

St. Joseph by-the-Sea High School

Summer Vocabulary List- Senior (English 12)

1. acclimate - *verb* - adapt; accustom; to get used to
2. affectation - *noun* - unnatural manner; odd behavior; quirk
3. alacrity - *noun* - promptness; readiness; timeliness
4. ambience - *noun* - atmosphere; environment; surroundings
5. appalled - *adjective* - shocked; dismayed; horrified
6. ascertain - *verb* - determine; find out for certain; discover
7. blight - *noun* - something that causes destruction; ruin; deterioration
8. brigand - *noun* - bandit; plunderer; thief
9. bulwark - *noun* - rampart; breakwater; seawall
10. burgeoned - *verb* - expanded; blossomed; flourished
11. cadaverous - *adjective* - pallid; livid; gaunt; emaciated
12. callow - *adjective* - youthful; naïve; immature
13. carnage - *noun* - destruction; flesh of slain animals
14. commiserate - *verb* - console; sympathize; feel compassion for
15. dearth - *noun* - scarcity; famine; inadequate supply
16. defamatory - *adjective* - disgraceful; harming of one's reputation; slanderous
17. deluge - *noun* - flood; inundation; swamp

18. deprecate - *verb* - disapprove; depreciate; apologize for
19. disseminate - *verb* - disperse; spread widely; scatter
20. dormant - *adjective* - sleeping; sluggish; latent
21. egregious - *adjective* - conspicuous; flagrant; obvious
22. emissary - *noun* - messenger; ambassador; agent
23. encomium - *noun* - speech of praise; eulogy; tribute; citation
24. epicurean - *noun* or *adjective* - gluttonous, sensuous; "bon vivant" (noun form)
25. equivocate - *verb* - deceive; prevaricate; mislead; misrepresent
26. futility - *noun* - fruitlessness; frivolousness; ineffectiveness
27. gainsay - *verb* - deny; dispute; contradict
28. genocide - *noun* - deliberate destruction of a group; annihilation
29. gratuitous - *adjective* - unwarranted; uncalled for; superogatory
30. harbinger - *noun* - precursor; forerunner; messenger
31. hyperbole - *noun* - exaggeration; extravagance
32. jocund - *adjective* - mirthful; cheerful; merry
33. laggard - *adjective* - dilatory; tending to hold back
34. livid - *adjective* - ashen; pallid; enraged
35. lugubrious - *adjective* - mournful; exaggeratedly mournful
36. manifest - *adjective* - understandable; clear; recognizable
37. martinet - *noun* - fascist; strict disciplinarian

38. maudlin - *adjective* - befuddled; excessively sentimental
39. mitigate - *verb* - mollify; soften; alleviate
40. munificent - *adjective* - lavish; liberal; generous
41. nepotism - *noun* - favoritism; job given on the basis of relationship
42. novice - *noun* - beginner; tyro; one who is inexperienced
43. nullify - *verb* - invalidate; void; negate; annul
44. obloquy - *noun* - condemnation; to speak against; slur; slander
45. paragon - *noun* - *model* of excellence; touchstone
46. parody - *noun* or *verb* - imitation; caricature
47. penchant - *noun* - inclination; affinity; liking
48. penury - *noun* - extreme poverty; privation; scantiness
49. pernicious - *adjective* - noxious; deadly; destructive
50. plaintiff - *noun* - one who brings a lawsuit; litigant; complaint
51. polygamist - *noun* - one who marries more than once; bigamist
52. potentate - *noun* - one who holds power; dictator
53. prerogative - *noun* - choice; privilege; predilection
54. prevarication - *noun* - equivocation; vacillation; mendacity
55. querulous - *adjective* - captious; fretful; whining
56. quirk - *noun* - idiosyncrasy; accident; vagary
57. raconteur - *noun* - storyteller; one who tells anecdotes

58. rail - *verb* - scold; mock; revile; babble
59. rift - *noun* - opening; break; divide
60. ruminare - *verb* - contemplate; reflect; ponder
61. sardonic - *adjective* - bitter; mocking; evil
62. sophistry - *noun* - subtly deceptive reasoning or argumentation
63. stentorian - *adjective* - booming; blasting; extremely loud
64. sullen - *adjective* - dismal; gloomy; melancholy
65. taut - *adjective* - tense; high strung; tight
66. tenacious - *adjective* - persistent; cohesive; sticky; stubborn
67. tenuous - *adjective* - slender; flimsy; weak
68. termagant - *noun* - shrew; one who constantly nags and complains; scolding woman
69. torpid - *adjective* - apathetic; dull; dormant; numb
70. tortuous - *adjective* - winding; circuitous; crooked; tricky
71. turgid - *adjective* - swollen; distended; excessively inflated
72. tyro - *noun* - novice; beginner; amateur
73. wanton - *adjective* - unchaste; lewd; unruly; undisciplined
74. wily - *adjective* - shrewd; cunning; crafty; sly
75. wistful - *adjective* - yearning; melancholy; filled with unfulfilled yearning or desire