drawn or deduced by guesswork.
cryptic- adj. mysterious, secret.
poignant- adj. deeply affecting the feelings; profoundly touching.
wistful- adj. full of wishful yearning.

Week 17 - December 14 – December 18 (Holidays: December 21 – January 1)

disavow – v. to refuse to acknowledge or accept; deny.
execrable– adj. extremely bad, deserving of hate.
fervent– adj. ardent, showing great emotion; impassioned.
sovereign– adj. possessed of controlling power.
voluble– adj. able to use words easily, fluent and glib.

Week 18 – January 4 – January 8 - Study for your SEMESTER VOCABULARY FINAL!!