

ancestor

noun

A person from whom one is descended.

My ancestors came from Congo.

ancestor

noun

An early kind of animal from which later ones have developed, a forerunner

The dog-sized mesohippus is the ancestor of the modern horse.

carnivore

noun

A flesh-eating animal.

Carnivores have sharp, pointed teeth that enable them to tear the meat they eat.

carnivorous

adjective

Flesh-eating

Although dogs are carnivorous, they will often eat other foods besides meat.

comprehend

verb

To understand.

If you don't comprehend the question, I will word it differently.

comprehension

noun

The act of understanding; the ability to understand.

Pawel cannot speak Spanish very well, but his comprehension is quite good.

duration

noun

The time during which something lasts or continues.

We stayed in our house for the duration of the heavy rainstorm.

evident

adjective

**Easy to see and understand;
obvious, clear.**

*It is evident from our manner that you are
not happy to see me.*

extinct

adjective

No longer existing or living.

*The giant woolly mammoth went extinct
about ten thousand years ago.*

extinct

adjective

No longer active.

Mount Saint Helens was believed to be an extinct volcano until it suddenly became active in 1980.

ferocious

adjective

Savage; fierce.

Doberman pinschers make ferocious guard dogs.

ferocity

noun

The state or quality of being fierce.

The ferocity of the storm surprised us.

gigantic

adjective

Very large; like a giant in size.

The Spruce Goose was gigantic airplane that made only one flight.

obscure

verb

To cover up or keep from being seen.

Clouds obscured the moon.

obscure

adjective

Hard to see; hidden.

The boat was an obscure shape in the mist.

obscure

adjective

Not easy to understand.

The story was full of obscure words like "cauldron" and "phoenix."

option

noun

Choice or something that is available as a choice.

We had the option of practicing soccer during the lunch break or after school.

optional

adjective

Left to choice.

Papi said we had to go to Tia Maria's house for lunch, but staying for dinner was optional.

premature

adjective

Too early; happening or arriving before the proper time.

Premature babies require special care before they are allowed to leave the hospital.

preserve

verb

To save; to keep from harm; to protect.

This law will help preserve the old forests in the national parks.

preserve

verb

The keep from rotting from spoiling.

Steve and Martha preserve the peaches from their orchard by canning them.

prey

noun

An animal that is hunted for food.

Chickens are the natural prey of foxes.

prey

noun

One that is helpless or unable to resist attack; a victim.

Be alert when you travel so that you will not be prey to thieves.

prey

verb

To hunt (animals) for food.

Wolves prey on the weakest deer in the herd.

prey

verb

To take from or rob using violence or trickery.

The pickpockets preyed on people whose arms were full of shopping bags.

puny

adjective

Weak.

Lifting weights can change puny muscles into powerful ones.

puny

adjective

Lacking in size, strength, and power.

My offering of one dollar seemed puny compared to what others gave.

survive

verb

To say alive where there is a chance of dying or being killed.

Only three passengers survived the plane crash.

survive

verb

To continue living or existing through a threatening situation.

Only two of the eight maple trees in our yard survived the hurricane.

survivor

noun

One who stays alive in a situation where others die.

Survivors of the shipwreck floated on life rafts until the helicopter could pick them up.