



Vocabulary Unit 5 – Level G

- Acuity
- Delineate
- Depraved
- Enervate
- Esoteric
- Fecund
- Fiat
- Figment
- Garner
- Hallow

- Idiosyncrasy
- Ignominy
- Mundane
- Nuance
- Overweening
- Penchant
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- Sophistry
- Sumptuous
- Ubiquitous

Acuity

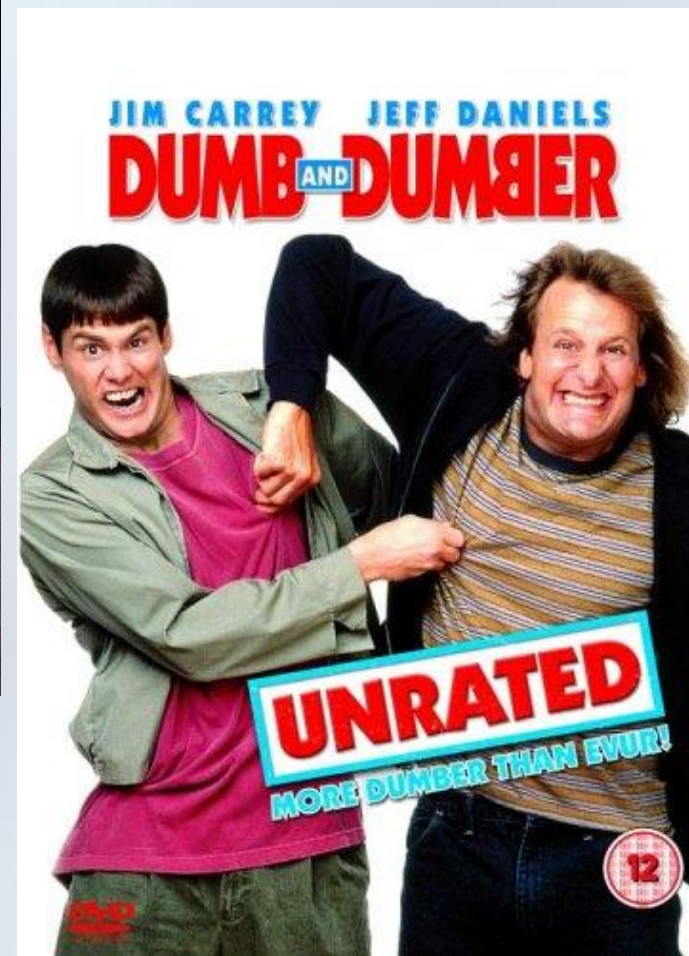
■ Definition

- (n.) Sharpness (particularly of the mind or the senses)

■ Uses

- The acuity of one's hearing.
- The passing years lessened her physical vigor but in no way diminished the acuity of her judgment.
- It is only in superior mental powers, not in physical strength or acuity of the senses, that human beings surpass other living things.

These individuals are known for their *lack* of mental acuity.



Delineate

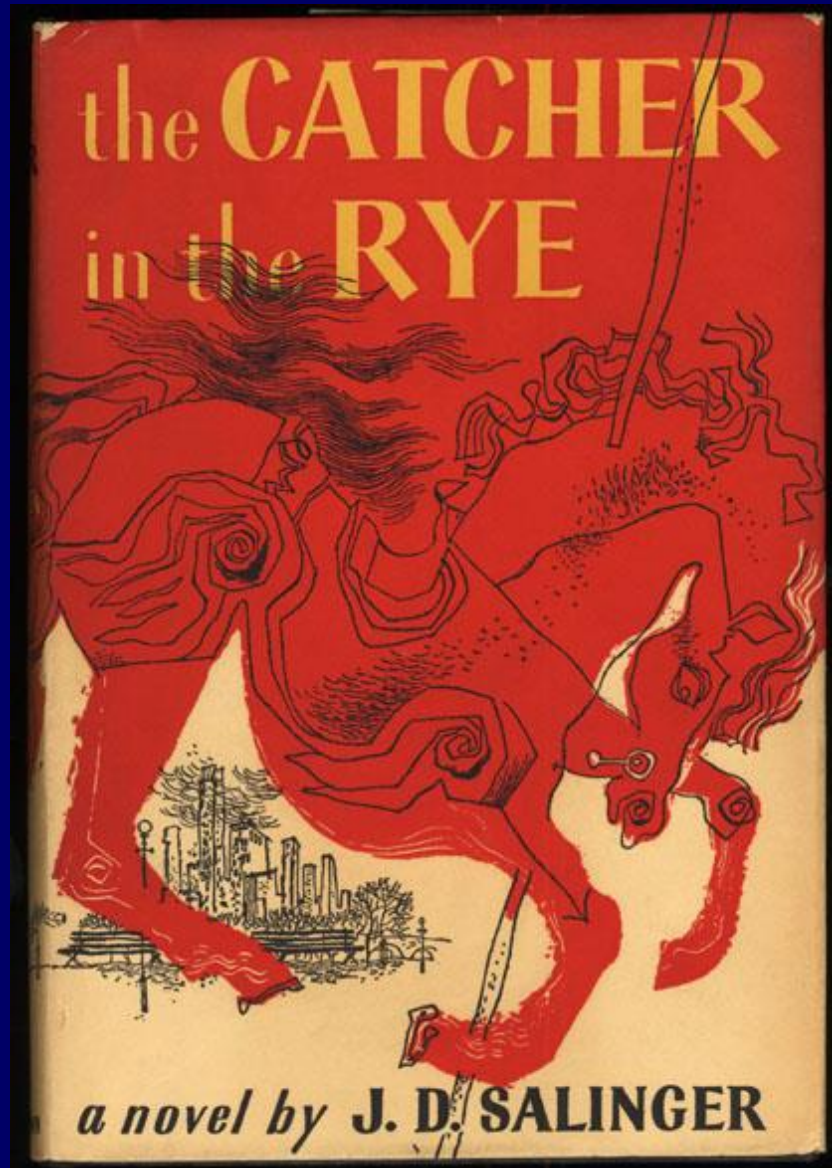
■ Definition

- (v.) To portray, sketch, or describe in accurate and vivid detail; to represent pictorially

■ Uses

- Delineate the main features of the plan.
- The artist's sketch not only delineated the model's appearance accurately but also captured something of her personality.
- Synonyms: To depict, portray, sketch, picture

Few writers have J.D. Salinger's remarkable ability to delineate the emotions and aspirations of the average teenager.



Depraved

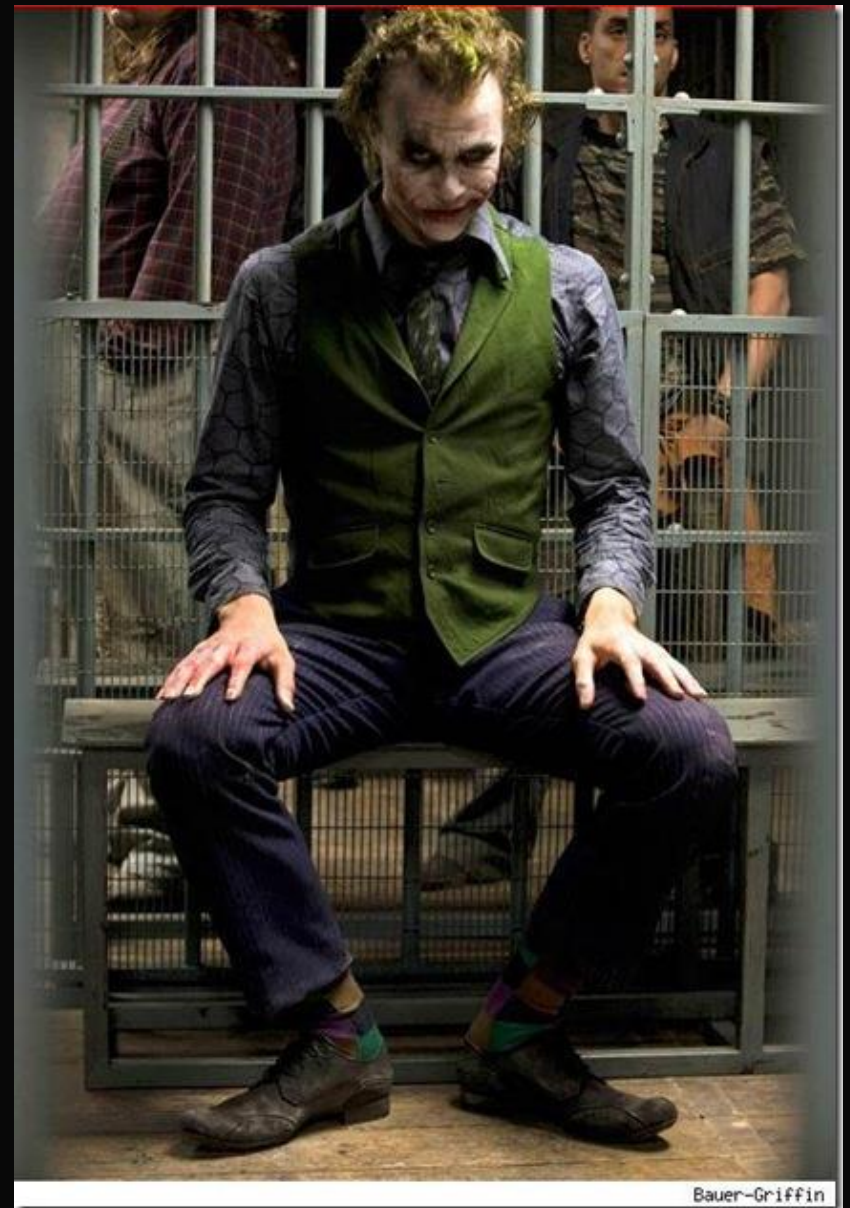
■ Definition

- (adj.) Brought to a state of evil and corruption, devoid of moral principles.

■ Uses

- Led a depraved life
- Beneath the man's cultivated manner and impeccable grooming there lurked the depraved mind of a brutal sadist.
- Antonyms: moral, virtuous, upright, uncorrupted
- Synonyms: corrupt, perverted, degenerated, vicious

Depraved



Enervate

■ Definition

- (v.) to weaken, lessen the mental, moral, or physical vigor of, enfeeble, hamstring

■ Uses

- A mind that has been enervated by disease.
- I was so enervated by the oppressive heat and humidity of that awful afternoon that I could barely move.
- Synonyms: to impair; to hamstring, cripple, paralyze
- Scandal and corruption may so enervate an administration that it can no longer function effectively.

In many vampire legends, sunlight enervates the undead, leaving them weak, vulnerable, or worse.



Esoteric

■ Definition

- (adj.) intended for or understood by only a select few who have special knowledge or interest; private, secret.

■ Uses

- Most people I know are so busy dealing with the ordinary problems of life that they have no time for esoteric philosophical speculation.
- Synonyms: occult; cryptic; arcane
- Antonyms: Accessible, comprehensible, intelligible

Participants in virtual video games such as *World of Warcraft* and *Halo* often have their own esoteric language that may sound foreign to those not familiar with the details of the game.



Fecund

■ Definition

- (adj.) fruitful in offspring or vegetation; intellectually productive.








■ Uses

- A remarkably fecund brain.
- Synonyms: fruitful, fertile, teeming, prolific
- Antonyms: Barren, infertile, unproductive

- The phonograph is but one of the wonderful new devices that sprang from the fecund mind of Thomas Edison, our most prolific inventor.



INVENTIONS

 <p>GYROSCOPIC COMPASS ELMER AMBROSE SPERRY</p>	 <p>STEAM ENGINE OLIVER EVANS</p>	 <p>TELEVISION LOUIS W. PARKER</p>	 <p>RADIO REGINALD FESSENDEN</p>	 <p>AUTOMOBILE HENRY FORD</p>
		 <p>TELEPHONE ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL</p>		 <p>AIRPLANE THE WRIGHT BROTHERS</p>

Some might say Mrs. Duggar is quite fecund because she has recently given birth to her nineteenth child.



PROVERBS 3:5-7

Jim Bob, Michelle, Joshua, Jana, John, Jill, Jessa, Jinger, Joseph, Josiah, Joy-Anna, Jedidiah, Jeremiah, Jason, James, Justin, Jackson, Johannah, Jennifer

The Jim Bob & Michelle Duggar Family
www.duggarfamily.com

Fiat

■ Definition

- (n.) an arbitrary order or decree; a command or an act of will or consciousness.

■ Uses

- During the eleven years of his “personal rule,” King Charles I bypassed Parliament and ruled England by royal fiat.
- Synonyms: a command, decree, edict, ukase
- In a democracy, the government must rule by persuasion and consent, not by mere fiat.

Figment

■ Definition

- (n.) a fabrication of the mind; an arbitrary notion.

■ Uses

- Just a figment of your imagination.
- “Your suspicion that I am constantly making fun of you behind your back is a mere figment of your overheated brain,” I replied.
- Synonyms: a fabrication, creation, invention

Some residents of Sesame Street believed Snuffleupagus was not real, but rather a figment of Big Bird's imagination.



Garner

■ Definition

- (v.) to acquire as the result of effort; to gather and store away, as for future use.

■ Uses

- Garner wisdom.
- The marathon not only brought in huge sums of money for Africa's starving masses, but also garnered much sympathy for their plight.
- Synonyms: to collect, gather, accumulate
- Antonyms: to scatter, squander, waste, dissipate

Ben Affleck had to put forth great effort in order to garner his wife, Jennifer Garner.



Hallow

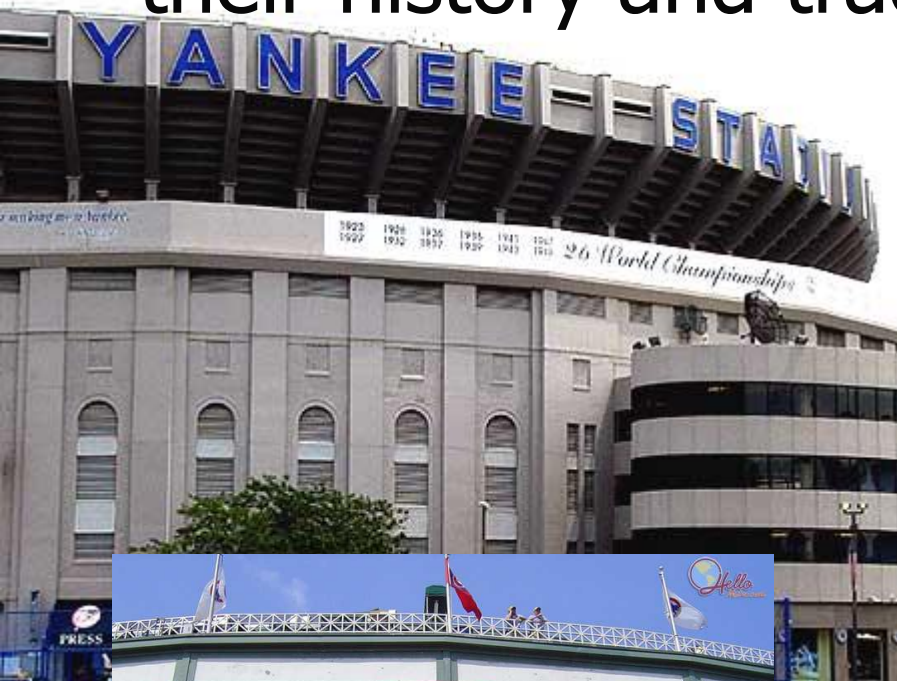
■ Definition

- (v.) to set apart as holy or sacred, sanctify, consecrate; to honor greatly, revere

■ Uses

- Hallow the field on which they fought.
- The ground in which those soldiers are buried was hallowed by the blood they shed on it.
- Synonyms: to consecrate, sanctify, to venerate
- Antonyms: to desecrate, defile, profane
- We will never abandon a cause that has been hallowed by the achievements and sacrifices of so many noble people.

Among baseball aficionados, Wrigley Field, Fenway Park and Yankee Stadium are considered hallowed grounds because of their history and tradition.



Idiosyncrasy

■ Definition

- (n.) a peculiarity that serves to distinguish or identify

■ Uses

- The idiosyncrasy of English grammar.
- His constant use of the word *fabulous*, even for quite ordinary subjects, is an idiosyncrasy that I could do without.
- Synonyms: an eccentricity, quirk, mannerism

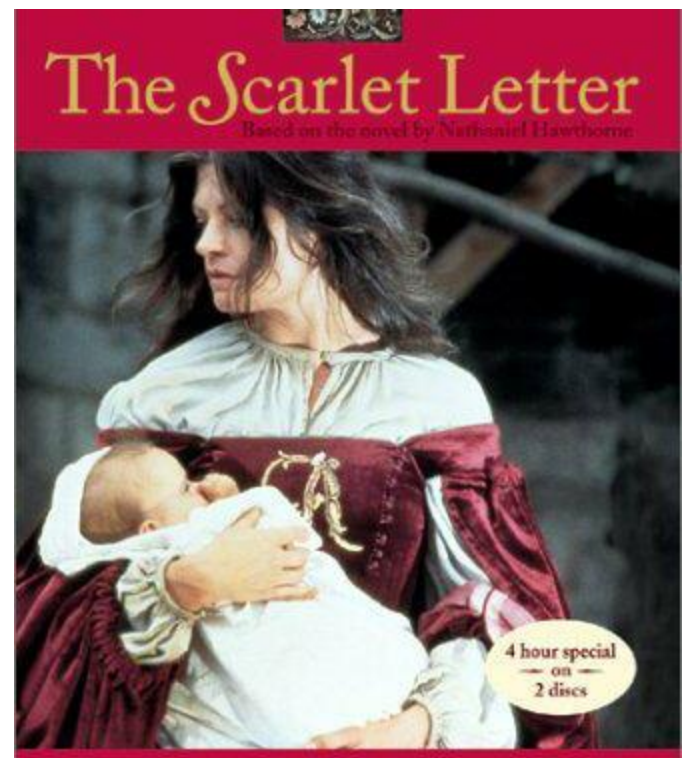
- Although Michael Scott often means well, his idiosyncrasy of saying the most inappropriate thing at the worst time often gets him in trouble with his co-workers at Dunder Mifflin.



Ignominy

- Definition

- (n.) shame and disgrace



- He was a changed young man after he suffered the ignominy of expulsion from West Point for conduct unbecoming a gentleman.

- Synonyms: disgrace, dishonor, humiliation

- Antonyms: honor, glory, acclaim

- Cleopatra took her own life rather than suffer the ignominy of being led through the streets of Rome in chains.

Mundane

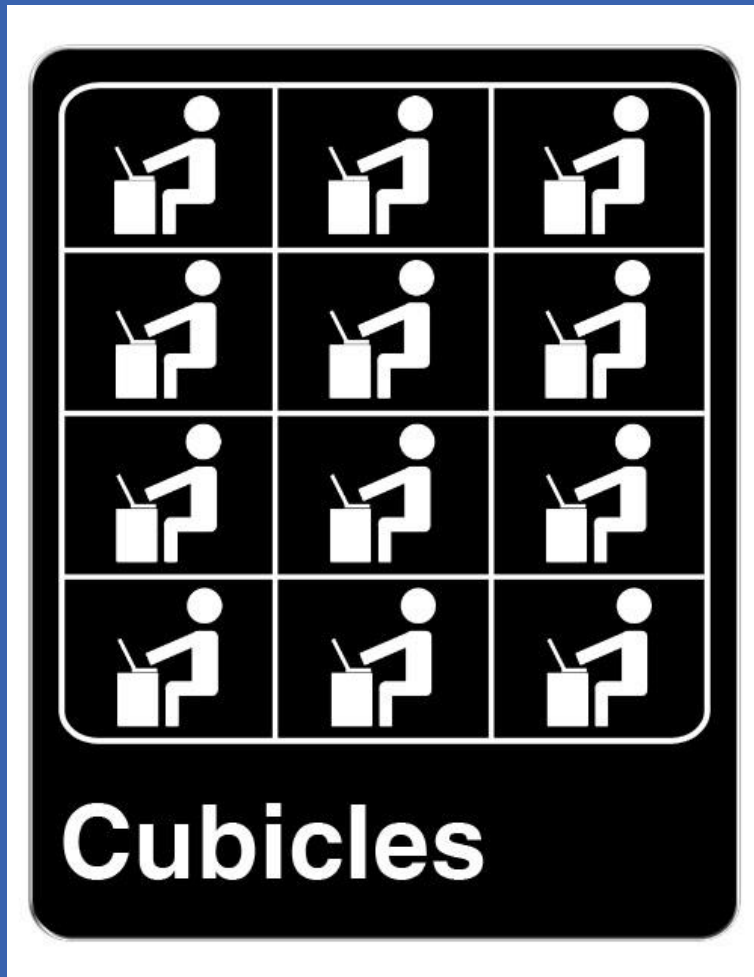
■ Definition

- (adj.) earthly, worldly, relating to practical and material affairs; concerned with what is ordinary.

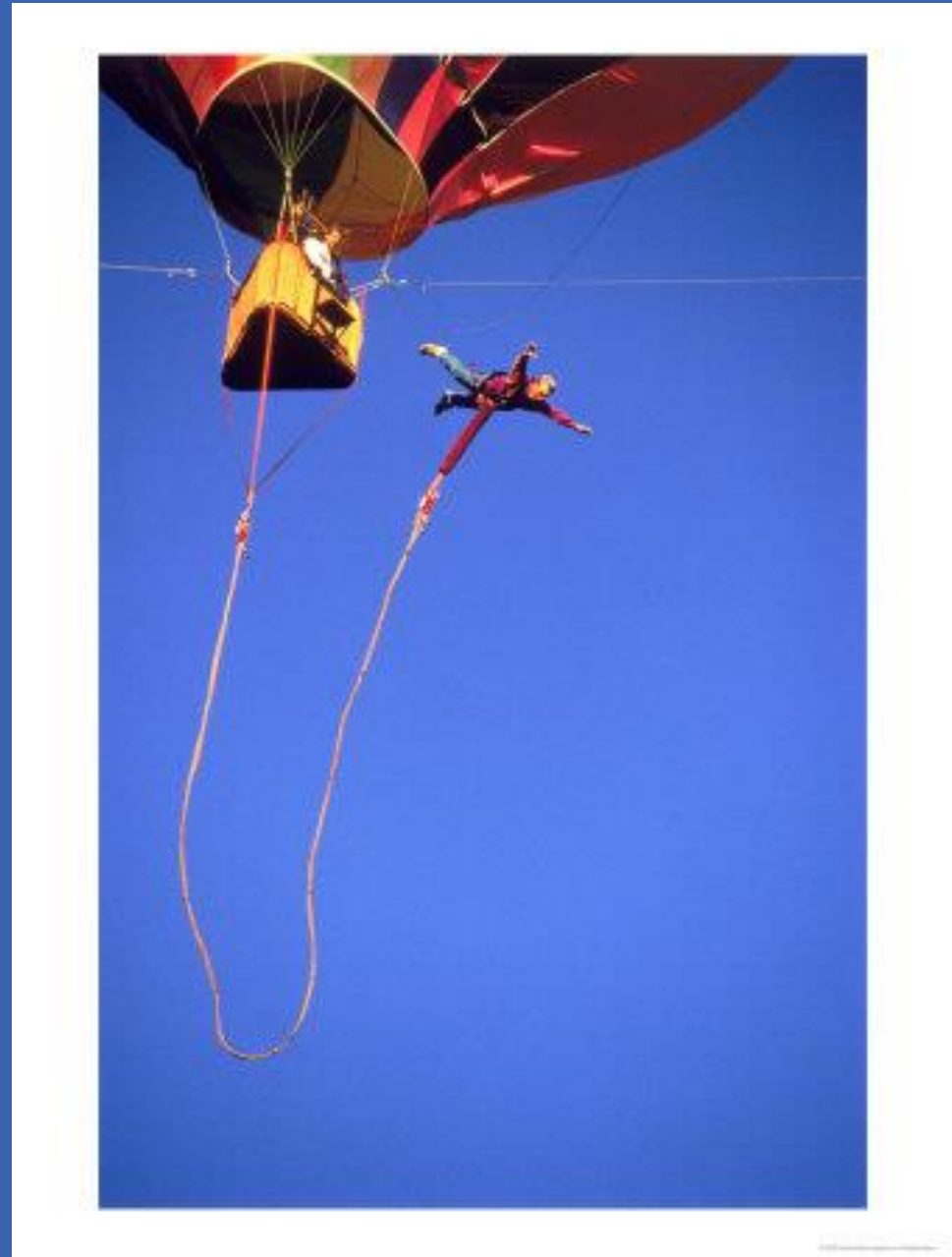
■ Uses

- Mundane concerns.
- May I interrupt this abstruse discussion and turn your attention to some more mundane matters-like what's for dinner?
- Synonyms: ordinary, prosaic, humdrum, routine, earthly
- Antonyms: heavenly, unworldly, spiritual, transcendental

- Mundane



- Not so mundane.



Nuance

■ Definition

- (n.) subtle or slight variation (as in color, meaning, quality), delicate gradation or shade of difference

■ Uses

- A nuance of meaning.
- Music can often express a nuance of mood or feeling that would be difficult to put into words.
- Synonyms: a subtle variation, gradation
- Two synonyms are rarely exactly the same because nuances of tone or applicability make each of the words unique.

Only a true connoisseur of wines can recognize the nuances of flavor between a Rose' and a White Zinfandel.



Overweening

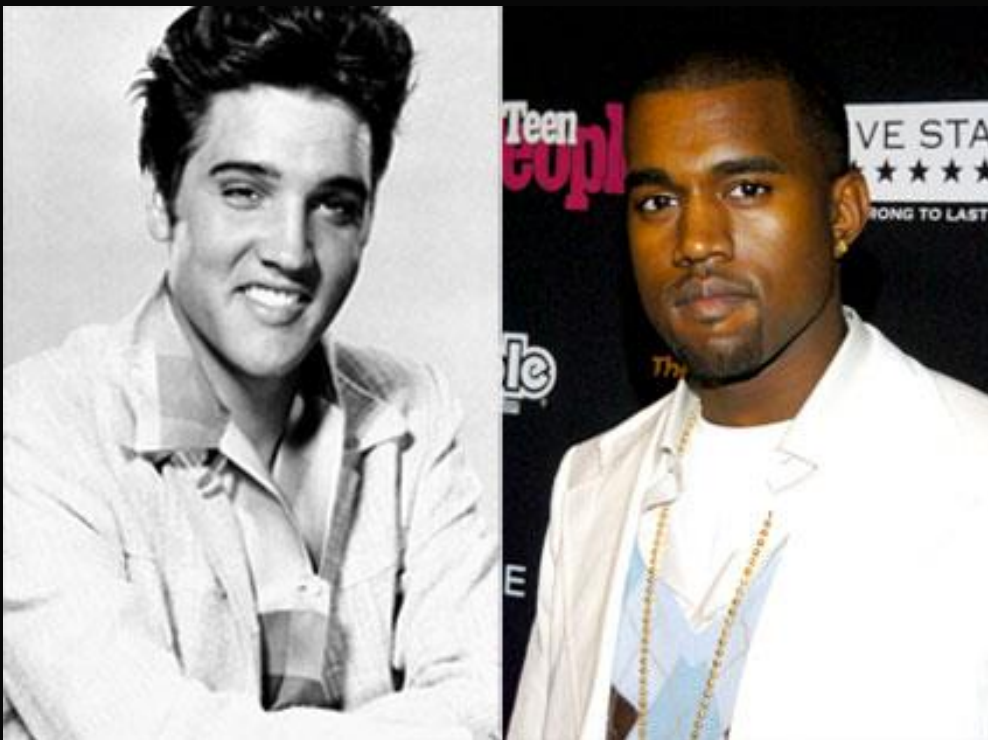
■ Definition

- (adj.) conceited, presumptuous, immoderate

■ Uses

- Overweening pride.
- His overweening sense of superiority dominates his personality in much the same way as his beetling brow dominates his face.
- Synonyms: immoderate, arrogant, haughty
- Antonyms: restrained, understated, modest, meek
- How I'd love to knock the wind out of the sails of that lout's overweening conceit!

*"When I said the statement, 'I want to be Elvis,' I really should have thought that out more because that statement was actually really incorrect. Actually, the true statement was **'I want to be better than Elvis.'**"*



Some critics believe Kanye West's overweening arrogance taints his image as a musician.

Penchant

■ Definition

- (n.) a strong attraction or inclination

■ Uses

- A penchant for belaboring the obvious.
- You have many good traits, but I do not admire your penchant for borrowing things and failing to return them.
- Synonyms: an inclination, proclivity, propensity
- Antonyms: a natural disinclination
- Someone with pronounced penchant for saying the wrong thing might justly be described as a victim of “foot-in-mouth” disease.

Reputed

- Definition

- (adj.) according to reputation or general belief: having widespread acceptance and good part;

- Uses

- Synonyms: supposed, alleged, putative, reputable
- The alert defense put up by our team completely neutralized their opponents' reputedly unstoppable passing attack.



- The reputed head of a crime syndicate.
- The man is reputed to have mob connections, but so far no one has actually substantiated the allegation.

Sophistry

■ Definition

- (n.) reasoning that seems plausible but is actually unsound; a fallacy; often intended to deceive someone

■ Uses

- Beguiled by a clever sophistry.
- Analysis will show that his “brilliant exposition” of how we can handle the pollution problem without cost to anyone is the merest sophistry.
- Synonyms: specious reasoning, casuistry
- Your language is indeed clever and amusing, but your argument is nothing but a piece of outright sophistry.

Sumptuous

- Definition

- (adj.) costly, rich, magnificent, luxurious

- Uses

- A sumptuous feast.
- There is quite a difference between the austere furnishings of my little apartment and the sumptuous accommodations of a luxury hotel.
- Synonyms: lavish, munificent, opulent, splendid
- Antonyms: skimpy, meager, stingy, Spartan.

- The **sumptuous** banquet was a pleasant change of pace from the **Spartan** fare to which I had become accustomed.



Ubiquitous

■ Definition

- (adj.) present or existing everywhere

■ Uses

- The ubiquitous eye of the TV camera.
- American-style fast-food shops have gained such popularity all over the world that they are now truly Ubiquitous.
- Synonyms: omnipresent, pervasive, universal
- Probably no complaint of young people is more ubiquitous than "my parents don't understand me!"

Ubiquitous

