

Unit 15

	<i>definition</i>	<i>synonyms</i>	<i>antonyms</i>
abyss	a deep bottomless pit	chasm, gorge, void	summit, promontory, pinnacle
befall	to happen, occur; to happen to	come to pass	x
crucial	of supreme importance, decisive, critical	pivotal, vital	insignificant, inconsequential
dregs	the last remaining part; the part of least worth	grounds, less, residue, leftovers	elite, cream of the crop
embody	to give form to; to incorporate, include	encompass, personify	x
exasperate	to irritate, annoy, or anger	vex, perturb, try one's patience	soothe, mollify, please, delight
fiasco	to cplete collapse or failure of a project	disaster, flop, bomb	triumph, hit, complete success
garnish	to adorn or decorate, especially food; an ornament or decoration	embellish, gussy up	x
heritage	an inheritance; a birthright	legac, descent, pedigree	x
inert	lifeless, unable to move or act; slow, inactive	sluggish, lethargic	vigorous, energetic, volatile
mercenary	acting or working for self-gain only; a hired soldier	soldier-of-fortune, grasping, avaricious	unselfish, disinterested, altruistic
negligent	failing to do what should be done; marked by carelessness or indifference	careless, neglectful, remiss, derelict	careful, attentive, conscientious
oblivion	a state of being forgotten; forgetfulness, disregard; an amnesty, general pardon	obscurity, nothingness	fame, renown, celebrity
opus	an impressive piece of work, especially a musical composition or other work of art	masterpiece, composition, oeuvre	x
pallid	pale, lacking in color, weak and lifeless	colorless, bloodless, dull	ruddy, sanguine, racy, colorful
parable	a short narrative designed to teach a moral lesson	moral tale, allegory	x
rational	based on reasoning; able to make use of reason	logical, sensible	mad, insane, illogical, absurd
reciprocal	shared; involving give-and-take between two persons or things; working in both directions; in math, a number that when multiplied by another number gives a 1	mutual	one-sided, unilateral
stricture	a limitation or restriction; a criticism; in medicine, a narrowing of a passage in the body	restraint	compliment, accolade, swelling
veneer	a thin outer layer; a surface appearance or decoration; to cover with a thin layer	facing, overlay, façade , pretense	nucleus, inner core