Abashed, Ashamed, Contrite, Mortified Abdicate, Cede, Relinquish, Resign
Abrasion, Bruise, Erosion, Attrition
Abridge, Condense, Decrease, Diminish Abstain, Decline, Forgo, Eschew
Accost,Approach,Confront, Greet,Salute
Acquisition, Purchase, Gain
Acrid, Bitter, Caustic, Pungent, Sharp
Adage, Maxim, Cliché, Motto, Slogan
Addict, Aficionado, Junkie, Devotee
Adulterated, Tainted, Impure, Defiled
Affable, Amiable, Cordial, Sociable
Affectation, Pretense, Insincerity
Affix, Suffix, Prefix, Attach, Append
Aftermath, Consequence, Aftermath,
Aggression, Assault, Attack
Alienate, Estrange, Disaffect, Withdraw
Align, Straighten, Adjust, Rectify
Alimony, Provision, Allowance, Support
Alleviate, Abate, Allay, Mitigate
Ambiguous, Equivocal, Cryptic
Amplitude, Breadth, Magnitude, Extent
Analogy, Comparison, Equivalence
Anesthetic, Analgesic, Numbing
Annals, Archives, Chronicle, Journal
Antecedent, Preceding, Preliminary
Antiquated, Archaic, Obsolescent
Aperture, Orifice, Fissure
Arbitration, Mediation, Governance
Ascertain, Determine, Establish
Ascribe, Impute, Assign, Attribute
Askew, Awry, Aslant, Crooked
Aspiration, Ambition, Yearning Assail, Assault, Beset, Revile, Impugn
Assimilate, Digest, Adapt, Acclimatize
Atheist, Heretic, Infidel, Agnostic
Attaché, Aide, Affiliate, Adjunct
Audit, Scrutiny, Report, Examine Aversion, Antipathy, Abhorrence, Loath
Awry, Amiss, Astray, Wrong, Askew
Beneficiary, Heir, Scion, Successor
Bequeath, Will, Grant, Dower, Give
Biennial, Annual, Seasonal, Periodical
Binder, Notebook, Reaper, Band, Rope
Bizarre, Grotesque, Eccentric, Weird
Boycott, Strike, Avoid, Ostracize

Brevity, Briefness, Curtness, Economy
Broach, Propose, Suggest, Penetrate
Brusque, Abrupt, Harsh, Blunt, Curt
Bulwark, Bastion, Rampart, Parapet
Burlesque, Travesty, Spoof, Mockery
Burnish, Polish, Shine, Buff, Wax
Candid, Sincere,Earnest,Plain,Fair, Pure
Capitalist, Investor, Entrepreneur
Caricature, Parody, Farce, Ridicule
Carouse, Drink, Revel, Imbibe,
Cataract, Torrent, Deluge, Waterfall
Cavalcade, Parade, Procession, March
Celestial,Heavenly,Divine,Astral,Stellar
Cessation, End, Recess, Pause
Cite, Summon, Arraign, Ticket, Quote
Claimant, Candidate, Applicant
Collaborate, Collude, Conspire, Connive
Collective, Compiled, Aggregate
Commemorate, Honor, Memorialize
Commentary, Critique, Exposition
Commune, Community, Village, City
Compassion, Clemency, Forgiveness
Compatible, Accordant, Congruous
Complacent, Smug, Apathetic, Docile
Composite, Compound, Aggregate
Composure, Calm, Poise, Aplomb
Concave, Sunken, Indented, Hollow
Conception, Inception, Inventing,
Cogitating, Genesis, Version
Concoct, Prepare, Contrive, Devise
Concur, Correspond, Assent, Cooperate
Concussion, Impact, Shock
Condescend, Deign, Stoop, Patronize
Condiment, Relish, Spice
Condolence, Solace, Empathy
Condone, Pardon, Excuse, Approve
Confection, Sweets, Candy
Confederation, Alliance, League
Congeal, Solidify, Coagulate, Curdle
Congenial, Sociable, Adapted
Consecrate, Hallow, Sanctify
Constitute, Create, Empower, Draft
Contemptuous, Derisive, Scornful
Contend, Tussle, Debate, Vie, Assert
Context, Adjunct, Appendage
Contortion, Spasm, Paroxysm

Converse, Contrary, Antithesis, Discourse
Cosmopolitan, Urbane, Sophisticated
Covet, Desire, Envy, Want
Criterion, Measure, Parameter
Cuisine, Diet, Chow, Larder
Cyst, Blister, Sac, Bursa, Pouch
Debonair, Jaunty, Suave, Charming
Decrepit, Frail, Senile, Feeble, Infirm
Defer, Delay, Waive, Yield, Submit
Depict, Draw, Portray, Design
Deplete, Consume, Exhaust, Expend
Derange, Unbalance, Craze, Madden
Derelict, Abandoned, Remiss, Vagrant
Desirous, Covetous, Lustful
Deter, Dissuade, Hinder, Restrain
Detriment, Damage, Impairment
Deviate, Vary, Digress, Avert
Devious, Perverse, Circuitous, Erring
Devoid, Empty, Deficient, Lacking
Dexterity, Skill, Deftness, Facility
Diagnosis, Forecast, Prediction, Guess
Differential, Gear, Sprocket, Cog
Diffuse, Dispersed, Rambling, Expand
Dilapidated, Shabby, Decayed
Discern, Apprehend, Determine, Sense
Discourse, Memoir, Dialogue, Discuss
Discredit, Imperil, Compromise
Discrepancy, Disparity, Divergence
Disdainful, Arrogant, Haughty
Disgorge, Eject, Spew, Regurgitate
Disheveled, Rumpled, Untidy, Tousled
Disperse, Scatter, Diffuse, Dispel
Disproportionate, Unbalanced, Uneven
Dissimilar, Disparate, Unique, Distinct
Dissociate, Separate, Disband, Disrupt
Distraught, Troubled, Worried
Docile, Meek, Tame, Submissive
Doleful, Sad, Melancholy, Dismal
Dubious, Doubtful, Ambiguous, Moot
Dynasty, Term, Tenure, Reign, Power
Eddy, Vortex, Whirlpool, Maelstrom
Egotism, Vanity, Conceit, Vainglory
Elegy, Song, Poem, Requiem, Praise
Elliptical, Ovoid, Oblong, Orbital

Emaciated, Gaunt, Haggard, Thin
Eminent, Distinguished, Lofty, Great
Emphatic, Definite, Important
Encumbered, Impeded, Thwarted
Engross, Captivate, Enthrall, Enrapture
Enliven, Animate, Excite, Delight
Ensue, Result, Develop, Appear
Entail, Require, Cause, Evoke
Epic, Heroic, Major, Legend, Saga
Epitaph, Inscription, Legend, Elegy
Equity, Justice, Money, Fairness
Erratic, Random, Odd, Unusual
Erroneous, Inaccurate, Faulty, False
Essence, Nature, Gist, Spirit
Evoke, Elicit, Invoke, Rouse
Excerpt, Extract, Selection, Quote
Excruciating, Agonizing, Grueling
Exhilarated, Fervent, Ablaze, Ardent
Explicit, Clear, Specific, Outspoken
Expulsion, Ejection, Removal
Extortion, Graft, Blackmail
Exultation, Jubilance, Elation
Fabricate, Erect, Contrive, Feign
Facet, Aspect, Plane, Phase, Side
Facilitate, Simplify, Promote
Faction, Camp, Bloc, Dissension
Fastidious, Squeamish, Affected
Feline, Catlike, Sly, Subtle, Cunning
Fervent, Ardent, Fervid, Passionate
Fervor, Passion, Ardor, Zeal
Fetter, Manacles, Shackle, Bind
Fidelity, Loyalty, Fealty, Accuracy
Financier, Broker, Agent
Fissure, Crevice, Abyss, Cranny
Flagrant, Heinous, Outrageous
Fluctuate, Oscillate, Undulate, Wave
Forage, Scavenge, Scrounge, Feed
Forbearance, Clemency, Leniency,
Franchise, Right, Charter, Suffrage
Fraudulent, Dishonest, Deceitful
Gauntlet, Gauntlet, Gauntlet, Gauntlet
Gibe, Jeer, Taunt, Scoff, Ridicule, Sneer
Glower, Glare, Scowl, Grimace, Sulk
Glut, Plethora, Inundate, Gorge
Graphic, Pictorial, Explicit, Visual

Guise, Mien, Semblance, Appearance
Gullible, Credulous, Naive, Ingenuous
Gusto, Zeal, Zest, Fervor, Ardor, Vigor
Habitable, Livable, Comfortable
Habitat, Environment, Abode, Haunt
Hallucination, Illusion, Mirage
Hulk, Carcass, Wreck, Body, Hunk
Hypothesis, Assumptions, Premise
Idealism, Philosophy, Conscience
Idolatry, Idol-worship, Obsession
Immaculate, Clean, Pristine, Sinless
Immaterial, Insubstantial, Irrelevant
Immobile, Stationary, Fixed, Permanent
Impale, Spear, Lance, Skewer, Spike
Impassive, Indifferent, Apathetic
Impediment, Obstacle, Hamper, Bar
Impending, Menacing, Ominous
Imperil, Endanger, Jeopardize, Threaten
Implicate, Involve, Embroil, Mire
Impromptu, Extemporaneous, Ad-lib
Inadvertently, Accidentally, By chance
Inane, Ludicrous, Banal, Insipid, Silly
Inanimate, Insensate, Inert, Dead
Inaugurate, Initiate, Induct, Begin
Incapacitate, Disable, Cripple, Hinder
Incendiary, Agitator, Radical, Catalyst
Incongruous, Absurd, Dissonant
Incredulous, Suspicious, Dubious
Increment, Augmentation, Gain
Incur, Contract, Subject, Induce
Indict, Accuse, Arraign, Cite, Charge
Indignity, Affront, Insult, Scorn
Inept, Unsuited, Inane, Awkward
Infallible, Unerring, Certain, Unfailing
Infamous, Disreputable, Infamous,
Infer, Deduce, Imply, Insinuate, Hint
Infest, Swarm, Invade, Plague, Beset
Infidelity, Unfaithfulness, Adultery
Inflection, Grammar, Emphasis
Influx, Inflow, Inrush, Crowd
Informant, Reporter, Messenger
Infringe, Transgress, Encroach
Infuse, Instill, Diffuse, Imbue, Steep
Inherent, Inborn, Inbred, Intrinsic
Inhibition, Restraint, Repression

Initiative, Drive, Ambition
Innovation, Change, Novelty
Inquest, Inquiry, Probe, Trial
Inquisition, Persecution, Prosecution
Insensible, Incognizant, Oblivious
Inseparable, Intimate, Thick
Insinuate, Intimate, Imply, Inculcate
Instigate, Urge, Foment, Incite, Start
Instrumental, Useful, Contributory
Insurrection, Revolt, Mutiny, Coup
Integral, Central, Entire, Essential
Interaction, Contact, Connection
Intercede, Interfere, Mediate, Arbitrate
Interject, Interpose, Insert, Inject
Interloper, Intruder, Meddler
Interlude, Pause, Lull, Hiatus, Recess
Intermittent, Cyclic, Pulsating
Intern, Candidate, Imprison, Confine
Interrogate, Query, Quiz, Grill
Intersperse, Diffuse, Scatter
Intervene, Disrupt, Intercede
Intimidate, Frighten, Dissuade
Intonation, Pitch, Timbre, Resonance
Intrusion, Trespass, Invasion
Invaluable, Inestimable, Useful
Invariably, Perpetually, Always
Inverse, Opposite, Transposed
Invocation, Entreaty, Petition, Appeal
Invoice, Statement, Bill, Check, Tab
Irrelevant, Immaterial, Extraneous
Irrepressible, Unrestrained,Enthusiastic
Jaded, Exhausted, Fatigued, Sated
Jeopardize, Endanger, Imperil, Risk
Jocular, Witty, Facetious, Comic
Judicious, Prudent, Sensible, Wise
Jurisdiction, Ownership, Administration
Kindred, Related, Allied, Family
Knoll, Hill, Mound, Dune, Foothill
Labyrinth, Maze, Morass, Tangle
Laxity, Leniency, Indulgence
Legation, Board, Council, Agency
Lenient, Gentle, Merciful, Mild
Lethal, Fatal, Mortal, Virulent, Toxic
Lewd, Obscene, Risqué, Wanton

Liaison, Affair, Intimacy, Romance
Libel, Slander, Malign, Defame, Smear
Limpid, Clear, Lucid, Transparent
Lineage, Ancestry, Heredity, Line
Linguistic, Verbal, Speaking, Oral
Literal, Verbatim, Exact, Veritable
Lustrous, Shiny, Radiant, Gleaming
Luxuriant, Profuse, Dense, Opulent
Malice, Hostility, Malevolence, Hate
Malign, Malevolent, Evil, Vilify
Malignant, Vicious, Fatal, Lethal
Malleable, Pliant, Supple, Flexible
Mandatory, Obligatory, Compulsory
Mania, Craze, Fad, Enthusiasm
Manifest, Apparent, Exhibit, Confirm
Manifold, Multitudinous, Diverse
Mannerism, Idiosyncrasy, Affectation
Marauder, Bandit, Brigand, Raider
Materialistic, Mundane, Carnal
Mausoleum, Tomb, Crypt, Monument
Meander, Maze, Labyrinth, Wander
Memento, Souvenir, Memorabilia
Memoir, Biography, Journal, Treatise
Menial, Base, Low, Minion, Lackey
Mentor, Teacher, Guru, Coach
Metropolis, City, Municipality
Mettle, Character, Stamina, Courage
Mien, Bearing, Demeanor, Deportment
Misdemeanor, Misconduct, Misdeed
Momentous, Important, Serious, Vital
Monetary, Financial, Fiscal, Pecuniary
Monotone, Invariability, Humdrum
Morose, Gloomy, Dolorous, Melancholy
Motif, Theme, Topic, Pattern, Design
Muse, Ponder, Cogitate, Ruminate
Myriad, Innumerable, Infinite, Endless
Nationalism, Patriotism, Loyalty
Negligible, Insignificant, Trivial
Neurotic, Deranged, Paranoid
Neuter, Asexual, Geld, Spay
Nocturnal, Night, Late
Nominal, Stated, Inexpensive, Cheap
Noncommittal, Reserved, Neutral
Notation, Notes, Marks, Signs
Nullify, Cancel, Annul, Void

Nutrient, Sustenance, Sustaining
Nutritious, Healthy, Restorative
Obliterate, Exterminate, Annihilate
Obsession, Fixation, Fascination
Occult, Hidden, Obscure, Arcane
Odious, Despicable, Repulsive
Ominous, Baleful, Imminent, Grim
Onslaught, Attack, Raid, Assault
Opportune, Fortunate, Fortuitous
Orient, Asia, Align, Familiarize
Orientation, Briefing, Alignment
Oscillate, Fluctuate, Palpitate, Waver
Overbearing, Arrogant, Dictatorial
Palatable, Delicious, Appetizing
Palpitate, Pulse, Flutter, Pulsate, Throb
Parable, Fable, Allegory, Tale
Paradox, Contradiction, Enigma, Maze
Parley, Conference, Discourse, Discuss
Partisan, Factional, Sycophant, Devotee
Pathos, Poignancy, Sentiment, Emotion
Patronage, Trade, Support, Tolerance
Peerless, Unique, Superlative, Matchless
Perennial, Enduring, Yearly, Eternal
Permeate, Pervade, Infiltrate, Saturate
Perpetrate, Commit, Execute
Personnel, Staff, Officers, Cadre, Force
Peruse, Examine, Scrutinize, Analyze
Philanthropy, Benevolence, Altruism
Philosophy, Theory, Axiom, Postulate
Pillage, Plunder, Devastation, Ravage
Placid, Calm, Serene, Tranquil
Pompous, Arrogant, Egotistic, Haughty
Populace, Masses, Multitude, People
Posterior, Following, Behind, Back
Potent, Powerful, Cogent, Efficient
Precarious, Uncertain, Dangerous
Premonition, Omen, Portent, Harbinger
Preponderance, Majority, Primacy
Preposterous, Absurd, Inane, Fantastic
Presumptuous, Arrogant, Confident
Primeval, Ancient, Original, Prime
Procure, Obtain, Contrive, Pander
Prodigal, Profligate, Copious, Wastrel
Profane, Ungodly, Worldly, Impure
Profuse, Lavish, Abundant, Plentiful

Prohibition, Ban, Embargo
Projectile, Missile, Arrow, Weapon
Promenade, Saunter, Parade, Walk
Propriety, Etiquette, Aptness, Modesty
Prospectus, Report, Synopsis, Plan
Prostrate, Prone, Kneel, Humbled
Proxy, Surrogate, Replacement, Agent
Pugnacious, Antagonistic, Combative
Purge, Cleansing, Eliminate, Abolish
Quadrant, Plot, Area, Tract
Query, Inquire, Interrogate, Ask
Quibble, Lie, Evade, Argue, Spar
Rabble, Mob, Riffraff, Scum
Rabid, Hydrophobic, Fanatical, Raging
Ramification, Offshoot, Radiation
Rampant, Raging, Furious, Turbulent
Ransack, Loot, Scour, Plunder, Pillage
Raucous, Boisterous, Harsh, Blaring
Rebate, Discount, Remission, Deduction
Recession, Depression, Retreat
Reciprocate, Requite, Exchange, Share
Reclaim, Recover, Regain, Redeem
Reconnaissance, Survey, Scrutiny
Recourse, Resort, Appeal, Chance
Recurrence, Return, Reappearance
Redundant, Excessive, Verbose
Refute, Disprove, Dispute, Debate
Regent, Matriarch, Monarch, Queen
Regimen, Diet, Fast, Starvation
Rejuvenate, Revitalize, Reinvigorate
Relinquish, Renounce, Renege
Reminiscent, Nostalgic, Redolent
Remuneration, Compensation, Wages
Renaissance, Rebirth, Revival
Renegade, Rebel, Defector, Traitor
Replenish, Inflate, Fill, Pack
Repose, Tranquility, Placidity, Rest
Repress, Restrain, Subdue, Quell
Reprisal, Revenge, Redress, Vendetta
Reproof, Rebuke, Reprimand, Blame
Requisite, Required, Demand, Need
Resolute, Determined, Adamant, Firm
Resonance, Pitch, Timbre, Inflection
Respective, Particular, Specific, Special
Resplendent, Radiant, Shiny, Brilliant

Restoration, Reparation, Atonement
Retaliate, Requite, Avenge, Revenge
Retention, Captivity, Recall, Custody
Retribution, Vengeance, Retaliation
Revulsion, Repugnance, Abhorrence
Ricochet, Rebound, Bounce, Recoil
Rigorous, Severe, Exact, Inclement
Rite, Ceremony, Ritual, Custom
Rote, Formula, Creed, Protocol, Custom
Ruse, Subterfuge, Artifice, Ploy, Deceit
Sanction, Authorization, Penalty, Allow
Saunter, Ramble, Wander, Amble
Savory, Delicious, Tangy, Tasty
Scapegoat, Dupe, Victim, Sap, Butt
Scourge, Whip, Penalty, Plague
Scruple, Qualm, Hesitate, Falter
Secede, Resign, Retire, Abdicate, Leave
Sedate, Calm, Staid, Tranquilize, Drug
Sedative, Soothing, Narcotic, Opiate
Semblance, Appearance, Mien, Analogy
Sensory, Aural, Optic, Tactile, Olfactory
Sensual, Arousing, Lewd, Feeling
Sequel, Supplement, Continuance
Servitude, Slavery, Bondage, Subjection
Severance, Separation, Breach, Split
Simile, Analogy, Comparison
Simulate, Feign, Posture, Dissemble
Slovenly, Sloppy, Untidy, Messy
Sobriety, Abstinence, Dignity, Reserve
Socialist, Communist, Marxist
Solace, Comfort, Console, Allay, Soothe
Solicit, Implore, Urge, Ask, Peddle
Spectrum, Extent, Gamut
Squander, Waste, Expend
Stark, Utter, Rigid, Desolate, Drear
Statistics, Compendium, Synopsis
Status, Position, Rank, Station
Stereotype, Archetype, Label
Stimulus, Incentive, Impetus
Stint, Limit, Portion, Chore, Confine
Stipulate, Specify, Indicate, Agree to
Subsequent, Ensuing, Succeeding,
Subsistence, Nourishment, Survival
Successor, Inheritor, Heir
Supple, Pliable, Lithe, Obsequious
Surmise, Guess, Theory, Infer

Surmount, Conquer, Transcend
Susceptible, Exposed, Vulnerable
Swathe, Bandage, Wrap, Protect
Synchronize, Adjust, Attune
Syndicate, Alliance, Affiliate
Synthesis, Creation, Aggregate
Taut, Tense, Rigid, Tight, Stressed Tentative, Probationary, Trial
Tenure, Holding, Incumbency, Stay
Tepid, Lukewarm, Indifferent, Languid
Terse, Brief, Curt, Succinct, Concise
Therapeutic, Restorative, Healing
Thesis, Assertion, Opinion, Study
Tincture, Pigment, Dye, Stain
Tirade, Diatribe, Invective, Harangue
Traction, Adhesion, Propulsion
Tranquil, Serene, Placid, Calm
Transgress, Encroach, Offend
Transition, Shift, Progression
Translucent, Opaque, Glassy
Transpire, Befall, Occur, Ensue
Traverse, Obstacle, Thwart, Cross
Treatise, Essay, Thesis, Study
Trite, Common, Ordinary, Banal, Stale
Truism, Adage, Proverb, Platitude
Tryst, Meeting, Rendezvous
Typify, Embody, Epitomize, Illustrate
Ulterior, Hidden, Covert, Remote, Later
Unfounded, Unproven, Erroneous
Vagrant, Itinerant, Begging, Tramp
Valid, Logical, Cogent, Authentic
Vanguard, Forefront, Precursors
Vantage, Boon, Perk, Bonus, Privilege
Variance, Difference, Divergence
Veer, Swerve, Deviate, Avert, Deflect
Vehement, Fervent, Zealous, Ardent
Versatile, Flexible, Pliable, Adaptable
Vibrant, Resonant, Energetic, Lively
Vie, Compete, Contend, Rival, Strive
Vintage, Classic, Old, Year
Virile, Manly, Vital, Robust, Strong
Virtuoso, Expert, Genius, Master
Vivacious, Animated, Spirited
Vogue, Fashion, Style, Custom, Trend

Vouch, Certify, Attest, Reassure
Voucher, Receipt, Certification
Wanton, Careless, Deliberate, Lavish
Whimsical, Capricious, Playful
Wrangle, Dispute, Quarrel, Brawl
Zenith, Peak, Crest, Elevation

Students are cautioned to remember that the words adjacent to each term are synonyms not definitions. Some words have multiple meanings therefore there may be a wide range of meanings attached to synonymous terms. Many terms change meanings and pronunciation based on what part of speech is being used. For example, the word complex when used as a noun has a different meaning than when used as an adjective. The mathematical formula for rocket fuel is complex. (Here complex is a predicate adjective meaning complicated.) The teacher who constantly derides his students has a inferiority complex. (Here complex is a noun meaning a mental illness.)

