

Glossary

abate	decrease, lessen
accolade	praise or award for an achievement that people admire
adorned	made more beautiful or attractive
airy schemes	foolish plans that are not practical or serious
amputation	cutting off limbs by surgical operation
antique	a collectable object such as a piece of furniture or work of art that has a high value because of its age and quality
antiseptic	a drug to prevent the growth of disease-causing bacteria
assigned	given a task to do
barium	a soft silver-white reactive metal
basking	lying in warmth and light e.g. in the sun
bestraddle	to ride
broadside	sideways
burly	a large and strong, heavily built person
career	an occupation e.g. doctor, teacher etc.
catastrophe	an event causing great damage or suffering; a disaster
change tack	change direction
chores	routine tasks, especially household ones e.g. dusting, etc.
clap (of thunder)	a loud, thunder-like noise or sound
combat	a fight, conflict, or struggle
concentrate	focus all of one's attention on a particular object or activity
conscientiously	doing one's work or duty well and thoroughly
considerable	notably large in size, amount, or extent
contaminated	(something) made impure by exposure to or addition of a poisonous or polluting substance
controversial	giving rise or likely to give rise to conflict, public argument, or disagreement
cowl	a large loose covering for the head
crutches	wooden or aluminium supports used by lame people
dank	damp, cold, and unpleasant place
defile	to make dirty or impure
disheveled	untidy or disordered hair, clothes, or appearance
eminent	important, outstanding
enthusiasm	intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval

Glossary

erected	put together and set upright (a building, wall, or other structure)
exhausted	completely used up
exorbitant	unreasonably high (cost/price)
expulsion	the action of forcing someone to leave a place
fervent	earnest, heart-felt
foible	a minor weakness or strange behaviour
frantically	done in a hurried, excited, and disorganized way
geophysicist	someone who studies the Earth's structure and atmosphere
granary	a storehouse for grain
grapple hooks	a tool with many hooks used to keep a boat still
gratitude	thankfulness; appreciation for kindness
grenade	a small bomb thrown by hand, or launched mechanically
guffawed	laughed loudly and noisily
hoisted	raised with a rope etc.
hosted	held an event to which others were invited
imminent	about to happen
impending	about to happen soon
impoverished	poor, made poor
inundated	flooded
ivied wall	a wall covered with ivy
jest	joke
launched	started or set in motion; introduced
legacy	a practice or situation inherited from the past
make port	dock
mattered not a pin	made no difference
memorial	a statue or structure made in memory of a person or an event
mishap	an unlucky accident
mock	tease or laugh at someone in an unkind way
monetary	relating to money or currency
murky	dirty, dark (liquid or atmosphere)
mused	thought carefully about
mussel	an edible shellfish with a brown or purplish-black shell
mystic	a person who seeks God through prayer and meditation

Glossary

natural disaster	any natural event or force like storms, earthquakes, or floods that cause widespread damage
oatmeal	crushed oats (porridge)
offend	make someone feel upset, annoyed, or resentful
ouzel	a bird that looks like the blackbird
palette	a thin board or slab on which an artist lays and mixes colours
pasteurized	heated (to boiling point) to kill harmful bacteria
pigtail	a tightly woven braid of hair
port side	left side of a ship when facing forward
predicted	foretold
predictions	forecasts
procrastinator	someone who delays or postpones action; puts off doing something
psychic	a person who has strange powers to look into the past and future
radiography	the process of taking X-rays for help in medical investigation
radiotherapy	the use of radiation for medical treatment
recuperating	recovering from illness
remedy	a cure for a disease or injury; a solution
resignation	the act of leaving a job or office position
respective	in the same order as mentioned
revel	enjoy, celebrate
salvaged	saved something that was likely to be damaged or lost
saturated	held as much water or moisture as could be absorbed; thoroughly soaked
savagely	fiercely, violently, and in an uncontrolled way
scheme	plan
scoffers	people who make fun of or mock others
scorched	burned the surface of something with flame or heat
scrupulous	a person or process that is thorough, honest, and extremely attentive to detail
shingle	small stones on the beach
siblings	one's brothers and sisters
slaughter	to kill animals for food
solution	the answer to a problem, question, etc.
soothsayer	a person supposed to be able to foresee the future
specific	particular; specially marked or noted
squalor	extremely dirty and unpleasant, especially as a result of poverty or neglect

Glossary

stationery	writing and other office materials
stipend	a fixed, regular sum paid as a salary or as expenses
stout	strong and thick
stowed	kept stored
strategy	a plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall aim
superintendent	a person who manages or supervises an organization or activity
taken aback	surprised or startled by a sudden turn (change) of events
tremors	slight earthquakes
undefiled	pure, clean
valour	great courage in the face of danger, especially in battle
vibrations	continuous shaking or moving
victim	a person harmed, injured, or killed as a result of violence, a crime, or an accident
viva	short for viva voce; an oral examination, usually for an academic qualification
volunteer	a person who offers to do a task without being paid
wanton	purposely causing harm or damage, without reason
weir	low wall or barrier built across a river
yore	long ago