

Pairs of words that are often confused

Decision

Making

	First word	Meaning	Second word	Meaning
	1		2	
1	Accessory	Spare, additional part of automobile	accessary	Someone who helps another in committing a crime
2	acid	Bitterly pungent smell as of a burning dead body	acrimonious	Comment or argument that uses stinging words to hurt the listener
3	affection	Tender feeling towards a young one	affectation	Pretence and haughty mannerism to indicate superiority or snobbery
4	allude	To make an indirect reference	Elude	To escape or evade
5	Amiable person	Agreeable, lovable	Amicable settlement	Harmonious , peaceful and acceptable to many
6	Appraise	To estimate, to assess To judge	Apprise	To inform, to brief one's superior about some office work
7	alternate	Every other, or every second thing, or number, or person	alternative	A choice between two or more things.
8	bridal	Pertaining to the bride at a wedding	Bridle	Control or keep in check
9	broach	To initiate, to open a subject for a conversation	brooch	An ornament worn above a western dress
10	calendar	A table showing dates, days and	calender	A machine for smoothing cloth

		months in a year		
11	Chord	String of a musical instrument	Cord	A thin rope
12	Continual	Ongoing with short breaks in between	continuous	Ongoing without any break
13	collate	Make a careful comparison as in collate all evidence.	collation	A light meal
14	comely	Attractive, agreeable	comity	Courtesy, civility as shown to visiting foreign dignitaries
15	decry	Disapprove of, disparage	descry	Catch sight of , to discover after careful observation.
16	definite	Specific, exact	definitive	Final , conclusive
17	delude	deceive	delusion	False belief,
18	delusive	Deceptive , raising false hope	illusion	Mistaken perception of reality, optical illusion of a mirage in a desert.
19	deprecate	Strongly disapprove	depreciate	Reduced in value as in currency
20	disinterested	Impartial, objective	uninterested	Not interested
21	Enormous	Very huge	Enormity	Outrageousness of something , such as enormity of the damage caused by the earthquake
22	equable	Even and balanced, equable climate	Equitable	Just and fair
23	esoteric	Known to, and	exoteric	Easily understood

		understood by a chosen few , such as Quantum Physics		and therefore, known to general public.
24	excursion	A pleasure trip	incursion	A sudden attack and invasion
25	expatiate	Speak at length - he expatiated for an hour on the matter	expiate	To make amends for
26	emigrant	Those who go out of a country to settle in another country	Immigrant	Those who come from other countries to settle in a country
27	extant	Still existing. The earliest extant manuscript of this epic poem	extent	Size, degree The longitudinal extent of India, is from Kashmir in north, to Andaman and Nicobar Islands in Bay of Bengal, in the South.
28	factious	Causing dissension and divide among groups	factitious	Unnatural. - Extensive Advertising is creating a factitious demand for goods.
29	flaunt	Make a show of , display	flout	Defy, disregard
30	forego	Before hand; To reach a place before time	forgo	To go without, to abstain from
31	feign	Pretend to be	feint	Move to mislead the opponent
32	farther	Far away in distance	further	In addition to
33	forceful	Full of force	forcible	By force
34	Gage	To pledge an article as in a	gauge	To measure through

		mortgage		observation or keen insight – as in to gauge the character of any person
35	hoard	To accumulate goods with the intention of selling them at higher prices due to scarcity	horde	A gang or unruly group
36	Incredible	Beyond belief, what cannot be believed	incredulous	Sceptical, one who does not believe, unbelieving
37	inflammatory	That which irritates or arouses anger	inflammable	That which burns easily, or catches fire easily
38	ingenious	Skilful, witty, has a natural gift of genius, in + genius.	ingenuous	Innocent, naive, intellectually, at the level of a newborn baby
39	Irruption	A violent bursting in with a motion that is inwards. – as a mob irruption against the autocratic rule of the theocratic government in Egypt, or the German Irruption into Poland during the Second World War.	Eruption	A violent bursting out in which the movement is outward. As in the case of eruption of a dormant volcano.
40	Judicial	Pertaining to law or the process of law	Judicious	Wise, prudent, well thought out, as in a judicious review

				of the cause of a situation
41	loathe	Strongly hate something to the extent of not wanting to have anything to do with it	loath	Unwilling, averse to, not wanting to do in case given a choice.
42	luxuriant	Growing profusely, as in luxuriant hair, luxuriant grass	luxurious	Suggesting comfort and ease , sumptuous.
43	martial	Pertaining to war and armed forces , warlike, showing bravery in fighting – as in he is skilled in martial arts	marital	Pertaining to married life
44	mean	Stingy, not willing to giving anything to others	mien	Personal bearing (root is in mien of a well bred horse)
45	meet	To come together for a short period for a specific discussion or occasion	mete	Given out, allotted to , as in justice has been meted out to them
46	mendacity	False, based on a lie,	mendicity	To beg, to plead, begging
47	militate	To hinder, to fight, to work against	Mitigate	To reduce the severity of, to make it mild, as in severe cold and headache can be easily mitigated today be taking a tablet of oral medicine.
48	Obdurate	Stubborn,	objurgate	To rebuke

		unrelenting		severely, to scold
49	Obstreperous	Noisy, full of clanging and clattering sounds.	Opprobrious	Disgraceful, unbecoming behaviour
50	official	Having administrative authority or standing	officious	Interfering , meddling.
51	ordinance	Rule of order , as in a Presidential Ordinance	ordnance	A military weapon, as in - Army Tanks and guns are manufactured in an Ordnance factory
52	pair	Two of a kind, a set of two	pare	To peel off as in to pare an orange or a pear.
53	portent	Natural occurrences that were interpreted in the past, as a forewarning of other bad events that were to follow. Omens that are serious and threatening.	Portend	To presage, to foretell
54	prescribe	Lay down the rules for, order	proscribe	Denounce publicly, prohibit, forbid
55	Propitiate	To appease, as in 'with a propitiatory smile'	propitious	Favourable, kindly, as in a propitious time to start a new business or a journey
56	polite	Well mannered, courteous	politic	Well devised , well planned and executed
57	practical	As opposite of theoretical	practicable	Capable of being put into practice

58	provident	Showing foresight	providential	Heavenly, strikingly opportune ,
59	quaint	Old fashioned manners and customs that are considered attractive – as in the quaint manners of the villagers ---	queer	Abnormal things or habits that are disliked by others, distinctly peculiar.
60	reign	rule	rein	Means of control, curb, as in the reins of a horse
61	restless	Uneasy, discontented	restive	obstinate, stubborn
62	soar	To rise high as in birds that soar into the clear sky	sore	Injury to the skin, or a Skin wound that has become septic (putrefactive, or affected by bacteria)
63	spacious	Large, big, having a lot of space	Specious	False that appears to be true ; as in a specious argument
64	spiritual	Pertaining to the soul and the holy spirit	spirituous	Containing alcohol as in spirituous liquors
65	stationary	motionless	stationery	Writing material
66	statue	Image carved in stone, sculpture	statute	Written law created by a legislative body
67	style	Fashion in dress and manner, fashionable	stile	A narrow passage through a wall or a fence.
68	straight	Direct, in a straight line	strait	A difficult situation, geographically , a narrow passage between two land

				masses, or oceans or seas
69	superficial	Pertaining to the surface	superfluous	Exceeding the requirement, excess, unnecessary
70	temperance	Moderation, in balanced quantity	temperament	Physical and mental character of a person
71	tortuous	Long and winding	torturous	painful
72	turgid	Swollen, inflated	turbid	Muddy and unclear, clouded
73	unexceptional	ordinary	unexceptionable	Above reproach, altogether admirable
74	urban	Of the city or town	urbane	Polite, polished, well cultured, having good manners
75	vain	Conceited, haughty, falsely proud	vein	A blood vessel, mood of a person
76	venial	Trivial, an error than can be pardoned easily	venal	Capable of being bribed
77	veracity	Truthfulness	voracity	Greediness, particularly in food
78	wave	A movement on the surface of the oceans	waive	To forgo, to set aside, to relinquish
79	whet	To sharpen, to increase	wet	rainy or watery or damp
80	whit	A particle, a very small part,	wit	Clever expression that causes humour or shows high intelligence
81	willing		wilful	