

## General Words

### Junior General Level 1

#### **bear**

(say bair)

*noun* a large heavy animal with short rough hair and a very short tail:

*A bear can be very dangerous.*

#### **black**

(say blak)

*adjective* completely dark, or without colour and brightness:

*I have a new pair of black shoes.*

#### **brolga**

(say **bro**-guh)

*noun* a large silvery-grey bird with long legs, which is known for its dancing:

*The brolga is a native Australian bird.*

#### **chess**

(say chess)

*noun* a game played by two people, each with sixteen pieces, on a board marked with squares:

*Liam likes playing chess.*

#### **cloud**

(say klowd)

*noun* a white or grey mass of water vapour, ice, smoke or dust that floats in the air:

*There was a big dark cloud in the sky, so we knew there was a storm coming.*

#### **creek**

(say kreek)

*noun* a small river:

*We like to catch tadpoles in the creek.*

#### **doctor**

(say **dok**-tuh)

*noun* someone who has learned about diseases and treats sick people:

*I went to the doctor because my stomach was sore.*

#### **enjoy**

(say en-**joy**)

*verb* If you **enjoy** something, you get pleasure from it:

*I enjoy science fiction films.*

#### **farmer**

(say **fah**-muh)

*noun* A **farmer** is someone who works on a farm, growing plants and keeping animals for food:

*My father wants to leave the city and become a farmer.*

#### **flood**

(say flud)

*noun* a big overflowing of water, especially over land that is usually dry:

*Weeks of heavy rain had caused a flood, and the main street was now under water.*

#### **forest**

(say **fo**-ruhst)

*noun* land thickly covered with trees:

*The firefighters stopped the blaze reaching the pine forest.*

**garden**

(say **gah**-duhn)

*noun* an area, usually with trees and plants, used for pleasure and as a place to relax:

*They were sent outside to play in the garden.*

**label**

(say **lay**-buhl)

*noun* a piece of paper or material put on something to show what it is, who owns it, or where it is going:

*I lost my bag because it didn't have a label.*

**letter**

(say **let**-uh)

*noun* a message in writing or printing, addressed to a person or group:

*She received a letter from her friend in Vietnam.*

**lion**

(say **luy**-uhn)

*noun* a large, honey-coloured member of the cat family, living in Africa and southern Asia:

*The lion was sunning itself on a rock.*

**loud**

(say lowd)

*adjective* noisy and able to be heard very clearly:

*The TV's too loud -- please turn it down.*

**meat**

(say meet)

*noun* the flesh of animals when used for food:

*Some people do not like meat and only eat vegetables.*

**milk**

(say milk)

*noun* the white liquid produced by female mammals to feed their young. The milk of the cow and some other animals is used as food for humans:

*All our new baby sister drinks is milk.*

**monster**

(say **mon**-stuh)

*noun* someone or something that is frighteningly cruel:

*The monster in the film was extremely scary.*

**moss**

(say moss)

*noun* a plant with very small leaves that grows in patches on rather wet ground, tree trunks or rocks:

*We slipped on the moss growing on the rocks.*

**night**

(say nuyt)

*noun* **Night** is the time of darkness after the sun sets and before it rises again:

*Some animals sleep through the day and go looking for food at night.*

**pain**

(say payn)

*noun* a feeling of suffering or hurt:

*The pain in his leg made walking difficult.*

**party**

(say pah-tee)

*noun* a social gathering, often to celebrate something:

*I'm having a birthday party next week.*

**pray**

(say pray)

*verb* If you **pray**, you talk to the god that you believe in, often to ask for help or to be forgiven for something that you have done wrong:

*I pray every night before I go to bed.*

**price**

(say prays)

*noun* the amount of money for which something is bought or sold:

*Everything in the shop had its price written on it.*

**rash**

(say rash)

*noun* red, itchy spots or patches on the skin:

*He wasn't supposed to scratch his rash even though it was really itchy.*

**river**

(say riv-uh)

*noun* a natural body of water that flows over the land in a long winding path:

*We paddled our canoes along the river.*

**rock**

(say rok)

*noun* a large mass of stone:

*Kim and Sally sat on a flat rock and ate lunch.*

**royal**

(say roy-uhl)

*adjective* having to do with a king or queen:

*People were excited by the royal wedding.*

**sale**

(say sayl)

*noun* the act of selling:

*This house is not for sale.*

**shake**

(say shayk)

*verb* If you **shake** something, you move it sharply backwards and forwards or up and down:

*Shake the bottle before taking the medicine.*

**sheep**

(say sheep)

*noun* an animal which is kept for its meat and thick wool:

*The dog managed to get the flock into the pen except for one stubborn sheep.*

**shine**

(say shuyn)

*verb* If you **shine** a light somewhere, you point or direct it there in order to see something:

*If you shine the torch in here we might be able to find the key.*

**shoe**

(say shooh)

*noun* a covering, usually made of leather, for your foot:

*My shoe has a hole in it and now my foot is wet.*

**silver**

(say sil-vuh)

*noun* a shiny grey metal used for making things like jewellery:

*My new ring is made of silver.*

**skill**

(say skil)

*noun* the ability to do something well:

*She has many talents, but her great skill is singing.*

**sleep**

(say sleep)

*verb* To **sleep** is to rest with your eyes closed and your mind unconscious:

*She always felt better if she could sleep through the whole night without waking.*

**slug**

(say slug)

*noun* a creature like a snail but without a shell:

*I squealed when I stepped on a slug -- the slug didn't like it much, either.*

**space**

(say spayce)

*noun* the continuous openness which exists outside the earth's atmosphere:

*A rocket was used to launch a satellite into space.*

**spine**

(say spuyn)

*noun* the column of bones in the back:

*Mum has hurt her spine and has to rest until it is better.*

**stone**

(say stohn)

*noun* the hard substance which rocks are made of:

*The cold stone was good to lean against in the heat.*

**storm**

(say stawm)

*noun* a violent change in the weather bringing wind, rain, thunder and lightning:

*The storm suddenly hit and we all raced for cover.*

**surf**

(say serf)

*noun* the waves which break along the shore:

*Let's go down to the surf and catch some waves.*

**tact**

(say takt)

*noun* a sense of the right time to do or say something:

*He had the tact to leave her alone when she heard the news.*

**target**

(say tah-guht)

*noun* A **target** is something that you aim at and try to hit or reach:

*She hit the target with the ball and won a prize.*

**thorn**

(say thawn)

*noun* a sharp-pointed prickle on the stem of a plant:

*She ripped her dress on the rose thorn.*

**timber**

(say **tim**-buh)

*noun* **Timber** is wood which has been cut into pieces so that it can be used to build things:

*The builder said the timber would be delivered the next day.*

**trail**

(say trayl)

*noun* a path or track, usually through the bush:

*If you stay on the trail, you won't get lost.*

**twig**

(say twig)

*noun* a small, thin branch of a tree:

*When we were camping, we used a twig to stir our tea.*

**wild**

(say wuyld)

*adjective* If an animal or plant is **wild**, it is living or growing in a natural state without humans taking care of it:

*There are wild mushrooms growing in the paddock.*

## Junior General Level 2

### abet

(say uh-**bet**)

*verb* to help or encourage in committing something, usually something bad:

*The children were wrong to aid and abet each other in the deception.*

### abide

(say uh-**buyd**)

*verb* If you **abide** by something, you accept it:

*If you enter the contest, you have to abide by the rules.*

### absent

(say **ab**-suhnt)

*adjective* not in a certain place at a given time:

*Dimitri is absent from school today because he's sick.*

### account

(say uh-**kownt**)

*noun* a story telling the important things that have happened:

*The police wanted us to give an account of everything we had seen.*

### acorn

(say **ay**-kawn)

*noun* a nut with a cup-shaped bottom part, which grows on an oak tree:

*The squirrel was munching on an acorn.*

### actual

(say **ak**-chooh-uhl)

*adjective* real or true:

*The character in the film was based on an actual person.*

### adorn

(say uh-**dawn**)

*verb* to increase the beauty of something by decorating it:

*We used tinsel instead of lights to adorn our Christmas tree.*

### advise

(say uhd-**vuyz**)

*verb* If you **advise** someone to do something, you tell them what you think they should do:

*Can you advise me on what to buy him as a present?*

### afraid

(say uh-**frayd**)

*adjective* If you are **afraid**, you feel frightened:

*Ellie was afraid when she heard the strange noises outside.*

### against

(say uh-**genst** or uh-**gaynst**)

*preposition* in contact or leaning upon:

*He leant the piece of wood against the wall.*

### alien

(say **ay**-lee-uhn)

*noun* in science fiction, a being from outer space:

*In the book I am reading an alien flies to Earth in a spaceship.*

**amaze**

(say uh-**mayz**)

*verb* to surprise someone a lot:

*It would amaze my friends if I changed the colour of my hair to green.*

**ambush**

(say **am**-boosh)

*verb* to hide and wait for someone so as to attack them by surprise:

*The bushrangers were waiting in the hills to ambush the coach.*

**ankle**

(say **ang**-kuhl)

*noun* the part of your body where your foot joins your leg:

*I tripped over a branch and sprained my ankle.*

**anthem**

(say **an**-thuhm)

*noun* An **anthem** is a song that you sing at important times or events:

*Australia's national anthem is 'Advance Australia Fair'.*

**apricot**

(say **ay**-pree-kot or **ay**-pruh-kot)

*noun* a small, round, juicy fruit:

*I always find it hard to tell the difference between an apricot and a peach.*

**argue**

(say **ah**-gyooh)

*verb* If you **argue** with someone about something, you say things, often in an angry way, which show that you disagree with them:

*The two brothers would argue for hours over who had first go on the trampoline.*

**astound**

(say uh-**stownd**)

*verb* to overwhelm with amazement:

*The actors hoped to astound their audiences with their new interpretation of the play.*

**attic**

(say **at**-ik)

*noun* a room or a space directly under the roof of a building:

*We stored our old furniture in the attic.*

**awful**

(say **aw**-fuhl)

*adjective* very bad or unpleasant:

*It took weeks to clean up the awful mess left by the flood.*

**bamboo**

(say bam-**booh**)

*noun* a woody plant whose stem is sometimes used for making furniture:

*We have a chair on our balcony made from bamboo.*

**bashful**

(say **bash**-fuhl)

*adjective* very modest or shy:

*Don't be bashful -- tell them about your award.*

**beetroot**

(say **beet**-rooht)

*noun* the dark red root of the beet plant which is eaten as a vegetable:

*I hate it when they put beetroot in my hamburger.*

**beneath**

(say buh-**neeth**)

*adverb* below, or underneath:

*Martha hid beneath the table in a game of hide and seek.*

**bilby**

(say **bil**-bee)

*noun* a type of bandicoot. It is an animal currently rated as vulnerable rather than endangered:

*The bilby is quite different in appearance from other types of bandicoot.*

**blanket**

(say **blang**-kuht)

*noun* a large piece of soft woollen or cotton material, used as a bed covering:

*She wrapped herself in a blanket in front of the TV.*

**bloated**

(say **bloh**-tuhd)

*adjective* swollen:

*I always feel bloated after Christmas lunch because I eat too much.*

**blossom**

(say **bloss**-uhm)

*noun* the flower of a plant, especially of a fruit tree:

*The blossom of an orange tree smells really sweet.*

**bounce**

(say bownce)

*verb* If you **bounce** a ball, you throw it against a surface to make it spring back towards you:

*I'll bounce the ball against the wall, and you can catch it when it comes back.*

**breakfast**

(say **brek**-fuhst)

*noun* the first meal of the day:

*Shane has two bowls of cereal for breakfast.*

**breathe**

(say breedh)

*verb* to take in and give out air:

*While we were hiding we had to breathe very quietly.*

**brought**

(say brawt)

*verb* the past form of the word **bring**:

*It was a crazy day when we all brought our pets to school!*

**burgle**

(say **ber**-guh1)

*verb* to perform a burglary in:

*The bandits devised a plan to burgle the jewellery shop.*

**burrow**

(say **bu**-roh)

*noun* a hole in the ground dug by an animal, to live and shelter in:

*The wombat sleeps in a burrow during the day.*

**cabin**

(say **kab**-uhn)

*noun* a small house:

*The old man lived in a cabin in the bush.*

**canal**

(say kuh-**nal**)

*noun* an artificial river made for boats to travel along:

*The farmers used the canal to send their produce to market.*

**canyon**

(say **kan**-yuhn)

*noun* a deep valley with steep sides:

*Everything at the bottom of the canyon looks very small.*

**captain**

(say **kap**-tuhn)

*noun* someone who is in charge of a sporting team:

*Max was chosen as the captain of our cricket team.*

**caption**

(say **kap**-shuhn)

*noun* the words written underneath a picture to describe or explain it:

*The people in the photo are named in the caption.*

**cardigan**

(say **kah**-dig-uhn)

*noun* a knitted jacket with buttons down the front:

*It was starting to get cold so I put on my cardigan.*

**career**

(say kuh-**rear**)

*noun* the job or profession in which you earn your living:

*My sister wants a career in television.*

**cashew**

(say **kash**-ooh)

*noun* a small, kidney-shaped nut that you can eat:

*The cashew comes from a tree native to South America.*

**chafe**

(say chayf)

*verb* to wear down or make sore by rubbing:

*The bandage began to chafe against his wound so he took it off.*

**charcoal**

(say **chah**-kohl)

*noun* partly burnt wood, which can be used for drawing:

*We drew pictures with sticks of charcoal in our art class.*

**cheep**

(say cheep)

*verb* A chicken **cheeps** when it makes weak, high sounds:

*We could hear the baby bird cheep until its mother returned.*

**civil**

(say **siv**-uhl)

*adjective* polite or courteous, although perhaps not particularly friendly:

*She's not overly friendly, but she's always been perfectly civil to me.*

**climate**

(say **kluy**-muht)

*noun* the usual weather of a particular place:

*The climate in Australia is generally quite warm and sunny.*

**cockroach**

(say **kok**-rohch)

*noun* an insect, usually active at night, with a flattened body and long feelers, which is a common household pest:

*Marie was horrified to see a big, black cockroach crawling up her leg!*

**cocoon**

(say kuh-**koohn**)

*noun* the silky covering spun by the larvae of many insects:

*We found a cocoon hanging from some leaves.*

**collar**

(say **kol**-uh)

*noun* the part of a piece of clothing that is worn around your neck:

*Jack did up his collar and put his tie on.*

**combat**

(say **kom**-bat)

*noun* the fighting that takes place between opposing armies:

*The soldiers were locked in combat.*

**compost**

(say **kom**-post)

*noun* a mixture of things like vegetable scraps and leaves, left to rot and then used to fertilise the soil:

*We dug some compost into the ground before we planted our vegetable garden.*

**convict**

(say **kon**-vikt)

*noun* in the past, a person transported to the British colonies to serve out a prison sentence:

*The life of a convict in Port Arthur was very hard.*

**cotton**

(say **kot**-uhn)

*noun* a light material made from the soft, white hairs covering the seeds of the cotton plant:

*Clothes made of cotton are comfortable to wear when it is very hot.*

**country**

(say **kun**-tree)

*noun* a large area of land occupied by people organised under a single government:

*Australia is a country, and so is Fiji.*

**courage**

(say **ku**-rij)

*noun* the strength a person has inside them to do something they find frightening:

*She showed great courage when she saved the child from the fire.*

**crooked**

(say **krook**-uhd)

*adjective* If something is **crooked**, it is not straight:

*Vicky lent against the crooked fence.*

**curd**

(say kerd)

*noun* a jelly-like substance formed in milk which has been treated with an acid, eaten fresh or used for making cheese:

*We learned how to make cheese from curd produced from goats' milk.*

**curtain**

(say **ker**-tuhn)

*noun* a piece of material hanging from a rod over a window:

*Let's pull the curtain back so some light can come in.*

**cutlet**

(say **kut**-luht)

*noun* a small cut of meat, usually lamb or veal, that contains a rib:

*I quickly took the last lamb cutlet from the barbecue.*

**dazzle**

(say **daz**-uhl)

*verb* If a light **dazzles** you, it shines in your eyes and stops you from seeing properly:

*Bright headlights often dazzle me.*

**debt**

(say det)

*noun* anything that you owe someone else:

*He has paid back all his loans and does not have a single debt.*

**denim**

(say **den**-uhm)

*noun* a heavy cotton material used to make jeans and other clothes:

*The invitation stressed that you should not wear denim.*

**desert**

(say **dez**-uht)

*noun* a sandy or stony place without enough rainfall to grow many plants:

*It very rarely rains in the desert.*

**devoid**

(say duh-**voyd**)

*adjective* If something is **devoid of** something, it is without it:

*The park was completely devoid of trees.*

**dollop**

(say **dol**-uhp)

*noun* a shapeless lump; a blob:

*She put a dollop of cream on her scone.*

**dormant**

(say **daw**-muhnt)

*adjective* not active:

*This volcano has been dormant for 800 years.*

**doubt**

(say dowt)

*noun* a feeling of uncertainty or suspicion:

*There is some doubt about her ability to finish the job.*

**druid**

(say **drooh**-uhd)

*noun* one of an order of priests among the ancient Celts of Gaul, Britain, and Ireland:

*A druid was one of an ancient order of Celtic priests, about which very little is known.*

**earnest**

(say **er**-nuhst)

*adjective* serious or sincere:

*Is she earnest about wanting to play the violin?*

**elephant**

(say **el**-uh-fuhnt)

*noun* a very large animal of Africa or India, with a thick grey skin, a long trunk which can grasp and carry things, and long curved tusks:

*We went to the zoo especially to see the new African elephant.*

**elevator**

(say **el**-uh-vay-tuh)

*noun* An **elevator** is something shaped like a large box for carrying people up and down inside tall buildings:

*Let's catch the elevator -- it's quicker than walking up the stairs.*

**embellish**

(say em-**bel**-ish)

*verb* To **embellish** something is to make it beautiful by decorating it:

*They used precious jewels to embellish the crown.*

**emblem**

(say **em**-bluhm)

*noun* a badge or something that serves as a sign or symbol:

*The floral emblem of New South Wales is the waratah.*

**emerald**

(say **em**-ruhld)

*noun* a valuable, bright green jewel:

*The ring featured a single, brilliant emerald.*

**empire**

(say **em**-puy-uh)

*noun* a group of countries ruled by an emperor or other powerful sovereign or government:

*The British Empire was once very large.*

**empty**

(say **emp**-tee)

*adjective* If something is **empty**, it doesn't contain anything:

*In the morning she wheeled the empty garbage bin back into the yard.*

**encounter**

(say en-**kown**-tuh)

*verb* If you **encounter** someone, you meet them:

*I had not expected to encounter an old friend such a long way from home.*

**engross**

(say en-**grohs**)

*verb* to occupy the mind or attention of completely:

*That book will engross you for days.*

**enough**

(say uh-**nuf**)

*adjective* If something is **enough**, it is all you need:

*Is there enough milk for breakfast?*

**eraser**

(say uh-**rayz**-uh or ee-**rayz**-uh)

*noun* An **eraser** is a small piece of soft rubber used to rub out pencil marks:

*I have made a mistake. I need an eraser.*

**excess**

(say **ek**-ses or uhk-ses)

*noun* an amount that is more than what is necessary or usual:

*We have an excess of eggs, so please take some.*

**expiry**

(say ek-**spuy**-ree)

*noun* a coming to an end:

*He intends to retire at the expiry of his present contract.*

**family**

(say **fam**-uh-lee)

*noun* parents and their children:

*Our family went for a holiday to the snow last year.*

**fashion**

(say **fash**-uhn)

*noun* a style of dressing:

*She always wears the latest fashion.*

**feature**

(say **fee**-chuh)

*noun* any part of your face:

*His nose is his best feature.*

**federal**

(say **fed**-uh-ruhl or **fed**-ruhl)

*adjective* relating to a union of states under a central government:

*He is a journalist who writes about federal politics.*

**fever**

(say **fee**-vuh)

*noun* an unusually high body temperature caused by illness:

*She had a fever for three days and had to stay at home.*

**flea**

(say flee)

*noun* a small wingless insect which moves by jumping and which sucks blood from animals:

*A bite from a flea can make you very itchy.*

**flicker**

(say **flik**-uh)

*verb* If a flame **flickers**, it burns unsteadily:

*The wind made the candle flicker.*

**flora**

(say **flaw**-ruh)

*noun* the plants of a particular area:

*The flora of Australia includes the wattle tree.*

**flour**

(say **flow**-uh)

*noun* a fine powder made from rice, wheat, or other grain and used in cooking:

*Dad bought some flour to make pancakes.*

**fluent**

(say **flooh**-uhnt)

*adjective* flowing smoothly and easily:

*She speaks fluent French after living in Paris for a year.*

**fossil**

(say **foss**-uhl)

*noun* the remains of an animal or plant from long ago, preserved in rock:

*We found a fossil of a fern leaf in a cave.*

**fountain**

(say **fown**-tuhn)

*noun* a decorated structure with flowing water, often situated in a public place:

*We had lunch beside the fountain in the park.*

**frantic**

(say **fran**-tik)

*adjective* wild with fear, worry, pain or excitement:

*We were frantic when we couldn't find our dog for two days.*

**fraud**

(say frawd)

*noun* deliberate cheating or trickery:

*The accountant was charged with fraud after cheating his clients out of their money.*

**frequent**

(say **free**-kwuhnt)

*adjective* happening often:

*The charity makes frequent appeals for donations.*

**fright**

(say fruyt)

*noun* a sudden feeling of fear or shock:

*The sudden noise gave us a fright.*

**garbage**

(say **gah**-bij)

*noun* rubbish or waste material:

*We picked up the garbage and put it in the bin.*

**garment**

(say **gah**-muhnt)

*noun* a piece of clothing, such as a dress, shirt or coat:

*He was wearing a very peculiar garment of purple and green satin.*

**gecko**

(say **gek**-oh)

*noun* a small lizard which is active at night, with special pads on its toes which help it stick to things:

*We shone a torch up the tree and spotted a gecko high up the trunk.*

**ghost**

(say gohst)

*noun* the spirit of someone who has died, imagined as visiting living people:

*My friend reckons he has seen a ghost but I don't believe him.*

**giraffe**

(say juh-**rahf**)

*noun* an African animal with spots, a very long neck and long legs:

*A giraffe can reach the leaves that other animals can't.*

**grammar**

(say **gram**-uh)

*noun* the parts of a language, such as sounds and words, and the way they are combined into phrases and sentences:

*It's good to know about grammar when you study a foreign language.*

**grotto**

(say **gro**-toh)

*noun* a cave:

*The scuba diver took his mask off when he surfaced inside the grotto.*

**handful**

(say **hand**-full)

*noun* as much or as many as the hand can contain:

*Billy picked up a handful of peanuts as he walked out of the kitchen.*

**hazard**

(say **haz**-uhd)

*noun* a risk or danger:

*The hole in the footpath is a hazard for pedestrians.*

**health**

(say helth)

*noun* the general state of your body:

*Eating fresh fruit and vegetables is a necessity for good health.*

**helmet**

(say **hel**-muht)

*noun* a special hat that protects your head:

*You must wear a helmet when you ride a bike.*

**highlight**

(say **huy**-luyt)

*noun* the best, brightest or most outstanding part:

*The magician's act was the highlight of the party.*

**history**

(say **his**-tree)

*noun* the events which have happened in the past, or the study of these events:

*We are studying the history of Japan this term.*

**holiday**

(say **hol**-uh-day)

*noun* a day's break from work or school, usually to celebrate or remember an important event:

*We have a public holiday to celebrate New Year.*

**injure**

(say **in**-juh)

*verb* If something **injures** you, it causes you some harm:

*Falling off your bike without a helmet can injure you badly.*

**instead**

(say in-sted)

*adverb* in place of someone or something else:

*Instead of bouncing off the wall, the ball went straight through the window.*

**iron**

(say **uy**-uhn)

*noun* a type of metal used in making tools, machinery and other things:

*The railing around the old house was made of iron, and was very rusty.*

**island**

(say **uy**-luhnd)

*noun* a piece of land completely surrounded by water:

*We rowed out to the island in the middle of the lake.*

**jetty**

(say **jet**-ee)

*noun* a long structure, sticking out into a river or the sea, that boats or ships can be tied to:

*We sat on the jetty and tried to catch some fish for dinner.*

**journey**

(say **jer**-nee)

*noun* the act of travelling between two places:

*A driver on a long journey should stop every two hours.*

**jungle**

(say **jung**-guhl)

*noun* the thick trees and plants which grow in warm, slightly wet, tropical conditions:

*Monkeys love living in the jungle because they can swing on the vines.*

**justice**

(say **jus**-tuhs)

*noun* the quality of being just and fair:

*It is important to uphold justice in a society.*

**kennel**

(say **ken**-uhl)

*noun* A **kennel** is a small building for keeping a dog warm and dry:

*The kennel was full of all the things Rover had collected during the past week.*

**kingdom**

(say **king**-duhm)

*noun* a country or government ruled over by a king or queen:

*The knights of Camelot defended their kingdom valiantly.*

**kiosk**

(say **kee**-osk)

*noun* a small shop or stall which sells food and drink:

*After our swim we walked up the beach to buy some drinks at the kiosk.*

**koala**

(say koh-**ah**-luh)

*noun* a furry, grey, Australian marsupial without a tail, which lives and feeds in certain types of gum trees:

*Lots of people think that the koala is a bear, but it isn't.*

**lagoon**

(say luh-**goohn**)

*noun* a shallow pool of water, often separated from the sea by a bank of sand or a reef:

*The sea was too rough so we swam in the lagoon.*

**lance**

(say lans or lahns)

*noun* a long spear:

*The knight lowered his lance when he charged at his opponent.*

**laundry**

(say **lawn**-dree)

*noun* a room in a house for washing clothes:

*He took his wet football clothes straight to the laundry.*

**lava**

(say **lah**-vuh)

*noun* the hot liquid rock which comes out of a volcano:

*Rivers of lava poured down the side of the mountain.*

**leather**

(say **ledh**-uh)

*noun* the skin of animals prepared by tanning, used to make such things as shoes and bags:

*My sister is very proud of her new red leather boots.*

**leech**

(say leech)

*noun* a small worm that sucks the blood of humans or animals:

*We made the leech let go by putting salt on it.*

**legend**

(say **lej**-uhnd)

*noun* a story that comes from long ago in the past and which is thought by many people to be at least partly true:

*Many people know of the legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table.*

**lethal**

(say **lee**-thuhl)

*adjective* Something **lethal** causes death:

*The venom of the funnel-web spider can be lethal.*

**limb**

(say lim)

*noun* a person's arm or leg, or a similar part of an animal's body, such as a wing:

*In our first aid lessons, we learned how to treat a broken limb until a doctor arrives.*

**lizard**

(say **liz**-uhd)

*noun* a reptile with a long body, four legs and a tail:

*The lizard was lying in the sun to warm itself up for the day.*

**loyal**

(say **loy**-uhl)

*adjective* Someone is **loyal** when they do not change in their friendship, support or love for someone or something:

*A dog is a loyal companion.*

**maggot**

(say **mag**-uht)

*noun* the small, white grub which turns into a fly or other similar insect, often found on decaying flesh or food:

*Pablo threw his apple away when he found a maggot in it.*

**mammal**

(say **mam**-uhl)

*noun* an animal whose young feeds on its mother's milk:

*A whale is a mammal which lives in the sea.*

**mangrove**

(say **mang**-grohv)

*noun* an area where trees grow on mudflats:

*The mangrove area of the Murray River supports a huge diversity of plant and animal life.*

**marine**

(say muh-**reen**)

*adjective* having to do with the sea:

*The ocean is full of many kinds of marine life.*

**mattress**

(say **mat**-ruhs)

*noun* a case filled with soft material, often reinforced with springs, used as a bed:

*I need a bigger bed and mattress now that I'm a teenager.*

**memory**

(say **mem**-ree or **mem**-uh-ree)

*noun* something that you remember:

*His memory of his first day at school was a happy one.*

**mildew**

(say **mil**-dyooh)

*noun* a coating or growth which appears on slightly wet cloth, leather, etc.:

*My shoes are covered in mildew after this damp weather.*

**mirror**

(say **mi**-ruh)

*noun* glass that has been treated so that you can see yourself reflected in it:

*Dad glanced in the mirror to make sure his tie was straight.*

**mulch**

(say mulch)

*noun* plant material such as grass clippings and leaves, spread on gardens to protect and feed the plants:

*Jim spread mulch around his new seedlings.*

**neither**

(say **nuy**-dhuh or **nee**-dhuh)

*adjective* not one nor the other:

*Neither colour suits me -- I look awful in both orange and purple.*

**nervous**

(say **ner**-vuhs)

*adjective* worried or frightened, especially about something that is going to happen:

*He was very nervous about the speech he had to give.*

**nuzzle**

(say **nuz**-uhl)

*verb* To **nuzzle** someone or something is to touch or rub them with the nose:

*The dog nuzzled its rescuer with its big, wet nose.*

**office**

(say **off**-uhs)

*noun* rank or duty:

*She takes the responsibilities of her office very seriously.*

**onion**

(say **un**-yuhn)

*noun* a white vegetable with a white, brown or purple skin and a strong smell and taste, used in cooking:

*He chopped up an onion and put it on the barbecue.*

**opinion**

(say uh-**pin**-yuhn)

*noun* what you think or decide:

*In my opinion, we should have more sport at school.*

**orchard**

(say **aw**-chuhd)

*noun* a farm where fruit trees are grown:

*The orchard was full of apple trees.*

**organ**

(say **aw**-guhnh)

*noun* a part of the body which has a particular job, such as the heart which pumps blood or the liver which makes bile:

*The doctors were worried that he had damaged a major organ in the accident.*

**painful**

(say **payn**-fuhl)

*adjective* If something is **painful**, it hurts:

*My arm was very painful when it was broken.*

**parcel**

(say **pah**-suhl)

*noun* a package or wrapped bundle of goods:

*He was carrying a large brown parcel which he had picked up from the post office.*

**pardon**

(say **pah**-duhn)

*noun* forgiveness, especially for a crime:

*The prisoner received a pardon for his crimes.*

**pasture**

(say **pahs**-chuh)

*noun* land suitable for cattle or sheep to graze on:

*The land near the river is good pasture for the cattle.*

**patient**

(say **pay**-shuhnt)

*noun* someone who is being treated by a doctor or is in a hospital:

*The doctor had to check on one last patient before he could leave for the night.*

**peanut**

(say **pee**-nut)

*noun* a small nut which ripens in a pod underground and which you can eat:

*Some people have a bad reaction when they eat a peanut.*

**pheasant**

(say **fez**-uhnt)

*noun* a kind of large, long-tailed bird, often eaten as food:

*Pheasant is a popular item on menus in Europe.*

**piece**

(say peece)

*noun* a bit or part of something:

*Who would like a piece of cake?*

**pillow**

(say **pil**-oh)

*noun* a bag filled with soft material to rest your head on when you are in bed:

*When I sleep over at a friend's place, I always take my own pillow.*

**pirate**

(say **puy**-ruht)

*noun* someone who attacks and robs ships at sea:

*The pirate swung onto the deck, brandishing a sword.*

**pizza**

(say **peet**-suh)

*noun* a thin dough base covered with tomato, olives, grated cheese or similar savoury foods and baked in an oven:

*We bought a pizza with lots of garlic and mushrooms.*

**plait**

(say plat)

*verb* To **plait** hair is to wind three or more strands of it together:

*Will you plait my hair for me?*

**possum**

(say poss-uhm)

*noun* an Australian marsupial that lives in trees, has a long tail for climbing and is active at night:

*There was a possum in the tree outside my bedroom window last night.*

**practical**

(say prak-tik-uhl)

*adjective* If something is **practical**, it has to do with actually doing things, rather than with ideas:

*Part of learning to be a teacher is gaining practical experience in front of a class of students.*

**probably**

(say prob-uhb-lee)

*adverb* If you say that something will **probably** happen, you mean it is likely or that you expect it to happen:

*The traffic is so bad that we will probably be late.*

**promise**

(say prom-uhs)

*noun* an announcement or statement that you will do, or keep from doing something:

*If you make a promise, it is very important that you keep it.*

**puny**

(say pyooh-nee)

*adjective* of little importance:

*He made a few puny attempts at helping and then disappeared.*

**pursue**

(say puh-syooh)

*verb* to follow someone or something in order to catch them:

*The police had to pursue the thieves through the streets.*

**python**

(say puy-thuhn)

*noun* a large snake which crushes its prey but is not venomous:

*I like visiting the python at the zoo, but I wouldn't want to meet one anywhere else!*

**qualm**

(say kwahm)

*noun* a slightly guilty feeling:

*We were left to clean up, so we didn't have a qualm about finishing off the cake as well.*

**quota**

(say kwoh-tuh)

*noun* the part or share of something which is due to someone:

*You've eaten your quota of biscuits, so leave the rest for the others.*

**reindeer**

(say rayn-dear)

*noun* a kind of deer with large antlers:

*The reindeer lives in the cold northern areas of the world.*

**reptile**

(say **rep**-tuyl)

*noun* a cold-blooded animal that lays eggs, such as a lizard or snake:

*Because a reptile is cold-blooded, it needs to lie in the sun to warm up.*

**review**

(say ruh-**vyooh**)

*noun* an article which describes and gives an opinion of something, such as a book or film:

*The review was so good that we're going to see the film.*

**rissole**

(say **riss**-ohl)

*noun* a fried ball or small cake of chopped up food:

*I had a cold tuna rissole for lunch.*

**route**

(say rooht)

*noun* a way or road from one place to another:

*We weren't sure of the route to the zoo so we asked the way.*

**rural**

(say **rooh**-ruhl)

*adjective* having to do with the country or with farming:

*Now that my cousins have moved to a country town, they love rural life, and they don't miss the city at all.*

**salami**

(say suh-**lah**-mee)

*noun* a kind of sausage with a strong salty taste:

*It will be a simple picnic of bread and salami.*

**salmon**

(say **sam**-uhn)

*noun* a large fish with pink flesh:

*The salmon returns from the ocean to breed in rivers.*

**sausage**

(say **soos**-ij)

*noun* finely chopped up meat packed into a thin skin:

*She put another sausage on the barbecue.*

**scandal**

(say **skan**-duhl)

*noun* an event that shocks people because they think it involves wrong behaviour:

*The bribery scandal threatened to bring down the government.*

**scheme**

(say skeem)

*noun* a plan of action:

*The children worked out a scheme for raising money.*

**sermon**

(say **ser**-muhn)

*noun* a serious talk, usually one preached in church:

*Yesterday's sermon was about loving your neighbour.*

**several**

(say **sev**-ruhl)

*adjective* not many, but more than two:

*After several attempts he gave up.*

**shearer**

(say **shear**-ruh)

*noun* someone who shears sheep:

*Each shearer had to shear eighty sheep a day.*

**shoulder**

(say **shohl**-duh)

*noun* the part of the body that joins the neck to the arm:

*Her shoulder was sore after carrying the heavy bag all day.*

**shovel**

(say **shuv**-uhl)

*noun* a tool with a wide, flat metal part on a long wooden handle, used for moving material such as sand and soil:

*Dad used a shovel to move the pile of dirt.*

**sinew**

(say **sin**-yooh)

*noun* a cord of strong tissue joining a muscle to a bone:

*She strained a sinew in her knee playing netball.*

**skipper**

(say **skip**-uh)

*noun* the captain of a team or of a ship:

*The skipper of the cricket team gave the squad an encouraging talk at lunchtime.*

**sleeve**

(say **sleev**)

*noun* the part of a piece of clothing that covers the arm:

*In art, I spilt red paint all over the sleeve of my white shirt.*

**sneeze**

(say **sneez**)

*verb* When you **sneeze**, air blows noisily out of your mouth and nose:

*Hiding quietly behind the chair, I had a terrible urge to sneeze.*

**spinach**

(say **spin**-ich)

*noun* a plant with large green leaves which are eaten as a vegetable:

*I don't like spinach very much but I do like other green vegetables.*

**sponge**

(say **spunj**)

*noun* a material with lots of holes for soaking up liquid, used especially for wiping and cleaning:

*He wiped down the table with a damp sponge.*

**squirm**

(say **skwerm**)

*verb* If you **squirm**, you wriggle, often because you feel uncomfortable or embarrassed about something:

*We started to squirm with embarrassment when we realised how silly we had been.*

**squirt**

(say **skwert**)

*verb* If you **squirt** a liquid, you make it come out of a small hole in a thin, fast stream:

*If you squeeze the bottle, the shampoo will squirt out.*

**statue**

(say **stach**-ooh)

*noun* an image of a person or animal made out of stone, wood or bronze:

*There is a statue of Banjo Paterson in the park.*

**strait**

(say strayt)

*noun* a narrow strip of water connecting two large bodies of water:

*The island was separated from the mainland by a strait which was used by many ships.*

**suburb**

(say **sub**-erb)

*noun* an area of a city with its own shopping centre, school and other facilities:

*I was lucky that my best friend lived in the neighbouring suburb.*

**survey**

(say ser-**vay** or **ser**-vay)

*verb* If someone **surveys** an area of land, they measure it in order to draw a map of it that shows things such as the location of its boundaries:

*Before we could build our new house we had to get an expert to survey the land.*

**sweaty**

(say **swet**-ee)

*adjective* covered with perspiration:

*Mark was very sweaty because he had run all the way home.*

**tadpole**

(say **tad**-pohl)

*noun* A **tadpole** is a baby frog or toad. It has a round body and a tail and it lives in water. As it gets bigger it grows legs and is able to leave the water:

*I think the biggest tadpole in the fish pond will turn into a frog today or tomorrow.*

**taint**

(say taynt)

*verb* To **taint** is to spoil slightly:

*Wine makers have to ensure that too many overpowering flavours do not taint their wine.*

**tangy**

(say **tang**-ee)

*adjective* having a sharp flavour or smell:

*The lemon cake had a nice tangy flavour.*

**tantrum**

(say **tan**-truhm)

*noun* a childish fit of temper or anger:

*He throws a tantrum whenever he doesn't get his own way.*

**tarnish**

(say **tar**-nish)

*verb* (of metal) to lose shine and become stained:

*Eventually all silver will tarnish and will need polishing.*

**tassel**

(say **tass**-uhl)

*noun* a bunch of silk, or other threads, to make something look pretty:

*There was a tassel at each end of the belt of her robe.*

**temple**

(say **tem**-puhl)

*noun* A **temple** is a special place where people worship a god or gods:

*The young Buddhist monk showed us around the temple.*

**tempt**

(say tempt)

*verb* If you **tempt** someone, you try to make them do something:

*Don't tempt me into going to the movies, as I've got too much work to do.*

**tendon**

(say **ten**-duhn)

*noun* a cord of strong tissue joining a muscle to a bone:

*It was his first tournament since severing the tendon in his ankle.*

**tendril**

(say **ten**-druhl)

*noun* a twisted, thread-like part, as of a climbing plant:

*A tendril from the vine was twisting around the pillar.*

**tense**

(say tens)

*adjective* If you are **tense**, you are worried and nervous about something:

*The team felt very tense before they went onto the field.*

**terminate**

(say **ter**-muh-nayt)

*verb* To **terminate** something is to bring it to an end:

*They had to terminate the show because it was losing money.*

**termite**

(say **ter**-muyt)

*noun* A **termite** is a white insect that eats wood and which can destroy houses:

*Once mature, the queen termite can produce up to 2000 eggs a day!*

**thaw**

(say thaw)

*verb* to become soft or liquid:

*Mum had to thaw the meat before she could cook it.*

**thief**

(say theef)

*noun* someone who steals:

*Oh no! A thief has taken my bag!*

**thimble**

(say **thim**-buhl)

*noun* a protective cover for the top of the finger, usually metal, and worn to stop the needle pricking your finger when you are sewing:

*I use a thimble when I sew so I don't prick my finger.*

**throat**

(say throht)

*noun* the part of your body that leads from your mouth to your stomach and lungs:

*When I was sick I had a very sore throat.*

**tiara**

(say tee-**ah**-ruh)

*noun* a piece of jewellery that looks like a tiny crown:

*She wore a diamond tiara in her hair.*

**timid**

(say **tim**-uhd)

*adjective* If you are **timid**, you are easily frightened:

*She was so timid that she never said anything in class.*

**tinsel**

(say **tin**-suhl)

*noun* shiny coloured strips which glitter and are made for decoration:

*They decorated the tree with red and gold tinsel.*

**tofu**

(say **toh**-fooh)

*noun* a food made from white soya beans:

*This curry has tofu instead of meat.*

**tongue**

(say tung)

*noun* the muscle in your mouth that helps in eating food and shaping the sounds of speech:

*Our drama teacher told us how important the tongue is in forming different sounds with our voices.*

**tonsil**

(say **ton**-suhl)

*noun* either of the two lumps inside the back of your throat:

*My right tonsil was red and sore.*

**torment**

(say **taw**-ment)

*verb* to worry or annoy someone greatly:

*Thoughts of the accident still torment him.*

**torso**

(say **taw**-soh)

*noun* the trunk of the human body:

*The dancer held her torso quite still while her feet moved to the music.*

**trample**

(say **tram**-puhl)

*verb* To **trample** something is to damage it by stepping heavily on it:

*Be careful not to trample his flowerbed or you will never hear the end of it!*

**transform**

(say trans-**fawm**)

*verb* to completely change, usually for the better:

*The uniform tended to transform him -- he suddenly looked very official.*

**trapdoor**

(say **trap**-daw)

*noun* A **trapdoor** is a small door in a floor or ceiling:

*We squeezed through the trapdoor to get into the roof.*

**treasure**

(say **trezh**-uh)

*noun* something worth a lot of money, such as gold and jewels, or anything which is highly valued:

*The pirates buried the treasure under a coconut palm.*

**trek**

(say **tr**ek)

*verb* To **trek** is to walk or travel, especially over a long distance or with much difficulty:

*They began their trek through the jungle, looking for a way to the coast.*

**trinket**

(say **tr**ing-kuht)

*noun* a cheap ornament:

*I bought a pretty trinket from a stall at the street market.*

**trivia**

(say **tr**iv-ee-uh)

*plural noun* facts that are not important or essential:

*His head is filled with cricket trivia.*

**trousers**

(say **tr**ow-zuhz)

*plural noun* **Trousers** are a piece of clothing for the lower half of your body, divided into two parts for the legs:

*He hated wearing trousers to work in the summer because it was too hot.*

**tundra**

(say **tun**-druh)

*noun* a treeless arctic plain with mosses, lichens and small plants:

*The frozen tundra seemed to extend forever.*

**turnstile**

(say **tern**-stuyl)

*noun* a turning gate that allows one person to pass at a time:

*Only one person could go through the turnstile at a time.*

**tweezers**

(say **tweez**-uhz)

*plural noun* small pincers for pulling out hairs or picking up small objects:

*She used tweezers to pull the splinter out of her finger.*

**udder**

(say **ud**-uh)

*noun* the part of the body which produces milk in some female animals, such as cows and goats, usually hanging and bag-like and with more than one teat:

*On our visit to the dairy farm we were shown how to draw milk from an udder.*

**urgent**

(say **er**-juhnt)

*adjective* Something **urgent** needs immediate action or attention:

*I'm sorry to interrupt, but I have an urgent message for you.*

**vanity**

(say **van**-uh-tee)

*noun* extreme pride in yourself:

*Her vanity would not allow her to admit that she was wrong.*

**velvet**

(say **vel**-vuht)

*noun* a kind of soft, slightly furry fabric:

*The magician wore a cloak of dark blue velvet.*

**verdict**

(say **ver**-dikt)

*noun* A **verdict** is what a judge or a jury decides about a prisoner in a court of law:

*The verdict was 'not guilty' and the prisoner went free.*

**vermin**

(say **ver**-muhn)

*plural noun* harmful, troublesome, or unpleasant animals, such as rats, cockroaches, and fleas:

*The old abandoned factory was full of vermin.*

**vessel**

(say **vess**-uhl)

*noun* a ship or boat:

*A rescue vessel was sent out for the survivors.*

**viable**

(say **vuy**-uh-buhl)

*adjective* able to be used or likely to succeed:

*The government has decided that building a new tunnel is not a viable alternative.*

**virus**

(say **vuy**-ruhs)

*noun* a very small living thing that can cause illness:

*Scientists are trying to find a way to prevent the spread of this dangerous virus.*

**volume**

(say **vol**-yoohm)

*noun* the size, measure, or amount of anything in three dimensions:

*We had to calculate the volume of the parcel before we could send it.*

**walnut**

(say **wawl**-nut)

*noun* a type of round nut with a wrinkly shell:

*Would you like me to crack a walnut for you?*

**wattle**

(say **wot**-uhl)

*noun* a tree with small, round, yellow flowers, which grows in warm areas of the world:

*You know that spring is coming when you see the yellow flowers on the wattle.*

**wince**

(say wince)

*verb* If you **wince**, you start or draw back because of pain or a blow:

*I always wince when I have to have an injection.*

### Junior General Level 3

#### ability

(say uh-**bil**-uh-tee)

*noun* the power to do something:

*Pui has the ability to swim across the pool.*

#### abolish

(say uh-**bol**-ish)

*verb* to put an end to something:

*The parliament passed a law to abolish capital punishment.*

#### abstract

(say **ab**-strakt)

*adjective* A work of art is **abstract** if it does not try to show objects in a realistic way:

*The abstract painting was full of big sweeping brushstrokes in beautiful colours.*

#### absurd

(say uh**b-serd** or uh**b-zerd**)

*adjective* foolish or without common sense:

*Toni's suggestion to have ice-cream for breakfast was absurd!*

#### activist

(say **ak**-tuh-vuhst)

*noun* someone who works very hard for something they believe in:

*My uncle is an activist for the environment.*

#### advisory

(say uhd-**vuy**-zuh-ree)

*adjective* having the power to advise:

*The school had an advisory council made up of teachers and parents.*

#### affluent

(say **af**-looh-uhnt)

*adjective* wealthy or rich:

*Australia is a relatively affluent country with few people living in extreme poverty.*

#### aggravate

(say **ag**-ruh-vayt)

*verb* to make worse or more severe:

*Going out in the rain will only aggravate your flu.*

#### aghast

(say uh-**gahst**)

*adjective* shocked and frightened:

*We were aghast to find that the floodwater had reached the back door.*

#### ailment

(say **ayl**-muhnt)

*noun* an illness:

*She has a serious ailment and needs ongoing treatment.*

#### alfalfa

(say al-**fal**-fuh)

*noun* a plant used as feed for animals, and whose sprouts are used in salads:

*We liked to put alfalfa sprouts on our sandwiches instead of lettuce.*

#### algae

(say **al**-jee or **al**-gee)

*plural noun* a type of green plant found in or near water:

*Seaweed is a type of algae.*

**allotment**

(say uh-**lot**-muhnt)

*noun* a portion or share:

*We had to make our allotment of food last for the whole week of the camping trip.*

**almond**

(say **ah**-muhnd)

*noun* an oval-shaped, cream-coloured nut with a sweet taste:

*My neighbour makes a delicious almond cake.*

**amiable**

(say **ay**-mee-uh-buhl)

*adjective* friendly and cooperative:

*They had an amiable discussion about how to solve the problem.*

**annul**

(say uh-**nul**)

*verb* to abolish or wipe out:

*The judge agreed to annul the bankruptcy of the company.*

**antelope**

(say **ant**-uh-lohp)

*noun* a fast animal with horns, related to cattle, sheep and goats:

*The antelope was being stalked by the lion.*

**aphid**

(say **ay**-fuhd)

*noun* a small insect which sucks the juice from certain plants:

*Mum says if I see an aphid on her roses I should squash it!*

**aplomb**

(say uh-**plom**)

*noun* the ability to handle difficult or unusual situations:

*Our school captain introduced the guest speaker with aplomb.*

**apparent**

(say uh-**pa**-ruhnt)

*adjective* able to be seen or understood:

*Her red face made it apparent that she was embarrassed.*

**appendix**

(say uh-**pen**-diks)

*noun* a small tube-like body part joined to the large intestine in the right side of the abdomen:

*My friend has had her appendix taken out, and she won't be back at school for a week.*

**arable**

(say **a**-ruh-buhl)

*adjective* suitable for growing crops:

*Only half of the property was arable -- the rest was thick bush.*

**armament**

(say **ahm**-uh-muhnt)

*noun* the weapons on a military aircraft or ship:

*Torpedoes were part of the submarine's armament.*

**aromatic**

(say a-ruh-**mat**-ik)

*adjective* having a pleasant smell:

*The heated aromatic oil made the whole house smell pleasant.*

**arsenic**

(say **ah**-suh-nik)

*noun* a greyish white element which can form poisonous compounds:

*Arsenic was often used as a poison in old murder mysteries.*

**artichoke**

(say **ah**-tuh-chohk)

*noun* a thick, round flower which grows on a thistle-like plant and is used as a vegetable:

*The artichoke is eaten as a vegetable but it is really a flower.*

**artisan**

(say **ah**-tuh-zuhn)

*noun* a skilled worker who makes useful things like tools, cooking items, etc.:

*The medieval town had an artisan who made fine silverware.*

**ashen**

(say **ash**-uhn)

*adjective* grey or ash-coloured:

*Her face was ashen when she heard the terrible news.*

**assessor**

(say uh-**sess**-uh)

*noun* someone who makes assessments, as of damage for insurance purposes, or of property, etc., for taxation purposes:

*An assessor evaluated the damage to our house after the thunderstorm.*

**astrology**

(say uhs-**trol**-uh-jee)

*noun* the study of the possible effects of the stars and planets on our lives:

*Astrology involves judging the influence of the stars and planets on our lives.*

**atoll**

(say **at**-ol)

*noun* a coral island with a saltwater lagoon in the middle:

*We enjoyed swimming in the lagoon within the atoll.*

**attentive**

(say uh-**ten**-tiv)

*adjective* paying watchful attention:

*The audience was very attentive during the piano recital.*

**attitude**

(say **at**-uh-tyoohd)

*noun* the way you think or behave:

*He has a friendly attitude and people like spending time with him.*

**auditor**

(say **aw**-duh-tuh)

*noun* a person appointed to examine accounting records:

*An auditor came to review our tax records.*

**austere**

(say ost-**ear** or awst-**ear**)

*adjective* very plain and simple:

*The monks lead an austere life with no luxuries at all.*

**avocado**

(say av-uh-**kah**-doh)

*noun* a green, pear-shaped fruit with a large seed:

*She sliced an avocado and added it to the salad.*

**awesome**

(say **aw**-suhm)

*adjective* filling you with feelings of respect and fear:

*The power of the waves was awesome.*

**bachelor**

(say **bach**-uh-luh)

*noun* a man who is not married:

*The hero of the novel was a bachelor who had many admirers.*

**backgammon**

(say **bak**-gam-uhn)

*noun* a board game in which two people take turns to move pieces after throwing dice:

*On Wednesday nights I play backgammon with my grandfather.*

**ballot**

(say **bal**-uht)

*noun* a ticket or paper you must fill in to record your vote:

*Please mark your vote on the ballot and put it in the box.*

**balmy**

(say **bah**-mee)

*adjective* fine or pleasant:

*It was a balmy evening so we decided to eat outdoors.*

**bangalow**

(say **bang**-guh-loh)

*noun* a palm tree of New South Wales and Queensland, sometimes growing in clumps near the coast:

*He climbed a bangalow to get a better view of the beach.*

**banksia**

(say **bangk**-see-uh)

*noun* an Australian shrub or tree with hard jagged leaves and spikes of tiny, coloured flowers:

*The banksia outside my window attracts beautiful parrots.*

**basalt**

(say **bass**-awlt)

*noun* a type of dark, dense, volcanic rock:

*Basalt is a rock formed by the rapid cooling of lava.*

**basmati**

(say baz-**mah**-tee)

*noun* a type of rice from India:

*Basmati is the best rice to serve with this curry.*

**bazooka**

(say buh-**zoo**h-kuh)

*noun* a cylindrical weapon that fires a rocket to destroy tanks, etc.:

*The rebels took aim at the helicopter with a bazooka.*

**beacon**

(say **bee**-kuhn)

*noun* a signal which shows the way or warns of danger:

*The lighthouse's beacon had prevented many shipwrecks.*

**bedraggled**

(say buh-**drag**-uhld)

*adjective* wet, dirty and hanging limply:

*His clothes were muddy and bedraggled.*

**beech**

(say beech)

*noun* a tree with smooth, grey bark and hard wood which is often used for making furniture:

*Our new dining table is made from the wood of the beech tree.*

**befuddle**

(say buh-**fud**-uhl)

*verb* to confuse, as with smooth-sounding argument:

*The technical language in the instruction manual managed to befuddle me very quickly.*

**beige**

(say bayzh)

*adjective* very light brown:

*These beige curtains will go with most other colours.*

**belfry**

(say **bel**-free)

*noun* a tower with a bell hanging in it:

*He climbed to the top of the belfry to ring the bell.*

**benign**

(say buh-**nuyn**)

*adjective* Someone or something is **benign** if they are kind and gentle:

*Her benign smile put the nervous children at ease.*

**beret**

(say **be**-ray)

*noun* a soft, round cap:

*The French man at the cheese shop always wears a beret.*

**berserk**

(say buh-**zerk**)

*adjective* uncontrollably crazy and wild:

*The crowd went berserk when he kicked the winning goal.*

**betrayal**

(say buh-**tray**-uhl)

*noun* the act of deceiving someone by doing something without their knowledge:

*She was deeply hurt by her friend's betrayal.*

**bettong**

(say **bet**-ong)

*noun* a very small kangaroo that looks like a small wallaby with a short nose:

*The bettong is one of Australia's nocturnal marsupials.*

**billabong**

(say **bil**-uh-bong)

*noun* a waterhole which used to be part of a river:

*We pitched our tent beside the billabong. [from an Aboriginal language of New South Wales called Wiradjuri]*

**biscuit**

(say **biss**-kuht)

*noun* a small, thin cake which has been baked until it is crisp:

*I had a biscuit with my coffee.*

**bizarre**

(say buh-**z**ah)

*adjective* very strange or unusual:

*The doctors were very worried by his bizarre behaviour.*

**blizzard**

(say **bliz**-uhd)

*noun* a violent storm with strong winds and driving snow:

*We got caught in a blizzard on the way back from our skiing trip.*

**blockade**

(say blok-**ay**d)

*noun* the closing of a port by enemy ships or soldiers to stop supplies from going in or out:

*The blockade prevented fresh supplies from reaching the soldiers.*

**blurb**

(say blerb)

*noun* information about a book or a recording, often printed on its cover:

*I only read the book because the blurb made it sound really interesting.*

**boobook**

(say **booh**-book)

*noun* a small brownish owl with white-spotted back and wings:

*A boobook landed on my windowsill last night.*

**bottlebrush**

(say **bot**-uhl-brush)

*noun* an Australian plant with red, pink or yellow brush-like flowers:

*The parrots were attracted to the flowers of the bottlebrush.*

**boundary**

(say **bow**n-dree)

*noun* a dividing line or limit:

*The boundary of the farm was marked by a line of trees.*

**bovine**

(say **boh**-vuyn)

*adjective* having to do with the family of cud-chewing animals that includes cows, bulls and oxen:

*Cattle, water buffalo and yaks are all part of the bovine family.*

**boycott**

(say **boy**-kot)

*verb* If you **boycott** something, you refuse to go to it:

*She decided to boycott the meeting as a protest against the new policy.*

**bravado**

(say bruh-**vah**-doh)

*noun* bravery and confidence which is often pretended:

*She was full of bravado until the time came for her to sing.*

**brochure**

(say **broh**-shuh or bruh-**shoo**-uh)

*noun* a small book with a paper cover, containing information or advertisements:

*The travel agent offered me a brochure about the different resorts on the island.*

**brumby**

(say **brum**-bee)

*noun* a wild horse living freely in the bush:

*The stockman's favourite horse was the brumby.*

**brusque**

(say brusk or broosk)

*adjective* quick to say something and not very polite:

*His brusque manner sometimes upsets people.*

**buffalo**

(say buf-uh-loh)

*noun* a kind of ox sometimes used for pulling heavy loads:

*The buffalo is often used for heavy farm work in India.*

**bungalow**

(say bung-guh-loh)

*noun* a house with only one storey:

*Their holiday house was a small bungalow across the road from the beach.*

**bunion**

(say bun-yuhn)

*noun* a swelling of a joint on the foot, especially on the big toe:

*The bunion on my foot makes walking very painful.*

**butcher**

(say booch-uh)

*noun* someone who prepares and cuts up meat to sell:

*Our local butcher is famous for his delicious sausages.*

**bystander**

(say buy-stan-duh)

*noun* someone who is present when something happens, but does not take part in it:

*Police are anxious to interview the bystander who witnessed the incident.*

**callous**

(say kal-uhs)

*adjective* showing no concern for another person's feelings:

*Ignoring his cry for help was both callous and cruel.*

**calorie**

(say kal-uh-ree)

*noun* a measurement of the energy value of food:

*Counting every calorie is a really boring way to diet.*

**camisole**

(say kam-uh-sohl)

*noun* a woman's simple top with narrow shoulder straps:

*The bride wore a simple camisole with a long white skirt.*

**candidate**

(say kan-duh-dayt or kan-duh-duht)

*noun* someone who is applying for a job or an award, or is standing in an election:

*It was difficult to decide which candidate to vote for in the election.*

**carafe**

(say kuh-rahf)

*noun* a glass bottle used for serving water, wine or fruit juice at a meal table:

*She poured some homemade lemonade from the carafe.*

**carnivore**

(say kah-nuh-vaw)

*noun* an animal that eats mostly meat:

*The lion is a carnivore that attacks its prey with ferocity.*

**cassata**

(say kuh-**sah**-tuh)

*noun* a type of gelato containing chopped nuts and mixed fruit:

*Her two favourite types of gelato are lemon and cassata.*

**casserole**

(say **kass**-uh-rohl)

*noun* a dish, usually a mixture of meat and vegetables, cooked in a covered baking dish:

*A piping hot casserole is delicious on a freezing cold night.*

**cavalry**

(say **kav**-uhl-ree)

*noun* the group of soldiers within an army which used to ride horses:

*The cavalry was an important part of an army because it could move with great speed.*

**cavernous**

(say **kav**-uh-nuhs)

*adjective* like a huge deep cave:

*Our voices echoed in the empty, cavernous hall.*

**celebrant**

(say **sel**-uh-bruhnt)

*noun* a special person who leads a ceremony, such as a wedding:

*They were married in their garden by a celebrant.*

**cellular**

(say **sel**-yuh-luh)

*adjective* relating to a cell:

*Using a microscope, we could see the cellular structure of the leaf.*

**centipede**

(say **sen**-tuh-peed)

*noun* a small, insect-like creature with a long, thin body and many pairs of legs:

*The centipede slowly crossed the kitchen floor.*

**chaos**

(say **kay**-oss)

*noun* total confusion:

*When the alarm rang there was chaos -- nobody knew what to do.*

**chariot**

(say **cha**-ree-uht)

*noun* a two-wheeled carriage used in ancient times:

*The actor had to learn to control a chariot for his role in the film about ancient Rome.*

**chieftain**

(say **cheef**-tuhn)

*noun* the leader of a tribe:

*Only the chieftain of each Scottish clan could attend the meeting.*

**chowder**

(say **chow**-duh)

*noun* a kind of soup or stew often containing fish:

*Seafood chowder and crusty bread is a delicious meal in winter.*

**clairvoyant**

(say klair-**voy**-uhnt)

*noun* someone who claims to be able to see into the future:

*My aunt visited a clairvoyant hoping to discover what her future held.*

**cleanse**

(say klenz)

*verb* When you **cleanse** something, you make it clean or pure:

*The nurse started to cleanse the wound with a mild antiseptic.*

**clique**

(say kleek or klik)

*noun* a small group of people who keep themselves apart from others:

*The girls formed a tight little clique and would not let anybody else join them.*

**cockatoo**

(say kok-uh-tooh)

*noun* a crested parrot:

*He taught his pet cockatoo to whistle the national anthem.*

**coconut**

(say koh-kuh-nut)

*noun* the large, hard nut of a kind of palm tree, which is lined with white flesh and contains a clear milk:

*Be careful a coconut doesn't fall down from the tree and hit you!*

**coleslaw**

(say kohl-slaw)

*noun* a salad made with sliced raw cabbage:

*We always have coleslaw when we have a barbecue.*

**commandeer**

(say kom-uhn-dear)

*verb* to take private property for official use:

*The police decided to commandeer my vehicle so that they could chase the criminal.*

**commuter**

(say kuh-myoooh-tuh)

*noun* someone who regularly travels some distance between home and work, as from an outer suburb to the city:

*She enjoyed being a commuter as it gave her a chance to relax and read a book.*

**complexity**

(say kuhm-pleks-uh-tee)

*noun* the state or quality of being complex or intricate:

*It took her some time to understand the complexity of running her own business.*

**complicity**

(say kuhm-pliss-uh-tee)

*noun* the state of being a partner or taking part in doing something which is wrong:

*He was accused of complicity in the bank robbery because he drove the getaway car.*

**component**

(say kuhm-poh-nuhnt)

*noun* a part of a whole:

*Fruit is an important component of our diet.*

**compulsory**

(say kuhm-pul-suh-ree)

*adjective* relating to something that you must do:

*In Australia, voting in elections is compulsory.*

**concession**

(say kuhn-sesh-uhn)

*noun* something that you agree to do or to give, especially to end some disagreement:

*I'm prepared to make a concession if you agree to change some of your demands.*

**condemn**

(say kuhn-**dem**)

*verb* If you **condemn** someone or something, you strongly express your disapproval of them:

*The government moved quickly to condemn the actions of the vandals.*

**confetti**

(say kuhn-**fet-ee**)

*noun* small bits of coloured paper, thrown at weddings or carnivals:

*Confetti rained down on the bridal couple after the ceremony.*

**conifer**

(say **kon**-uh-fuh)

*noun* an evergreen tree which produces cones, like the pine or fir:

*The cedar, cypress and pine are examples of conifer trees.*

**constraint**

(say kuhn-**straynt**)

*noun* something that restricts or controls the way you behave or what you can do at certain times:

*If it were not for the constraint of needing to earn a living, I would spend my time travelling the world.*

**contaminate**

(say kuhn-**tam**-uh-nayt)

*verb* to make something dirty or impure:

*The chemicals from the factory began to contaminate the surrounding lake.*

**contingent**

(say kuhn-**tin**-juhnt)

*adjective* depending on something that is not yet certain:

*The future of our company is contingent upon good sales this year.*

**corduroy**

(say **kaw**-juh-roy or **kaw**-duh-roy)

*noun* a cotton material with a pattern of ridges:

*Jeans made of corduroy are good in winter.*

**coriander**

(say ko-ree-**an**-duh)

*noun* a small plant with strong-smelling, seedlike fruit, used in cooking and medicine:

*Coriander is an essential ingredient for Thai cooking.*

**cornice**

(say **kawn**-uhs)

*noun* a strip covering the joint between the walls and ceiling of a room:

*The cornice was a strip of bright red between the white wall and ceiling.*

**coronial**

(say kuh-**roh**-nee-uhl)

*adjective* of or relating to a coroner:

*There will be a coronial inquiry into the fatal train crash.*

**corporal**

(say **kaw**-puh-ruhl)

*noun* an army or air force officer ranking below a sergeant:

*My uncle was an infantry corporal stationed in New Guinea.*

**cougar**

(say **kooh**-guh)

*noun* a large tawny wild cat of North and South America:

*We saw a puma stalking its prey on our trip to South America.*

**counsel**

(say **kown**-suhl)

*verb* If you **counsel** someone, you advise them:

*At our school, there is always someone available to counsel students with problems.*

**coup**

(say kooh)

*noun* a sudden, forceful move, especially to take over power:

*The army took control of the government in a coup.*

**crescent**

(say **krez**-uhnt or **kress**-uhnt)

*noun* a curved shape:

*The moon was full and round last week, but tonight it is a beautiful silver crescent.*

**crouton**

(say **krooh**-ton)

*noun* a small piece of fried or toasted bread served in soup, etc.:

*She picked the last crouton out of her soup.*

**crypt**

(say kript)

*noun* an underground room under a church, often used as a burial place:

*The tourists descended the stairs under the church so they could view the crypt.*

**cuckoo**

(say **kook**-ooh)

*noun* a bird which is known for its habit of laying its eggs in the nests of other birds:

*The name 'cuckoo' is an imitation of this bird's distinctive call.*

**currawong**

(say **ku**-ruh-wong)

*noun* a large, black-and-white or greyish Australian bird with a large pointed bill and a loud ringing call:

*Last spring, a baby currawong woke me every morning at six o'clock.*

**curtail**

(say ker-**tayl**)

*verb* to cut short:

*We had to curtail our holiday because of the floods.*

**cypress**

(say **suy**-pruhs)

*noun* an evergreen cone-bearing tree:

*The cypress in the backyard had grown too large and needed to be trimmed.*

**daffodil**

(say **daf**-uh-dil)

*noun* a yellow, bell-shaped flower:

*She had a daffodil in a vase on her desk.*

**deceit**

(say duh-**seet**)

*noun* the ability to trick or mislead someone:

*We were well aware of her deceit and no longer trusted her.*

**decipher**

(say duh-**suy**-fuh)

*verb* When you **decipher** something, you solve or find the meaning of it:

*After years of trying, they finally managed to decipher the code.*

**defraud**

(say duh-**frawd**)

*verb* to cheat someone, especially out of their money:

*He was fined for attempting to defraud the taxation department.*

**deign**

(say dayn)

*verb* If you **deign** to do something, you lower yourself to do something you think is below you:

*The queen would not deign to answer her servant.*

**deluge**

(say **del**-yoohj or **del**-yoozh)

*noun* a very heavy fall of rain:

*We got soaked in the sudden deluge.*

**democracy**

(say duh-**mok**-ruh-see)

*noun* the idea that everyone in a country has equal rights:

*The right of free speech for all is essential in a democracy.*

**depot**

(say **dep**-oh)

*noun* a place where buses or trams are kept:

*By midnight all the buses were back at the depot.*

**desolate**

(say **dess**-uh-luht or **dez**-uh-luht)

*adjective* If someone is **desolate**, they feel sad and hopeless:

*They felt desolate after losing all their possessions.*

**destitute**

(say **des**-tuh-tyooht)

*adjective* without money or the means of getting any:

*The theft of his wallet and belongings left the traveller destitute.*

**deterrent**

(say duh-**te**-ruhnt or duh-**ter**-ruhnt)

*noun* something that has a discouraging effect:

*Photos of diseased people on cigarette packs are meant to be a deterrent to smokers.*

**detonator**

(say **det**-uh-nay-tuh)

*noun* an explosive which is used to set off a larger explosion:

*The bomb was equipped with a detonator and a timer.*

**dexterity**

(say deks-**te**-ruh-tee)

*noun* skill or cleverness, especially in using your hands:

*It takes great dexterity to juggle three balls.*

**diamond**

(say **duy**-muhnd)

*noun* a very hard, clear, shining, precious stone which is used in jewellery:

*The huge diamond on the movie star's finger sparkled as she walked down the red carpet.*

**diesel**

(say **dee**-zuhl)

*noun* a type of fuel used in some cars, trucks, boats and other machines:

*This truck runs on diesel, not petrol.*

**digress**

(say duy-**gress**)

*verb* to wander away from the main subject you are writing or speaking about:

*The lecturer decided to digress from the subject for a moment to tell us a funny joke.*

**dilemma**

(say duh-**lem**-uh or duy-**lem**-uh)

*noun* a difficult situation in which you have to choose between two different things:

*His dilemma was that if he went to the football game he would miss the party.*

**diligent**

(say **dil**-uh-juhnt)

*adjective* A **diligent** person pays careful attention to their work:

*She is a diligent student, but she always makes time for fun.*

**discern**

(say duh-**sern**)

*verb* to see, recognise, or understand something clearly:

*I was able to discern a slight accent when she spoke.*

**discipline**

(say **diss**-uh-pluhn)

*noun* training given to teach good behaviour:

*I took my dog to a training school to improve her discipline.*

**disembark**

(say **dis**-uhm-bahk)

*verb* to leave a ship or plane:

*We planned to disembark when the ship docked at the ancient port of Muscat.*

**dishearten**

(say dis-**hah**-tuhn)

*verb (t)* to lower the spirits of; discourage:

*We didn't like to dishearten her when she was so excited.*

**dispersal**

(say dis-**per**-suhl)

*noun* the act of dispersing:

*Mounted police supervised the dispersal of the crowd after the grand final.*

**dissatisfy**

(say dis-**sat**-uhs-fuy)

*verb* to make discontented:

*The chef did not like to dissatisfy his customers.*

**diversity**

(say duh-**ver**-suh-tee or duy-**ver**-suh-tee)

*noun* difference or variety within a group:

*It is a good idea to have a diversity of plants in the garden to attract different types of birds.*

**dolphin**

(say **dol**-fuhn)

*noun* an intelligent, playful sea animal with a long sharp nose:

*As I stood up on my surfboard, I saw a dolphin surfing beside me.*

**dossier**

(say **doss**-ee-uh)

*noun* a collection of information about a person or subject:

*He kept a dossier on the number of times the train was late.*

**dough**

(say **doh**)

*noun* a mixture of flour and water or milk which is baked to make bread or pastry:

*When we were camping, we mixed up some dough and made a big damper over the camp fire.*

**drudgery**

(say **druj**-uh-ree)

*noun* boring or hard work:

*I'm sick of the drudgery of housework.*

**dugong**

(say **dyooh**-gong)

*noun* a large marine mammal of northern Australia, having flipper-like forelimbs:

*The dugong was hunted for its meat and oil by some Aboriginal peoples.*

**dunnart**

(say **dun**-aht)

*noun* a type of native mouse found only in Australia. It is endangered:

*The dunnart is a little native mouse that eats mostly insects.*

**dynamics**

(say duy-**nam**-iks)

*plural noun* the forces that are at work in any situation:

*It was the dynamics of the office that made it such a pleasant place to work.*

**economical**

(say ek-uh-**nom**-i-kuhl or ee-kuh-**nom**-i-kuhl)

*adjective* not wasteful:

*There is not a lot of money -- we will have to be economical.*

**eerie**

(say **ear**-ree)

*adjective* strange and frightening:

*There was an eerie feeling about the old deserted house.*

**eiderdown**

(say **uy**-duh-down)

*noun* a quilt filled with duck feathers:

*Suzy put an eiderdown on her bed for extra warmth in winter.*

**elitism**

(say uh-**leet**-iz-uhm)

*noun* the idea that a certain group of people should have special advantages:

*In a society free of elitism, everyone has the same opportunities.*

**emanate**

(say **em**-uh-nayt)

*verb* to spread out from:

*A terrible smell began to emanate from the plastics factory as the fire took hold.*

**embankment**

(say em-**bank**-muhnt)

*noun* a pile of earth and stones to keep back water or to be the base for a road or railway:

*The embankment was an essential defence against flooding.*

**emphatic**

(say em-**fat**-ik)

*adjective* showing or highlighting the importance of something:

*The manager's instruction to the staff was emphatic -- we should arrive at work on time.*

**epithet**

(say **ep**-uh-thet)

*noun* an adjective or phrase used to describe a person or thing:

*The ancient Macedonian king Alexander was given the epithet 'the Great' and is now known as 'Alexander the Great'.*

**escarpment**

(say uhs-**kahp**-muhnt)

*noun* a long, cliff-like ridge of rock:

*We could see the rugged mountain escarpment from the aeroplane.*

**estuary**

(say **es**-chuh-ree)

*noun* the wide part of a river where it joins the sea:

*It was dangerous to swim in the estuary because of the strong current.*

**exhibit**

(say uhg-**zib**-uht)

*verb* To **exhibit** something is to put it on show:

*My mother has been asked to exhibit her paintings at the art gallery.*

**expedite**

(say **eks**-puh-duyt)

*verb* If you **expedite** something you are doing, you hurry it up or do it quickly:

*Parliament tried to expedite the passing of several laws before the Christmas break.*

**extremity**

(say uhk-**strem**-uh-tee or ek-**strem**-uh-tee)

*noun* one of the limbs of the body:

*Every extremity of his body was tingling with cold in the bitter wind.*

**exultant**

(say uhg-**zul**-tuht)

*adjective* If you are **exultant**, you show that you are happy because you have achieved or won something:

*They were exultant that their team had got into the finals.*

**farrier**

(say **fa**-ree-uh)

*noun* a blacksmith who shoes horses:

*My horse had an infected foot and had to go to the farrier to have the shoe replaced.*

**fatigue**

(say fuh-**teeg**)

*noun* severe mental or physical tiredness:

*The rescued bushwalkers were suffering from fatigue.*

**felony**

(say **fel**-uh-nee)

*noun* a serious crime such as murder or burglary:

*She was sentenced to jail for eight years for her felony.*

**feudal**

(say **fyoo**-duhl)

*adjective* having to do with a way of life in which ordinary people lived on and used the land of a nobleman, giving him military and other service in return:

*The feudal system lasted for centuries in Europe.*

**flamboyant**

(say flam-**boy**-uhnt)

*adjective* dazzlingly bright and showy:

*The peacock is known for its flamboyant display.*

**flippant**

(say **flip**-uhnt)

*adjective* not suitably serious:

*Please do not make flippant remarks about my singing.*

**foliage**

(say **foh**-lee-ij)

*noun* the leaves of a plant:

*In autumn, the foliage of some trees turns orange and red.*

**foreign**

(say **fo**-ruhn)

*adjective* Someone or something **foreign** is from a country other than your own:

*Can you speak any foreign languages?*

**fracas**

(say **frak**-ah or **frak**-uhs)

*noun* a noisy disturbance or fight:

*The police were called to break up the fracas outside parliament.*

**frolic**

(say **frol**-ik)

*noun* happy play:

*The puppies were having a frolic on the grass.*

**gait**

(say gayt)

*noun* a way of walking or moving:

*After the accident, he walked with an uneven gait and sometimes used a walking stick.*

**galah**

(say guh-**lah**)

*noun* an Australian cockatoo with pink and grey feathers:

*We took the injured galah to the vet.*

**galleon**

(say gal-ee-uhn)

*noun* a kind of large Spanish sailing ship:

*The galleon sank in the violent storm.*

**gazelle**

(say guh-**zel**)

*noun* a small, graceful antelope with large eyes:

*Her movement was as fast and as graceful as that of a gazelle.*

**gelato**

(say juh-**lah**-toh)

*noun* an iced sweet made from cream, milk or water:

*Which flavour gelato will I have? Lemon, chocolate or strawberry?*

**genial**

(say **jee**-nee-uhl)

*adjective* A **genial** person has a warm and friendly manner:

*My aunt was a genial person and everybody loved her.*

**ghetto**

(say **get**-oh)

*noun* the part of a city where a group of similar people, such as poor people or people from another country, live together:

*The city's ghetto was very run-down.*

**gnarled**

(say nahld)

*adjective* twisted and having many woody lumps:

*She ran her hand over the gnarled bark of the old tree.*

**gourmet**

(say **gaw**-may)

*noun* someone who knows a lot about good food and drink:

*George thinks of himself as a gourmet and likes to talk at length about food.*

**heifer**

(say **hef**-uh)

*noun* a young cow that has not had a calf:

*There was only one heifer in the herd of cows.*

**hysteria**

(say his-**teer**-ree-uh)

*noun* an uncontrollable emotional state:

*She rang me in a state of hysteria after hearing about the accident.*

**impasse**

(say **im**-pahs)

*noun* a situation from which there is no way out:

*With mountains on three sides and the sea on the other, the escapees had reached an impasse.*

**implicit**

(say im-**pliss**-uht)

*adjective* absolute and without doubts:

*She has implicit faith in the ability of her coach.*

**impromptu**

(say im-**promp**-tyooh)

*adjective* made or done on the spot, without any previous preparation:

*At my friend's birthday party, they asked me to give an impromptu performance on the piano, so I played my favourite piece.*

**infamy**

(say **in**-fuh-mee)

*noun* ill fame or public dishonour:

*The infamy attached to his criminal father forced the young man to change his name and leave the area.*

**innuendo**

(say in-yooh-**en**-doh)

*noun* a remark that suggests something unpleasant about someone without actually stating it:

*The campaign was marked by innuendo designed to discredit the new candidate.*

**insipid**

(say in-**sip**-uhd)

*adjective* not having much taste:

*Mum said that her coffee was rather insipid and asked for it to be stronger next time.*

**insomnia**

(say in-**som**-nee-uh)

*noun* a condition in which you have difficulty sleeping:

*Insomnia can lead to lack of concentration and weariness.*

**iodine**

(say **uy**-uh-deen)

*noun* a chemical element which can be used as an antiseptic to clean cuts or sores:

*The nurse put iodine on my cut to kill the germs.*

**isle**

(say uyl)

*noun* a small island:

*We sailed towards a small coral isle.*

**jamboree**

(say jam-buh-**ree**)

*noun* a large gathering of Scouts:

*Over 8000 Scouts attended the jamboree last year.*

**jaundice**

(say **jawn**-duhs)

*noun* a disease in which the skin and the whites of the eyes become yellow:

*The jaundice was easy to diagnose because his skin was yellow.*

**legume**

(say **leg**-yoohm)

*noun* any of a family of flowering plants which have pods as fruits, such as peas, beans, and so on:

*The legume family includes vegetables such as peas and beans.*

**lethargy**

(say **leth**-uh-jee)

*noun* a state of sleepy laziness:

*We had to shake ourselves out of our lethargy and get moving.*

**linguistics**

(say ling-**gwis**-tiks)

*noun* the study of language, including sounds, words and grammar:

*My big brother is studying linguistics at university*

**loch**

(say lok)

*noun* a lake in Scotland:

*The castle was built on the shore of a loch in the Scottish highlands.*

**lunacy**

(say **looh**-nuh-see)

*noun* any form of insanity:

*In the past, a person suffering from lunacy was simply locked up.*

**mantilla**

(say man-**til**-uh)

*noun* a silk or lace headscarf, worn in Spain:

*The flamenco dancer wore a mantilla of black lace and a vivid red skirt.*

**marzipan**

(say **mah**-zuh-pan)

*noun* a sweet made of crushed almonds and sugar:

*The wedding cake was covered with a layer of marzipan.*

**matador**

(say **mat**-uh-daw)

*noun* the bullfighter who kills the bull in a bullfight:

*The crowd cheered as the matador arrived for the final bullfight.*

**measles**

(say **mee**-zuhlz)

*noun* a type of infectious disease occurring mostly in children, with a fever and rash:

*Many children are vaccinated against measles these days.*

**megabyte**

(say **meg**-uh-buyt)

*noun* a unit of measurement of computer memory size equal to 2<sup>20</sup> or 1 048 576 bytes:

*If you use one more megabyte we will go over our monthly limit!*

**migraine**

(say **muy**-grayn or **mee**-grayn)

*noun* a very bad headache which makes you feel ill:

*When Dad gets a migraine he has to lie down in a dark room.*

**modular**

(say **mod**-yuh-luh)

*adjective* composed of separate units for easy building or arrangement:

*The library has modular furniture which can easily be moved around for different purposes.*

**mohair**

(say **moh**-hair)

*noun* fabric made from the coat of an Angora goat:

*I wear my mohair jumper when I'm really cold.*

**mollusc**

(say **mol**-uhsk)

*noun* an animal with a soft body in a hard shell:

*A snail is a mollusc, and so is an oyster.*

**mulberry**

(say **mul**-bree)

*noun* a sweet, dark-purple fruit like a blackberry:

*Silkworms eat the leaves of the mulberry tree.*

**mutineer**

(say myooh-tuh-**near**)

*noun* someone who revolts or mutinies:

*Jess was born on Norfolk Island and is descended from a mutineer on the Bounty.*

**negligent**

(say **neg**-luh-juhnt)

*adjective* If someone is **negligent**, they do not take enough care over what they are doing:

*She was negligent in looking after the dog and he ran away.*

**notary**

(say **noh**-tuh-ree)

*noun* an official, usually a solicitor, given the power to certify contracts, etc.:

*For the contract to be binding, a notary had to witness their signatures.*

**obsolete**

(say ob-suh-**leet**)

*adjective* no longer being used:

*Some people think that posting letters will become obsolete as more and more people send emails and use social media.*

**octopus**

(say **ok**-tuh-poos)

*noun* a soft-bodied sea animal which has eight tentacles:

*Did you know that an octopus can grow another tentacle if one drops off?*

**offal**

(say **off**-uhl)

*noun* animal intestines and other parts which are usually thrown away, or other organs such as the brain, liver and tripe which are used as food:

*The butcher often has different types of offal for sale, such as lambs' brains and tripe.*

**onslaught**

(say **on**-slawt)

*noun* a fierce rush or attack:

*The troops could not advance against the onslaught of enemy fire.*

**oregano**

(say o-ruh-**gah**-noh)

*noun* a herb of the mint family, used in cooking:

*The pizza just needed a pinch of oregano added before going in the oven.*

**ottoman**

(say **ot**-uh-muhn)

*noun* a low padded seat without a back or arms:

*He chose to sit on the ottoman instead of the armchair.*

**pageant**

(say **paj**-uhnt)

*noun* a colourful public show, often including a procession of people in costume:

*The pageant had been held every year since medieval times.*

**palisade**

(say pal-uh-**sayd**)

*noun* a fence of tall pointed sticks set firmly in the ground as a protection around a fort or camp:

*The palisade around the fort was not strong enough to withstand the attack.*

**pamphlet**

(say **pam**-fluht)

*noun* a very small paper-covered book:

*The pamphlet explained what the exhibition was about.*

**paraffin**

(say **pa**-ruh-fuhn)

*noun* in chemistry, any one of a series of saturated hydrocarbons:

*We watched a video on how candles are made from paraffin.*

**parakeet**

(say **pa**-ruh-keet)

*noun* a kind of small parrot, such as the budgerigar, usually with a long pointed tail:

*We spent a long time trying to teach our parakeet to talk but it wouldn't.*

**paramount**

(say **pa**-ruh-mownt)

*adjective* above all others in rank, authority or importance:

*Installing a fire alarm was the paramount item on the agenda.*

**paraplegia**

(say pa-ruh-**plee**-juh)

*noun* paralysis of the lower part of the body:

*My brother suffers from paraplegia and represents Australia in wheelchair basketball.*

**pastime**

(say **pahs**-tuym)

*noun* something you do to make time pass pleasantly:

*The best pastime at the beach is exploring rock pools.*

**pauper**

(say **paw**-puh)

*noun* a very poor person:

*The story was about a pauper who had to beg for food.*

**perimeter**

(say puh-**rim**-uh-tuh)

*noun* the outside edge of a shape or area:

*To walk around the perimeter of the lake takes about an hour.*

**pesticide**

(say **pest**-uh-suyd)

*noun* a chemical for killing animals that are dangerous or harmful:

*They had to use a pesticide to get rid of the termites.*

**petroleum**

(say puh-**troh**-lee-uhm)

*noun* an oily liquid, usually obtained from under the ground, and used to make petrol and other fuels:

*The largest known reserves of petroleum are in the Middle East.*

**phantom**

(say **fan**-tuhm)

*noun* an image appearing in a dream or in the mind only:

*The diplodocus he saw walking down the street was really just a phantom.*

**phenomenal**

(say fuh-**nom**-uh-nuhl)

*adjective* extraordinary or astonishing:

*The time in which he swam the 100 metres was phenomenal.*

**plankton**

(say **plangk**-tuhn)

*noun* the mass of very tiny plants and animals which drift on or near the surface of water:

*She is a biologist and studies the life cycles of various kinds of plankton.*

**plummet**

(say **plum**-uht)

*verb* To **plummet** is to fall straight and fast, as something heavy does:

*She dropped her camera from the tower and watched it plummet towards the ground.*

**porpoise**

(say **paw**-puhs)

*noun* a sea animal with a rounded nose, usually blackish on top and paler beneath:

*A porpoise leapt out of the water right beside our boat.*

**posterity**

(say pos-**te**-ruh-tee)

*noun* the generations of people who will live in the future:

*Our duty to posterity is to care for the planet.*

**precedence**

(say **pres**-uh-duhns or **prees**-uh-duhns)

*noun* the right to go before, or to be considered more important than something or someone else:

*A visiting member of the royal family always takes precedence over the governor-general at public events.*

**privet**

(say **priv**-uht)

*noun* an evergreen tree or shrub introduced into Australia from Europe, which is now thought to be a pest because it grows over areas of native bush:

*Our local bush regeneration group is trying to get rid of the privet which is threatening to overtake the native flora.*

**prodigy**

(say **prod**-uh-jee)

*noun* someone, especially a child, who has talent far greater than is normal:

*At the age of five it was clear that he was a musical prodigy.*

**prolific**

(say pruh-**lif**-ik)

*adjective* producing plentifully:

*He is a prolific author, publishing a novel every year.*

**propagate**

(say **prop**-uh-gayt)

*verb* If you **propagate** plants, you grow many from the seeds or cuttings from one plant:

*My grandfather is using the internet to learn how to propagate orchids.*

**prophet**

(say **prof**-uht)

*noun* someone who speaks on behalf of a god:

*The prophet travelled far spreading the teachings of his god.*

**prosaic**

(say proh-**zay**-ik)

*adjective* dull and unimaginative:

*She is too creative to have produced such a prosaic piece of writing.*

**protocol**

(say **proh**-tuh-kol)

*noun* the rules of behaviour and ceremony used on official occasions involving royalty, heads of state, diplomats, etc.:

*If you are going to attend the official banquet, you will have to follow the proper protocol.*

**proviso**

(say pruh-**vuyz**-oh)

*noun* a condition or stipulation:

*His parents told him he could have a dog on the proviso that he looked after it.*

**pungent**

(say **pun**-juhnt)

*adjective* having a sharp taste or smell:

*The pungent odour of acid hurt my nostrils.*

**purport**

(say per-**pawt** or **per**-pawt)

*verb* to claim:

*These men purport to be from the local council, but check their identification to make sure.*

**putrid**

(say **pyooh**-truhd)

*adjective* decaying or rotten, especially when having a horrible smell:

*The food we left in the fridge was putrid when we got back from our holidays.*

**quaff**

(say kwof)

*verb* If you **quaff** a drink, you drink it quickly:

*When we get home from our bushwalk, we're going to quaff lots of cold water.*

**rabbi**

(say **rab**-uy)

*noun* a Jewish priest or leader:

*The rabbi welcomed his congregation into the synagogue.*

**rabies**

(say **ray**-beez)

*noun* an infectious brain disease leading to death that is spread to people by the bite of a dog or of some other animal which has the disease:

*Rabies is a terrible disease that can kill you.*

**ramshackle**

(say **ram**-shak-uhl)

*adjective* shaky or likely to collapse:

*We found the ramshackle ruins of an old goldmining site.*

**rancid**

(say **ran**-suhd)

*adjective* having a sour, unpleasant smell or taste from lack of freshness:

*We caught some yabbies using rancid meat as bait.*

**realm**

(say relm)

*noun* a kingdom:

*The realm of King John extended over most of England.*

**relapse**

(say **ree**-laps or ruh-**laps**)

*noun* a return of a disease or illness after partial recovery:

*The doctors warned him that he could suffer a relapse and end up in hospital again if he didn't get enough rest.*

**reprieve**

(say ruh-**preev**)

*noun* a delay or cancellation, especially in carrying out a punishment:

*She may be given a reprieve because of her remorse over the crime.*

**reprimand**

(say **rep**-ruh-mand)

*noun* a scolding, especially from someone in charge:

*She was expecting a reprimand for being late.*

**residual**

(say ruh-**zij**-ooh-uhl)

*adjective* left over:

*The residual money was given to charity.*

**retrospect**

(say **ret**-ruh-spekt)

*noun* If you look at past events in **retrospect**, you think about them with the knowledge you now have about them:

*It is often easy to think of a clever thing to say in retrospect, when it's too late!*

**ricotta**

(say ruh-**kot**-uh)

*noun* a soft fresh white cheese with a delicate flavour:

*My father likes to eat ricotta with pears and apples.*

**rigmarole**

(say **rig**-muh-rohl)

*noun* a long and complicated process:

*I lost my wallet and now I have to go through the whole rigmarole of replacing everything.*

**rigorous**

(say **rig**-uh-ruhs)

*adjective* severe or harsh:

*The children rebelled against her rigorous discipline.*

**rogue**

(say roh-g)

*noun* a dishonest person:

*That rogue tricked me out of a hundred dollars.*

**roughage**

(say **ruf**-ij)

*noun* the coarser kinds or parts of fodder or food, of less nutritive value, especially those which assist digestion:

*The sheep did well because they had a balanced diet of roughage and palatable grasses.*

**rubella**

(say rooh-**bel**-uh)

*noun* a contagious disease, usually mild, accompanied by fever, often some sore throat, and a rash resembling that of scarlet fever:

*When I had rubella, I had a week off school.*

**salamander**

(say **sal**-uh-man-duh)

*noun* a type of amphibian with a tail, which lives in the water when very young, but later lives on land:

*A salamander looks like a lizard but it doesn't have scales.*

**salient**

(say **say**-lee-uhnt)

*adjective* standing out or easily seen:

*The engineer quickly pointed out the salient features of the design.*

**salivate**

(say **sal**-uh-vayt)

*verb* (i) (-vated; -vating)

to produce saliva:

*Just the thought of lobster mornay makes me salivate.*

**sarcasm**

(say **sah**-kaz-uhm)

*noun* the saying of harsh and bitter things, especially by using the trick of saying the opposite of what you really mean, so as to hurt someone's feelings:

*'I'm terribly sorry', I said in a cold and cutting voice, but my sarcasm was wasted on him.*

**sartorial**

(say sah-**taw**-ree-uhl)

*adjective* having to do with clothes or dress, usually a man's:

*The elderly actor took pride in his sartorial elegance and had his clothes made for him from the finest fabrics.*

**scarab**

(say **ska**-ruh**b**)

*noun* a type of beetle, regarded as sacred by the ancient Egyptians:

*The dung beetle is a type of scarab.*

**scrupulous**

(say **skroohp**-yuh-luhs)

*adjective* careful or exact in every detail:

*Doctors have to be scrupulous about cleanliness.*

**semaphore**

(say **sem**-uh-faw)

*noun* a system for signalling messages using flags:

*Before radio, semaphore was used to communicate between the ships in a fleet.*

**settee**

(say set-**ee**)

*noun* a long, padded seat for two or more people, with a back and two sides:

*Marissa and her dog cuddled up on the settee.*

**shrapnel**

(say **shrap**-nuhl)

*noun* the small parts of an exploded cannon shell:

*During the battle, a piece of shrapnel lodged in the soldier's leg.*

**shroud**

(say shrowd)

*noun* something which covers and hides like a cloth:

*A shroud of secrecy hung over the real facts of the story.*

**sinuous**

(say **sin**-yooh-uhs)

*adjective* winding like a snake:

*We followed the sinuous course of the old river bed.*

**sinusitis**

(say suy-nuh-**suy**-tuhs)

*noun* an inflammation of a sinus or sinuses:

*He would always come down with sinusitis just before exams.*

**skeleton**

(say **skel**-uh-tuhn)

*noun* all the bones of a human or animal body, connected together:

*The most interesting thing in the museum was the dinosaur skeleton.*

**sluice**

(say sloohs)

*noun* a channel for water, fitted with a gate to control the water flow:

*The miners washed the gravel in the sluice.*

**solemn**

(say **sol**-uhm)

*adjective* A **solemn** promise or agreement is one that is very sincere, usually made after serious thought:

*The politician made a solemn promise that she would improve the transport system if she was elected.*

**souvenir**

(say sooh-vuh-**near**)

*noun* something you keep as a memory of a place or event:

*I brought home a big shell as a souvenir of my holiday on the island.*

**spectre**

(say **spek**-tuh)

*noun* a ghost:

*They say a strange spectre appears in the garden every night at midnight.*

**splurge**

(say splerj)

*verb* To **splurge** money is to spend it wastefully or on a luxury:

*He would splurge all his money dining in expensive restaurants.*

**squalor**

(say **skwol**-uh)

*noun* dirt and poverty:

*In the slum, many families lived in crowded squalor.*

**squirrel**

(say **skwi**-ruhl)

*noun* a bushy-tailed animal found in Europe, Asia, and North America, which lives in trees and stores nuts:

*The squirrel is regarded as a pest in many parts of the world.*

**stability**

(say stuh-**bil**-uh-tee)

*noun* firmness in position:

*I'm not sure about the stability of this ladder, so please hold it firm while I climb.*

**sternum**

(say **ster**-nuhm)

*noun* a bone or series of bones extending along the midline of the front of the chest and attached to the ribs:

*In the accident, the seatbelt hurt his sternum, but it prevented serious injury.*

**stockade**

(say stok-**ayd**)

*noun* a strong wooden fence built for defence against attack:

*The miners stood behind the stockade and waited for the troopers to arrive.*

**stupor**

(say **styoo**h-puh)

*noun* a state in which the mind or senses are deadened or not working, as a result of illness or drugs:

*She was walking around in a stupor because she was very tired and unwell.*

**stylus**

(say **stuy**-luhs)

*noun* a pointed tool for drawing or writing:

*He marked his initials in the clay with a stylus.*

**suave**

(say swahv)

*adjective* Someone **suave** is charming and smooth in manner:

*His suave manner made people think he was very sophisticated.*

**surreal**

(say suh-**reel**)

*adjective* dreamlike:

*Gliding over the city in the hot air balloon was a surreal, dreamlike experience.*

**swami**

(say **swah**-mee)

*noun* a Hindu religious teacher:

*The swami taught them about Ganesha, the Hindu elephant-headed god.*

**syrup**

(say **si**-ruh-p)

*noun* a thick, sweet, sticky liquid:

*I love strawberry syrup on my ice-cream.*

**tambourine**

(say tam-buh-**reen**)

*noun* a type of small drum which has small, round pieces of metal set into a frame, and is played by hitting or shaking it:

*You have to have a good sense of rhythm to play the tambourine.*

**tarragon**

(say **ta**-ruh-guhn)

*noun* a strong-smelling herb used in cooking and salads:

*Roast chicken is delicious when flavoured with tarragon.*

**tattoo**

(say tat-**oo**h)

*noun* an ink picture permanently printed into someone's skin with needles:

*The tattoo on his back was of a vampire.*

**terrier**

(say **te**-ree-uh)

*noun* A **terrier** is one of the small dogs that were once used for hunting:

*A terrier is a very determined little dog.*

**terrine**

(say tuh-**reen**)

*noun* pâté served in an earthenware cooking dish:

*Mum made a chicken terrine for us to eat on our picnic.*

**tetanus**

(say **tet**-nuhs or **tet**-uh-nuhs)

*noun* an infectious, often deadly disease, which causes extreme stiffness of the muscles of the jaw and other parts of the body:

*These days, most people in Australia are immunised against tetanus, so it is not very common.*

**textile**

(say **teks**-tuyl)

*noun* any woven material used for clothing, curtains and so on:

*The curtains in the music room were made of a heavy textile to improve the acoustics.*

**theorem**

(say **thear**-ruhm)

*noun* a statement containing something to be proved in mathematics:

*Our maths teacher showed us two different ways to prove the theorem.*

**thesis**

(say **thee**-suhs)

*noun* an idea, argument or explanation, especially one to be discussed and proved:

*His central thesis -- that the Earth was a cube -- was widely scorned.*

**threshold**

(say **thresh**-hohld)

*noun* the entrance to a house or building:

*He crossed the threshold and closed the door behind him.*

**thyme**

(say tuym)

*noun* a common garden herb that is used in cooking:

*In a small bowl combine shallots, thyme and bay leaves with salt and pepper.*

**tinea**

(say **tin**-ee-uh)

*noun* a skin disease which makes the skin between the toes red and sore:

*Tinea is a foot complaint which is easily spread from person to person.*

**tiresome**

(say **tu**-uh-suhm)

*adjective* annoying:

*His constant complaining is getting very tiresome.*

**tornado**

(say taw-**nay**-doh)

*noun* a violent whirlwind:

*The tornado had completely flattened the mobile home park.*

**trailblazer**

(say **trayl**-blayz-uh)

*noun* someone who is the first to do something:

*Even if I say so myself, I think I'm a bit of a trailblazer in dreaming up the notion of peanut butter ice-cream.*

**trampoline**

(say tram-puh-**leen**)

*noun* a frame with tightly stretched material attached to it by springs, on which you can jump for exercise or fun:

*Only two children are allowed to jump on the trampoline at the one time.*

**tranquil**

(say **trang**-kwuhl)

*adjective* peaceful or quiet:

*It was a tranquil scene beside the river until the tractor arrived.*

**treacle**

(say **tree**-kuhl)

*noun* a dark, sticky liquid made from sugar:

*He added treacle instead of sugar to the biscuit mixture to sweeten it.*

**tremendous**

(say truh-**men**-duhs)

*adjective* very large or important:

*She was offered a tremendous opportunity to work overseas.*

**tremulous**

(say **trem**-yuh-luhs)

*adjective* shaky or uncertain:

*Her tremulous voice betrayed her nervousness.*

**truant**

(say **trooh**-uhnt)

*noun* If someone plays **truant**, they stay away from school without permission:

*She played truant and went to the beach instead.*

**tuition**

(say tyooh-**ish**-uhn)

*noun* teaching:

*He needs extra tuition in maths.*

**turmoil**

(say **ter**-moyl)

*noun* wild disorder:

*The school was in turmoil when the electricity failed.*

**turnip**

(say **ter**-nuhp)

*noun* a plant with a thick white or yellow root which is eaten as a vegetable:

*Some people believe that boiled turnip is good for colds.*

**turret**

(say **tu**-ruht)

*noun* a small tower at a corner of a building:

*The turret crumbled after a direct hit from a cannon.*

**tuxedo**

(say tuk-**see**-doh)

*noun* a man's black jacket, worn on formal occasions:

*He was looking very smart in his new shoes and a hired tuxedo.*

**uncharitable**

(say un-**cha**-ruh-tuh-buhl)

*adjective* unforgiving and harsh:

*He admitted that his initially harsh view of the applicant might have been uncharitable and undeserved.*

**uninspired**

(say un-in-**spuy**-uhd)

*adjective* lacking imagination or creative spirit; dull:

*It was an uninspired speech and the audience looked very weary.*

**unspeakable**

(say un-**speak**-uh-buhl)

*adjective* impossible to express in words:

*It gave the mother unspeakable joy to see her daughter finally able to walk again.*

**utensil**

(say yoooh-**ten**-suhl)

*noun* an implement, especially one of those used for cooking or eating:

*This grater is a very useful kitchen utensil.*

**utmost**

(say **ut**-mohst)

*noun* the greatest amount possible:

*The festivities would strain the small town's resources to the utmost.*

**vacuum**

(say **vak**-yoohm)

*noun* a space that has absolutely nothing in it:

*Because there was a vacuum in the bottle, the flame went out.*

**vague**

(say vayg)

*adjective* If something is **vague**, it is not clear or certain:

*I had a vague feeling that something was missing, but I couldn't work out what it was.*

**variance**

(say **vair**-ree-uhns)

*noun* the condition or fact of varying:

*There were a number of points of variance between his original story and what he later told the police.*

**vengeful**

(say **venj**-fuhl)

*adjective* desiring, seeking, or taking revenge:

*He's not my favourite character -- he's bullying, greedy, self-centred and vengeful!*

**vertex**

(say **ver**-teks)

*noun* the top or highest point of something:

*We had to mark the vertex of the triangle `A' and the other two points `B' and `C'.*

**vertigo**

(say **ver**-tuh-goh)

*noun* a feeling of dizziness, often experienced when looking down from a high place:

*People who suffer from vertigo shouldn't go mountain climbing.*

**veteran**

(say **vet**-uh-ruhn)

*noun* someone who has worked for a long time in a particular job or in any position:

*Old Charlie is a veteran of about forty years in the office.*

**vineyard**

(say **vin**-yuhd or **vin**-yahd)

*noun* a farm where grapes are grown for wine-making:

*The vineyard was pretty but the wine was undrinkable.*

**vinyl**

(say **vuy**-nuhl)

*noun* a type of plastic:

*The couch was covered in brown vinyl that looked like leather.*

**viscount**

(say **vuy**-kownt)

*noun* a British nobleman ranking below an earl and above a baron:

*His uncle was a viscount and lived in a castle.*

**visor**

(say **vuy**-zuh)

*noun* the movable part of a hard protective hat, which can be pulled down over your eyes:

*The ball deflected off the visor of the helmet.*

**vitamin**

(say **vuy**-tuh-muhn or **vit**-uh-muhn)

*noun* any of a number of substances present naturally in food, and necessary in small quantities for good health:

*We need sunlight for vitamin D.*

**volcanic**

(say vol-**kan**-ik)

*adjective* relating to volcanoes:

*Volcanic soil is very fertile.*

**wallaroo**

(say wol-uh-**rooh**)

*noun* a large kangaroo with shaggy, dark fur that lives in rocky or hilly land:

*The wallaroo has shorter back legs than the kangaroo.*

**warmonger**

(say **waw**-mung-guh)

*noun* someone who advises war as the best action to take:

*The pacifist lobby accused the politician of being nothing more than a warmonger.*

**wastage**

(say **wayst**-ij)

*noun* loss by use, wear, decay, wastefulness, and so on:

*The state government has started a campaign to educate the public in minimising water wastage.*

**wheelbarrow**

(say **weel**-ba-roh)

*noun* a small cart, usually with one wheel at the front and two legs, which you lift when you wheel it along:

*We had great fun pushing our smallest cousin around in the wheelbarrow.*

**whirlpool**

(say **werl**-poohl)

*noun* a circular current, as in a river or sea, which draws things into its centre:

*There was a whirlpool at the bottom of the waterfall.*

**widower**

(say **wid**-oh-uh)

*noun* a man whose wife has died and who has not married again:

*Next door lived a widower with his two sons.*

**windcheater**

(say **wind**-chee-tuh)

*noun* a close-fitting jacket or jumper worn for protection against the wind:

*You'll need a windcheater out on the boat.*

**womb**

(say woohm)

*noun* the uterus:

*Human babies take nine months to develop in the womb.*

**wondrous**

(say **wun**-druhs)

*adjective* wonderful or marvellous:

*Greg saw many wondrous sights on his trip to South America.*

**wrath**

(say roth)

*noun* anger:

*The warriors feared the wrath of their leader if they were unsuccessful in their mission.*

**wreath**

(say reeth)

*noun* a decoration consisting of leaves and flowers tied together in the shape of a circle:

*We always hang a wreath on our door at Christmas time.*

## Junior General Level 4

### abundance

(say uh-**bun**-duhns)

*noun* a plentiful amount or supply:

*Because of all the recent rain, there is an abundance of water in the reservoir.*

### accommodation

(say uh-kom-uh-**day**-shuhn)

*noun* somewhere to stay, as at a hotel:

*It was very hard to find accommodation during the holidays.*

### acne

(say **ak**-nee)

*noun* a rash with a lot of pimples, especially on the face:

*Alana was very self-conscious about the acne on her face.*

### acquaint

(say uh-**kwaynt**)

*verb* to tell, inform or make familiar:

*You should acquaint the police with anything you know about the crime.*

### adhere

(say uhd-**hear**)

*verb* to stick to something:

*You must adhere strictly to the rules.*

### admirable

(say **ad**-muh-ruh-buhl)

*adjective* so good that you admire it:

*We thought that the marathon runner put in an admirable effort.*

### admonish

(say uhd-**mon**-ish)

*verb* to caution or warn someone:

*I had to admonish the people in front of me for talking during the film.*

### advertisement

(say uhd-**ver**-tuhs-muhnt)

*noun* a notice telling you about an event that is coming, or about something lost or for sale:

*We'll put an advertisement in the local paper to sell our old car.*

### affable

(say **af**-uh-buhl)

*adjective* friendly and approachable:

*The guest speaker was both affable and entertaining.*

### aggregate

(say **ag**-ruh-guht)

*noun* the total or sum of a number of single things:

*The aggregate of all their scores meant that their team won the carnival.*

### allege

(say uh-**lej**)

*verb* to say that something is true without being able to prove it:

*Some people allege that you are responsible for the graffiti at the station.*

**ambiguous**

(say am-**big**-yoooh-uhs)

*adjective* unclear, due to having more than one meaning:

*As the question was quite ambiguous, we had to ask the teacher what she meant.*

**anonymous**

(say uh-**non**-uh-muhs)

*adjective* If a piece of writing is **anonymous**, the writer does not want to tell people who they are:

*The poem in the school magazine was anonymous, but we could guess who wrote it.*

**anxious**

(say **ang**-shuhs)

*adjective* nervous or worried that something bad might happen:

*She was very anxious about her sick friend.*

**aquamarine**

(say ak-wuh-muh-**reen**)

*noun* a greenish-blue stone used in jewellery:

*Most aquamarine is mined in Brazil.*

**arbitrate**

(say **ah**-buh-trayt)

*verb* to decide or settle a matter for others, often a disagreement or a dispute:

*They were forced to have a judge arbitrate the matter.*

**archives**

(say **ah**-kuyvz)

*plural noun* a collection of historical documents about a family, business or country:

*The university's archives are kept in the library.*

**arguable**

(say **ah**-gyooh-uh-buhl)

*adjective* able to be proved by argument:

*There is certainly an arguable case for wearing a crash helmet.*

**artery**

(say **ah**-tuh-ree)

*noun* An **artery** is one of the small tubes inside your body that carry blood from your heart:

*My grandmother has a blocked artery and she is having an operation.*

**autopsy**

(say **aw**-top-see)

*noun* the examination of a dead body to discover the cause of death:

*They performed an autopsy on the body, as there were suspicious circumstances.*

**avail**

(say uh-**vayl**)

*noun* If something is to no **avail**, it is of no use:

*All our preparations for the picnic were to no avail when it started to pour.*

**aviator**

(say **ay**-vee-ay-tuh)

*noun* a pilot:

*He was an aviator in the Second World War.*

**bacteria**

(say bak-**teer**-ree-uh)

*plural noun* tiny living bodies with one cell, which multiply by dividing themselves in two and which can cause disease and decay:

*We must make sure we wash our hands to stop the spread of harmful bacteria.*

**baleful**

(say **bayl**-fuhl)

*adjective* full of hate:

*The snarling dog watched through the fence with a baleful expression.*

**barrage**

(say **ba**-rahzh or **ba**-rahj)

*noun* a long and strenuous verbal attack:

*The premier faced a barrage of questions from the press.*

**besiege**

(say buh-**seej**)

*verb* If a group of people, especially soldiers, **besiege** a place, they surround it:

*The soldiers planned to besiege the castle.*

**brevity**

(say **brev**-uh-tee)

*noun* shortness or briefness:

*The brevity of the lecture surprised and pleased us.*

**bullion**

(say **bull**-yuhn)

*noun* bars of gold or silver:

*Millions of dollars of gold bullion went missing.*

**campaign**

(say kam-**payn**)

*noun* any planned series of actions with a particular purpose:

*She joined a campaign to stop whaling.*

**caramel**

(say **ka**-ruh-muhl)

*noun* a type of sweet, or a colouring or flavouring made from burnt sugar:

*The dentist told him that eating too much caramel wasn't good for his teeth.*

**carpentry**

(say **kah**-puhn-tree)

*noun* the art of working with wood:

*Susie hoped to do an apprenticeship in carpentry.*

**cartridge**

(say **kah**-trij)

*noun* a container, such as that which holds ink for a pen or a printer:

*I had to buy another black cartridge for our printer.*

**ceremonious**

(say se-ruh-**mohn**-ee-uhs)

*adjective* marked by formal ceremony:

*The launching of the ship was a very ceremonious occasion.*

**charitable**

(say **char**-uh-tuh-buhl)

*adjective* relating to charity:

*The charitable organisation had raised thousands of dollars for the children's hospital.*

**chimpanzee**

(say chim-pan-**zee**)

*noun* a large monkey from Africa which spends much of its life in the trees:

*We saw a baby chimpanzee at the zoo.*

**cicada**

(say suh-**kah**-duh or suh-**kay**-duh)

*noun* a large flying insect which is found in trees and which makes a loud noise in hot weather:

*We found the shell of a cicada on a tree trunk.*

**cinnamon**

(say **sin**-uh-muhn)

*noun* a spice made from the inner bark of certain trees and used in cooking:

*The baker made a delicious bread roll flavoured with cinnamon.*

**civilian**

(say suh-**vil**-yuhn)

*noun* someone who is not a member of the armed forces:

*He was now a civilian after twenty years in the air force.*

**cocoa**

(say **koh**-koh)

*noun* a drink made from the brown powder which is also used to make chocolate:

*I like to have a nice hot cocoa on cold winter evenings.*

**collage**

(say kol-**ahzh** or **kol**-ahzh)

*noun* a picture made from various materials, such as pieces of paper, cloth, and so on:

*At school I made a collage with coloured paper and foil.*

**commercial**

(say kuh-**mer**-shuhl)

*adjective* having to do with commerce:

*The commercial part of town is down by the port.*

**concussion**

(say kuhn-**kush**-uhn)

*noun* an injury of the brain or spine caused by a blow:

*He suffered concussion from the fall.*

**congenital**

(say kuhn-**jen**-uh-tuhl)

*adjective* a medical condition that has been there since the person was born:

*The baby was born with congenital heart disease.*

**conjecture**

(say kuhn-**jek**-chuh)

*noun* the making of an opinion without enough information:

*This is only conjecture -- no-one knows what really happened.*

**conspiracy**

(say kuhn-**spi**-ruh-see)

*noun* a secret plot planned by a number of people:

*There was a conspiracy to give our teacher a surprise birthday party.*

**constellation**

(say kon-stuh-**lay**-shuhn)

*noun* a group of stars:

*The Southern Cross is the most widely known constellation in the southern hemisphere.*

**constitution**

(say kon-stuh-**tyooh**-shuhn)

*noun* a set of basic rules for governing a state, society, or other organisation:

*The Australian constitution can only be changed by a referendum of all voters.*

**controversial**

(say kon-truh-**ver**-shuhl)

*adjective* subject to different points of view; debatable:

*The political party was divided about the controversial issue.*

**conundrum**

(say kuh-**nun**-druhm)

*noun* a riddle or puzzle:

*The children had to solve a conundrum before the wizard would let them pass through the enchanted gate.*

**copious**

(say **koh**-pee-uhs)

*adjective* plentiful:

*We were lucky to have a copious supply of fresh vegetables.*

**copyright**

(say **kop**-ee-ruyt)

*noun* the legal right you have to protect work that you write or compose, and to control who can copy it:

*Copyright is essential for authors to protect their work.*

**corporation**

(say kaw-puh-**ray**-shuhn)

*noun* a business or other united group of people:

*My sister works for an international corporation.*

**corps**

(say kaw)

*noun* a unit of soldiers:

*My brother has joined the cadet corps at his school.*

**corral**

(say ko-**rahl**)

*noun* a pen or enclosure for horses, cattle, etc.:

*We led the horses into the corral when we saw signs of bad weather approaching.*

**correspondence**

(say ko-ruh-**spon**-duhns)

*noun* similarity:

*There is a strong correspondence between the two stories.*

**corroborate**

(say kuh-**rob**-uh-rayt)

*verb* to make something seem more certain because more evidence is given:

*We can't find any evidence to corroborate his version of events.*

**criticism**

(say **krit**-uh-siz-uhm)

*noun* an analysis and judging of the quality of something:

*Sam wants to do a course in film criticism to help him appreciate what makes a good movie.*

**decrepit**

(say duh-**krep**-uht)

adjective made weak or broken down by age:

*The old car was so decrepit that we could not get it registered.*

**deficit**

(say **def**-uh-suht)

noun an amount of money lacking:

*Unfortunately, there is a small deficit in the club's accounts.*

**defoliate**

(say duh-**foh**-lee-ayt)

verb To **defoliate** a plant is to take off all its leaves:

*The farmer had to spray his wheat fields to make sure the locusts would not defoliate the entire crop.*

**delineate**

(say duh-**lin**-ee-ayt)

verb to describe or show in words:

*She did her best to delineate the plan precisely.*

**descent**

(say duh-**sent**)

noun the act of coming or going down:

*He made a quick descent down the ladder.*

**diplomacy**

(say duh-**ploh**-muh-see)

noun skill in managing relations between nations or people:

*Joe's diplomacy made him an excellent mediator.*

**disenchanted**

(say dis-uhn-**chan**-tuht or dis-uhn-**chahn**-tuht)

adjective disappointed:

*She had become disenchanted with her new job.*

**disinfectant**

(say dis-uhn-**fek**-tuht)

noun any chemical substance which kills germs:

*The vet sprays the examining table with disinfectant after each patient.*

**dispensary**

(say dis-**pen**-suh-ree or dis-**pen**-sree)

noun (plural **dispensaries**)

the part of a chemist's shop or hospital where medicines are made up and given out:

*The chemist brought my prescription out of the dispensary.*

**dispersion**

(say dis-**per**-shuhn)

noun the act of being dispersed:

*The dispersion of seeds is important for the growth of new plants.*

**distraught**

(say duhs-**trawt**)

adjective very worried or upset:

*The lost toddler became more and more distraught as daylight faded.*

**dramatic**

(say druhs-**mat**-ik)

adjective startling or striking:

*The government is concerned about the dramatic rise in unemployment.*

**efficient**

(say uh-**fish**-uhnt or ee-**fish**-uhnt)

*adjective* If something is **efficient**, it works well and is practical:

*This pump is very efficient -- it gives a strong flow of water.*

**effusive**

(say uh-**fyoo**h-siv)

*adjective* showing too much feeling:

*Her effusive manner can be overwhelming and often makes people uncomfortable.*

**eloquent**

(say **el**-uh-kwuhnt)

*adjective* able to speak in a flowing, expressive manner:

*Being naturally eloquent, Ann was chosen to give the opening speech.*

**embarrass**

(say em-**ba**-ruhs)

*verb* To **embarrass** someone is to make them feel uncomfortable:

*My mother's old-fashioned ideas sometimes embarrass me in front of my friends.*

**epilepsy**

(say **ep**-uh-lep-see)

*noun* an illness which produces fits of unconsciousness and uncontrollable movements of the body:

*She has a mild form of epilepsy which is controlled well with medication.*

**escalator**

(say **es**-kuh-lay-tuh)

*noun* a continuously moving stairway that carries people upwards or downwards:

*They had to use the escalator to reach the higher level.*

**fastidious**

(say fas-**tid**-ee-uhs)

*adjective* fussy or hard to please:

*If you are too fastidious, the job will take too long.*

**feign**

(say fayn)

*verb* If you **feign** something, you pretend to have it:

*She tried to feign chickenpox by drawing red spots on her skin.*

**flannelette**

(say flan-uh-**let**)

*noun* a cotton cloth treated on one side to look and feel like flannel:

*His checked flannelette shirt wasn't suitable for the formal wedding.*

**formidable**

(say **faw**-muh-duh-buhl)

*adjective* frightening:

*Mum's visitor was a formidable woman and Dad stayed out in the shed.*

**franchise**

(say **fran**-chuyz)

*noun* a citizen's right to vote:

*In Australia, the franchise was first extended to women in South Australia.*

**igneous**

(say **ig**-nee-uhs)

*adjective* An **igneous** rock is formed from volcanic activity:

*Basalt is an igneous rock.*

**illicit**

(say il-**is**-uht)

*adjective* forbidden or not legal:

*The police have caught a major dealer in illicit drugs.*

**impervious**

(say im-**per**-vee-uhs)

*phrase* If you are **impervious** to something, you are not moved or affected by it:

*The judge was impervious to the pleas of the accused.*

**indispensable**

(say in-duh-**spens**-uh-buhl)

*adjective* absolutely necessary:

*Water is indispensable when travelling in the Australian outback.*

**indolent**

(say in-duh-luhnt)

*adjective* tending to avoid work or effort:

*Her indolent ways annoyed the firm so much that she was sacked.*

**installation**

(say in-stuh-**lay**-shuhn)

*noun* the act of installing something:

*The installation of the new computer system was delayed for a month.*

**intercede**

(say in-tuh-**seed**)

*verb* to act on behalf of someone in trouble:

*The lawyer will intercede with the government on behalf of the political prisoners.*

**intravenous**

(say in-truh-**vee**-nuhs)

*adjective* An **intravenous** medicine is given directly into the blood, through a needle put in a vein:

*The patient is being given an intravenous antibiotic.*

**limerick**

(say **lim**-uh-rik)

*noun* a poem with five lines, intended to make you laugh:

*The teacher recited a funny limerick about bees.*

**logistics**

(say luh-**jis**-tiks)

*noun* the practical details of a project:

*The logistics of moving so many people to a new area have to be worked out carefully.*

**macadamia**

(say mak-uh-**day**-mee-uh)

*noun* an edible nut with a very hard shell, grown in eastern Australia and South-East Asia:

*The shell of a macadamia is very hard, but the nut inside is delicious.*

**meteoroid**

(say **meet**-ee-uh-royd)

*noun* any of the small bodies travelling through space:

*A fast meteoroid can travel around the sun at more than 40 kilometres a second.*

**millionaire**

(say mil-yuh-**nair**)

*noun* someone who has a million dollars or more:

*Tom's mother believes his singing talent will make him a millionaire.*

**mischievous**

(say **mis**-chuh-vuhs)

*adjective* You are **mischievous** if you like to do naughty things:

*My little brother is very mischievous -- Mum and Dad have to watch what he is doing all the time.*

**morose**

(say muh-**rohs**)

*adjective* bad-tempered or gloomy because of unhappiness:

*He became very morose when he found out that dinner was to be lentil burgers.*

**municipality**

(say myooh-nuh-suh-**pal**-uh-tee)

*noun* a district which has its own local government:

*We have some good parks in our municipality.*

**napery**

(say **nay**-puh-ree)

*noun* household linen, especially for the table:

*My mother used an online site to buy curtains and napery for the new house.*

**nuisance**

(say **nyooh**-suhns)

*noun* someone or something that is very annoying:

*It was a real nuisance that we couldn't turn on the tap.*

**oasis**

(say oh-**ay**-suhs)

*noun* An **oasis** is a place in a desert where there is water and plants:

*They were relieved to come across an oasis as they were running low on water.*

**obituary**

(say uh-**bich**-uh-ree)

*noun* a notice, usually in a newspaper, saying that someone has died and often including a short account of their life and achievements:

*I was sad when I saw an obituary in the paper for my old school principal.*

**officious**

(say uh-**fish**-uhs)

*adjective* too eager to force your services upon others and to tell them what to do:

*If there is one thing I don't like it is officious dog catchers.*

**ominous**

(say **om**-uh-nuhs)

*adjective* threatening:

*We thought we were safe in the deserted house until we heard an ominous creaking.*

**orphanage**

(say **aw**-fuh-nij)

*noun* a place where children without parents live:

*The film was about a boy who grew up in an orphanage.*

**perennial**

(say puh-**ren**-ee-uhl)

*adjective* A **perennial** plant has a life cycle of more than two years:

*She planted a row of perennial shrubs along the fence.*

**permeable**

(say **perm**-ee-uh-buhl)

*adjective* able to be passed through, especially by liquids:

*Unfortunately, our tent was made of permeable material, so when it rained the water passed straight through and drenched us.*

**perpendicular**

(say per-puhn-**dik**-yuh-luh)

*adjective* meeting a line or surface at right angles:

*This instrument will indicate if the wall is exactly perpendicular to the floor.*

**persimmon**

(say **per**-suh-muhn)

*noun* a red or orange plum-like fruit:

*The ancient Greeks used to call the persimmon the 'fruit of the gods'.*

**petticoat**

(say **pet**-ee-koht)

*noun* a light, skirt-like piece of clothing sometimes worn under dresses by women and girls:

*Women used to always wear a petticoat under their dress.*

**petulant**

(say **pech**-uh-luhnt)

*adjective* showing or feeling impatient annoyance, especially over something unimportant:

*'Well, I don't care anyway', she said in a petulant voice.*

**pillion**

(say **pil**-yuhn)

*noun* the passenger seat behind the driver's seat on a motorcycle:

*He rode as pillion behind his dad on the motorcycle -- it was great fun!*

**pinnacle**

(say **pin**-uh-kuhl)

*noun* a high, pointed mountain top:

*We cannot be sure if the missing climber ever reached the pinnacle of the Matterhorn.*

**plaintiff**

(say **playn**-tuhf or **playn**-tif)

*noun* a person who brings a court case against someone else known as the defendant:

*The plaintiff had brought the case against her landlord.*

**planetary**

(say **plan**-uh-tuh-ree or **plan**-uh-tree)

*adjective* relating to a planet or the planets:

*She loved learning about the planetary system and is now studying astronomy.*

**plaudit**

(say **plaw**-duht)

*noun* applause, approval, etc., as for an admired performance:

*The actor received plaudit after plaudit for his remarkable performance.*

**porcupine**

(say **pawk**-yuh-puyn)

*noun* a small animal covered with stiff, sharp spines, found in Europe, Africa, and North America:

*Falling onto the porcupine was a nasty experience -- for us both.*

**posterior**

(say pos-**teer**-ree-uh)

adjective from or at the back:

*The X-ray gave a posterior view of the lung.*

**precarious**

(say pruh-**kair**-ree-uhs)

adjective involving danger:

*That plate is in a precarious position right on the edge of the table.*

**precipice**

(say **press**-uh-puhs)

noun a steep cliff:

*They stood at the top of the precipice and watched the waves crashing below.*

**prehistoric**

(say pree-his-**to**-rik)

adjective belonging to the time before history was written or records were kept:

*We can find out about prehistoric life by examining fossils.*

**preliminary**

(say pruh-**lim**-uh-nuh-ree or pruh-**lim**-uhn-ree)

adjective Something that is **preliminary** comes before the main matter:

*Before the conference began, there was a preliminary meeting for everyone to meet each other.*

**primitive**

(say **prim**-uh-tiv)

adjective being the earliest in existence:

*Primitive humans are believed to have lived in caves.*

**probability**

(say prob-uh-**bil**-uh-tee)

noun likelihood or chance of something occurring

*The data showed that the probability of another earthquake was high.*

**proliferate**

(say pruh-**lif**-uh-rayt)

verb to grow by multiplying:

*Swimming pools seem to proliferate in suburbs where there are lots of kids.*

**propaganda**

(say prop-uh-**gan**-duh)

noun information which is used to try to make you believe a certain point of view:

*My father said the TV report was anti-government propaganda.*

**propensity**

(say pruh-**pen**-suh-tee)

noun a natural or habitual tendency:

*She has a propensity for gossip that can get a bit irritating.*

**proprietor**

(say pruh-**pruy**-uh-tuh)

noun the person who owns a business or a property:

*The proprietor of the doughnut shop is a very good friend of mine.*

**prosecute**

(say **pros**-uh-kyooht)

verb To **prosecute** someone is to accuse them before a court of law:

*The police are going to prosecute the person who stole the money from my grandmother.*

**queue**

(say kyoooh)

*noun* a line or file of people, cars or animals waiting in turn for something:

*The queue for the hamburgers was too long so we decided to make do with chips.*

**rapport**

(say ruh-paw)

*noun* a friendly feeling between people:

*Josie and I have a good rapport and can talk about anything.*

**rarity**

(say rair-ruh-tee)

*noun* something interesting and uncommon:

*A whale in the harbour is a great rarity these days.*

**raspberry**

(say rahz-bree)

*noun* a soft, juicy, red berry:

*The bowl of ice-cream had a raspberry on top.*

**ravenous**

(say rav-uh-nuhs)

*adjective* extremely hungry:

*We were so ravenous that we ate our dinner quickly and in total silence.*

**receipt**

(say ruh-seet)

*noun* a signed piece of paper proving that you have received goods and paid money for them:

*I always save the receipt when I buy something, in case I need to return it.*

**recipe**

(say res-uh-pee)

*noun* instructions on how to cook something:

*We followed the recipe exactly and made the best lamingtons ever.*

**recipient**

(say ruh-sip-ee-uhnt)

*noun* someone or something that receives something:

*He was the recipient of last year's Nobel Peace Prize.*

**refugee**

(say ref-yooh-jee)

*noun* someone who needs shelter or protection from danger or trouble:

*He came to Australia as a refugee from the harsh regime in his country.*

**regalia**

(say ruh-gay-lee-uh)

*plural noun* the emblems of royalty, such as the crown, sceptre, etc.:

*The exhibition featured all the regalia of Louis XIV, including his royal crown.*

**reign**

(say rayn)

*noun* the time during which a king or queen rules or holds the position of ruler:

*During the reign of Queen Victoria, England ruled an empire.*

**reimburse**

(say ree-im-bers)

*verb* If you **reimburse** someone, you pay them back:

*The school will reimburse the teacher for the costs of the excursion.*

**remittance**

(say ruh-**mit**-uhns)

*noun* the sending of money, etc., as payment:

*From her wage, she managed to send home a remittance to her family each month.*

**renegade**

(say **ren**-uh-gayd)

*noun* someone who deserts one party or cause for another:

*It was clear from the voting papers that there was a renegade in our midst.*

**reprehensible**

(say rep-ruh-**hen**-suh-buhl)

*adjective* very bad and deserving harsh criticism:

*She was admonished for her reprehensible behaviour.*

**reprisal**

(say ruh-**pru**yz-uhl)

*noun* an act which causes hurt or damage to someone in retaliation for something they have done:

*The raids on the government offices appeared to be a reprisal for the military attack.*

**repulsive**

(say ruh-**pul**-siv)

*adjective* disgusting:

*The smell of the garbage bin was repulsive.*

**requisite**

(say **rek**-wuh-zuht)

*adjective* needed or demanded:

*He has the requisite qualifications for the job.*

**resignation**

(say re-zig-**nay**-shuhn)

*noun* a statement informing your employer that you are giving up a job:

*She decided that she would hand in her resignation at the end of the week, and go and pick bananas in Darwin.*

**resourceful**

(say ruh-**zaws**-fuhl or ruh-**saws**-fuhl)

*adjective* skilful in overcoming difficulties:

*Her bush experience learned over many years made her a resourceful and capable leader.*

**ridiculous**

(say ruh-**dik**-yuh-luhs)

*adjective* If something is **ridiculous**, it is very silly or foolish:

*The idea may sound ridiculous, but I actually think it will work.*

**salinity**

(say suh-**lin**-uh-tee)

*noun* the rising of salt from deep under the ground, making the water in rivers and lakes too salty to drink, and making the soil too salty for farming:

*Salinity is a serious problem in many of our rivers at the moment.*

**samurai**

(say **sam**-yuh-ruy)

*noun* (plural **samurai**)

a Japanese fighter who lived in medieval times:

*A samurai was an expert swordsman.*

**sanitary**

(say **san**-uh-tree)

*adjective* having to do with cleanliness or care in preventing disease:

*All procedures at the hospital must be sanitary, or germs will quickly spread.*

**sashimi**

(say suh-**shee**-mee)

*noun* a Japanese dish of fresh seafood fillets cut into bite-sized, oblong strips, and eaten raw:

*Fiona had sashimi at the Japanese restaurant and I had teriyaki chicken.*

**sassafras**

(say **sass**-uh-frass)

*noun* an Australian tree with sweet-smelling bark:

*Oak and cedar were used for cabinetwork and fittings -- and sassafras for flooring.*

**scaffolding**

(say **skaf**-uhl-ding)

*noun* a system of scaffolds:

*Workers had to erect scaffolding around the outside of the building before restoration could begin.*

**scissors**

(say **siz**-uhz)

*plural noun* a cutting instrument made of two blades joined together:

*My scissors have become too blunt to cut properly.*

**scoundrel**

(say **skown**-druhl)

*noun* a wicked and immoral person:

*My grandmother called the thief a scoundrel.*

**scrumptious**

(say **skrum**-shuhs)

*adjective* very tasty:

*It was such a scrumptious dessert that I had a second helping.*

**seethe**

(say seedh)

*verb* If a person **seethes**, they are excited or disturbed:

*I know Mum will seethe with anger when she finds out what we've done.*

**seizure**

(say **seezh**-uh)

*noun* a sudden attack of disease:

*She had a seizure while on holidays and was rushed to hospital.*

**sergeant**

(say **sah**-juhnt)

*noun* a soldier or police officer with a high enough rank to be in charge of others:

*A police sergeant came to our school to talk about road safety.*

**sesame**

(say **sess**-uh-mee)

*noun* a tropical plant, whose small seeds are used for food and oil:

*Oil made from the seeds of sesame is essential for Chinese cooking.*

**shrewd**

(say shroohd)

*adjective* clever, and with good practical judgement:

*People often asked him for advice because they thought he was shrewd.*

**sienna**

(say see-**en**-uh)

*noun* a yellowish brown or reddish brown:

*The artist had used sienna for the desert in his painting.*

**skillion**

(say **skil**-yuhn)

*noun* an outer building sometimes leaning against a wall, with a roof sloping in one direction:

*The laundry was at the back of the old house, in a skillion, which was a kind of lean-to with a sloping roof.*

**smear**

(say smear)

*noun* a dirty mark or stain:

*There was a smear of paint on the window pane.*

**solicit**

(say suh-**lis**-uht)

*verb* to seek seriously and formally:

*The charity will solicit funds from local businesses.*

**soothe**

(say soohdh)

*verb* If you **soothe** someone who is hurt or sad, you try to make them feel happy and calm again:

*The coach tried to soothe the team after they lost their final match.*

**spacious**

(say **spay**-shuhs)

*adjective* having a lot of space or room:

*The kitchen was spacious enough to fit a table that seated six people.*

**spontaneous**

(say spon-**tay**-nee-uhs)

*adjective* happening naturally and often unexpectedly:

*There was a spontaneous burst of applause when the great writer walked into the room.*

**squabble**

(say **skwob**-uhl)

*verb* If you **squabble**, you fight or argue about little things that are not important:

*They always squabble about whose turn it is to set the table.*

**squadron**

(say **skwod**-ruhn)

*noun* a fighting unit in the armed forces, especially in the air force or navy:

*The squadron provided aerial support to the fleet of supply ships.*

**squall**

(say skwawl)

*noun* a sudden strong wind which dies away rapidly:

*The boat's mast snapped in half during the squall.*

**stampede**

(say stam-**peed**)

*noun* a sudden rush of a group of animals or people, often in fright:

*The thirsty cattle smelt water and broke into a frenzied stampede.*

**stubborn**

(say **stub**-uhn)

*adjective* You are **stubborn** if you will not change your mind about something, even though you might be wrong:

*He was so stubborn that he refused to go with them despite wanting to join in.*

**submissive**

(say suhb-**mis**-iv)

*adjective* giving in obediently without asking questions or standing up for yourself:

*She is too submissive and people tend to take advantage of her.*

**successive**

(say suhk-**ses**-iv)

*adjective* coming one after the other:

*Successive directors of the company have all failed to make a profit.*

**succulent**

(say **suk**-yuh-luhnt)

*adjective* juicy:

*A succulent mango is hard to eat without getting covered in juice.*

**suffice**

(say suh-**fuys**)

*verb* to be enough:

*For dessert, anything chocolate will suffice.*

**superstition**

(say sooh-puh-**stish**-uhn)

*noun* a belief about the meaning of a thing or event that does not stem from reason or sensible thought:

*She never steps on the lines of the footpath because of a silly superstition.*

**supplement**

(say **sup**-luh-muhnt)

*noun* an extra part of a newspaper on a particular subject:

*The newspaper has a supplement with photos of teams playing in the grand final.*

**surplus**

(say **ser**-pluhs)

*noun* an amount that is more than what is needed or used:

*There was a surplus of sausages at the barbecue.*

**suspicious**

(say suh-**spish**-uhs)

*adjective* feeling that someone is doing something dishonest or secretive:

*We were suspicious when we heard a window shatter followed by footsteps running down the road.*

**sustenance**

(say **sus**-tuh-nuhns)

*noun* nourishment gained from what you eat:

*There's plenty of sustenance in my diet.*

**systematic**

(say sis-tuh-**mat**-ik)

*adjective* having or using a system, method, or plan:

*The teacher worked out a systematic course of reading for the boy who needed extra help.*

**teethe**

(say teedh)

*verb* To **teethe** is to grow teeth:

*The baby cried more often when it started to teethe.*

**territorial**

(say te-ruh-**taw**-ree-uhl)

*adjective* of or relating to a territory:

*Dingoes are territorial animals, and rarely venture outside their own territory.*

**traitor**

(say **tray**-tuh)

*noun* A **traitor** is someone who tells an enemy secrets about their country:

*Nobody could believe that he was a traitor to his country.*

**translucent**

(say tranz-**looh**-suhnt)

*adjective* allowing some light to come through, so that you can see things, but not clearly:

*The curtain was made of translucent material.*

**transparency**

(say trans-**pair**-ruhn-see or trans-**par**-ruhn-see)

*noun* something which is transparent, especially a transparent photograph projected onto a screen or looked at by light shining through from behind:

*We needed an overhead projector to put the transparency on.*

**trauma**

(say **traw**-muh)

*noun* an emotional shock which has a lasting effect on the mind:

*The family never really got over the trauma of the accident.*

**treasurer**

(say **trezh**-uh-ruh)

*noun* someone in charge of the money belonging to a company, club or city:

*She was elected treasurer at the annual general meeting.*

**tyrant**

(say **tuy**-ruhnt)

*noun* anyone in a position of power who uses it cruelly and unjustly:

*They had only one thought -- to escape and get away from the tyrant.*

**unassuming**

(say un-uh-**syoo**h-ming)

*adjective* modest or not making any special claims about yourself:

*Her quiet unassuming manner won her many friends.*

**unforeseen**

(say un-faw-**seen**)

*adjective* not expected:

*Unless something unforeseen crops up, we should get there by 4 o'clock.*

**unique**

(say yoooh-**neek**)

*adjective* To be **unique** is to be different from all the others:

*The Sydney Opera House is unique -- there's nothing like it anywhere else.*

**vegetation**

(say vej-uh-**tay**-shuhn)

*noun* the whole plant life of a particular area:

*Much of the vegetation was cleared for grazing animals.*

**victorious**

(say vik-**taw**-ree-uhs)

*adjective* having won a contest or battle:

*The victorious swimming team was cheered when they arrived home from the Olympics.*

**virtual**

(say **ver**-chooh-uhl)

*adjective* as if it were really so:

*Her illness made her a virtual prisoner in her own home.*

**visibility**

(say viz-uh-**bil**-uh-tee)

*noun* the distance you can see, given the weather conditions or time of day:

*Drive slowly, because visibility is poor when it is raining so heavily.*

**warrant**

(say **wo**-ruhnt)

*noun* a paper issued by a magistrate allowing a police officer to make an arrest or to carry out a search of a building:

*Once the police produced the search warrant, the thieves realised they were in real trouble.*

**wheatgerm**

(say **weet**-jerm)

*noun* a part of the wheat grain, rich in vitamins, which is removed when the wheat is ground:

*You can buy wheatgerm at a health food store.*

**whiplash**

(say **wip**-lash)

*noun* an injury to the spine, usually in the neck area, caused by sudden movement forwards or backwards, especially in a car accident:

*A large number of people involved in car accidents suffer from whiplash.*

**wrinkle**

(say **ring**-kuhl)

*noun* A **wrinkle** is a line or fold on something that is usually smooth:

*When you frown, you get a wrinkle or two on your forehead.*

**xylophone**

(say **zuy**-luh-fohn)

*noun* a musical instrument made of a row of wooden bars of different lengths which you hit with small hammers:

*He already knew how to play the piano, so he learned the xylophone very quickly.*

## Junior General Level 5

### acquittal

(say uh-**kwit**-uhl)

*noun* the state of being found innocent of a crime:

*When it was clear there was an acquittal, the accused man's family cheered.*

### affidavit

(say af-uh-**day**-vuht)

*noun* in law, a written statement which may be used as a substitute for evidence in court:

*She was asked to provide an affidavit describing the events leading up to the accident.*

### agapanthus

(say ag-uh-**pan**-thuhs)

*noun* a type of plant with big, round, blue or white flowers:

*The agapanthus is often used as a border plant, along driveways and fences.*

### albeit

(say awl-**bee**-it)

*conjunction* although:

*Corinne and Carla organised all the stalls at the school fete -- albeit with a little help from their parents.*

### amalgamate

(say uh-**mal**-guh-mayt)

*verb* to join together:

*The two companies decided to amalgamate and move to a new location.*

### ambivalent

(say am-**biv**-uh-luhnt)

*adjective* unable to make up your mind due to conflicting feelings:

*She felt ambivalent about going to the party -- it would be fun, but she was very tired.*

### amethyst

(say **am**-uh-thuhst)

*noun* a purple-coloured precious stone:

*The purple amethyst in her ring flashed as she played the piano.*

### amphibious

(say am-**fib**-ee-uhs)

*adjective* able to live, move or operate both on land and in water:

*A frog is an amphibious animal.*

### anecdote

(say **an**-uhk-dohht)

*noun* a short story that tells about a funny or interesting person or event:

*She kept us entertained with an anecdote about her family.*

### anomaly

(say uh-**nom**-uh-lee)

*noun* a variation from what is normal:

*She never misses school so her absence from school was an anomaly.*

### arachnid

(say uh-**rak**-nid)

*noun* one of a group of animals that includes spiders and scorpions:

*An arachnid has eight legs.*

**barnacle**

(say **bah**-nuh-kuhl)

*noun* a crustacean that attaches itself to the bottom of ships, floating timber and marine rocks:

*He cut his foot on a barnacle attached to a piece of driftwood on the beach.*

**cavalcade**

(say **kav**-uhl-kayd)

*noun* a procession of people on horseback or in horse-drawn carriages:

*An impressive cavalcade followed the queen's carriage.*

**cerebral**

(say **se**-ruh-bruhl or suh-**ree**-bruhl)

*adjective* having to do with the brain:

*The doctors said they could detect cerebral activity in the unconscious patient.*

**chagrin**

(say shuh-**grin** or shag-ruhn)

*noun* a feeling of anger and disappointment:

*I realised, to my chagrin, that my foolishness had cost our team the honour of winning the competition.*

**coherent**

(say koh-**hear**-ruhnt)

*adjective* clear and well thought out:

*She presented a coherent argument for building a new school hall.*

**convalesce**

(say kon-vuh-**less**)

*verb* If someone is **convalescing**, they are growing stronger after an illness:

*They took her to the mountains so she could convalesce in the cool, clean air.*

**crevasse**

(say kruh-**vass**)

*noun* a deep crack in a glacier or river of ice:

*The glacier was enormous and we could see a large vertical crevasse slicing it down the middle.*

**crustacean**

(say kruss-**tay**-shuhn)

*noun* a type of animal with a hard shell instead of a skeleton, such as a crab, usually living in water:

*Krill is a tiny shrimp-like crustacean vital in the food chain.*

**disciplinarian**

(say diss-uh-pluh-**nair**-ree-uhn)

*adjective* believing in strict discipline:

*Her disciplinarian boss would not allow her to leave a minute early.*

**gingivitis**

(say jin-juh-**vuy**-tuhs)

*noun* inflammation of the gums around your teeth:

*Gingivitis can make your gums red and sore.*

**gratuity**

(say gruh-**tyooh**-uh-tee)

*noun* a gift, usually of money, for service given:

*He was given a gratuity of \$5 for carrying the luggage.*

**guarantor**

(say ga-ruhn-**taw**)

*noun* someone who makes or gives a guarantee, such as promising they will pay someone's debt if that person can't:

*He asked his parents to be a guarantor for his housing loan.*

**inauspicious**

(say in-aw-**spish**-uhs)

*adjective* unfavourable:

*The black clouds were inauspicious for the outdoor wedding.*

**irrelevant**

(say i-**rel**-uh-vuhnt)

*adjective* not connected with the current topic or issue:

*Try to stay on the subject and don't waste time on irrelevant details.*

**irreplaceable**

(say i-ruh-**plays**-uh-buhl)

*adjective* not able to be replaced:

*The broken souvenir is irreplaceable.*

**liaison**

(say lee-**ay**-zuhn)

*noun* a connection or communication between people or groups:

*The council works in liaison with local bush regeneration groups.*

**lineage**

(say **lin**-ee-ij)

*noun* descent from a line of ancestors:

*Tom's aunt thinks her family is of royal lineage.*

**magnanimous**

(say mag-**nan**-uh-muhs)

*adjective* nobly unselfish and generous:

*It's very magnanimous of you to give me your ticket to the concert.*

**malleable**

(say **mal**-ee-uh-buhl)

*adjective* easily worked into a different shape:

*Plasticine is easy to shape because it is malleable.*

**marshmallow**

(say mahsh-**mal**-oh or mahsh-**mel**-oh)

*noun* a type of sweet with a spongy texture, usually containing gelatine, sugar, and flavouring:

*I like to put a marshmallow in my hot chocolate.*

**masquerade**

(say mas-kuh-**rayd** or mahs-kuh-**rayd**)

*noun* a party at which the guests wear fancy dress:

*I wore a pirate costume to the masquerade.*

**melodramatic**

(say mel-uh-druh-**mat**-ik)

*adjective* too emotional and dramatic:

*We were surprised by her melodramatic reaction to the announcement.*

**milliner**

(say **mil**-uh-nuh)

*noun* someone who makes or sells hats:

*My grandmother is a milliner and is busy every year making hats for the Melbourne Cup.*

**monotonous**

(say muh-**not**-uh-nuhs)

*adjective* tiresomely lacking in variety:

*We almost fell asleep listening to the sound of the lecturer's monotonous voice.*

**neuralgia**

(say nyoooh-**ral**-juh)

*noun* a pain along a nerve:

*The sharp pains from her neuralgia were getting worse.*

**nuance**

(say **nyoooh**-ons)

*noun* a slight variation of colour, meaning, expression or feeling:

*We knew every nuance of her voice and could tell that she was worried.*

**obnoxious**

(say uhb-**nok**-shuhs)

*adjective* disagreeable or nasty:

*His behaviour was so obnoxious that not even his friends thought he was funny.*

**oleander**

(say ol-ee-**an**-duh)

*noun* a pink or white flowering shrub with dark green leaves:

*The oleander is a pretty plant, but it is poisonous.*

**osteopath**

(say **oss**-tee-uh-path)

*noun* a person who cures diseases by realigning bones in the body:

*The osteopath examined the patient thoroughly before treating her.*

**pandemonium**

(say pan-duh-**moh**-nee-uhm)

*noun* wild and noisy confusion:

*There was absolute pandemonium when we heard that our team had made the finals.*

**paparazzi**

(say pap-uh-**raht**-see)

*plural noun* news photographers who seek sensational but trivial material with great persistence:

*Most celebrities hate their privacy being invaded by the paparazzi.*

**philanthropy**

(say fuh-**lan**-thruh-pee)

*noun* love of humankind, especially shown in deeds of giving to charity, and so on:

*His philanthropy had saved the lives of countless children.*

**predecessor**

(say **pree**-duh-sess-uh)

*noun* someone who had the job before someone else:

*Governor Macquarie arrived in New South Wales shortly after his predecessor had left.*

**prejudice**

(say **prej**-uh-duhs)

*noun* an opinion unfairly formed beforehand, without reason or proof:

*The decision didn't seem fair and showed a prejudice on the part of the judge.*

**presbytery**

(say **prez**-buh-tree or **press**-puh-tree)

*noun* the house of a priest:

*Our after-school care centre is in a presbytery once occupied by a priest.*

**reiterate**

(say ree-**it**-uh-rayt)

*verb* to say or do again or repeatedly:

*How many times do I have to reiterate that you are not to jump on the table?*

**repertoire**

(say **rep**-uh-twah)

*noun* the plays, musical pieces or other items which an entertainer can perform:

*The singer's repertoire is small but she claims that quality is more important than quantity.*

**secede**

(say suh-**seed**)

*verb* to withdraw from an association:

*The club threatened to secede from the federation.*

**sequester**

(say suh-**kwes**-tuh)

*verb* to place in a position of solitude:

*The movie star decided to sequester himself on an island, and lived alone for a year.*

**sojourn**

(say **soh**-jern or **soj**-ern)

*noun* a temporary stay:

*They had a pleasant sojourn in Tasmania after the conference.*

**solicitous**

(say suh-**lis**-uh-tuhs)

*adjective* anxiously caring about something:

*They were solicitous for the new girl's wellbeing.*

**statuesque**

(say stach-**ooh**-esk)

*adjective* like or suggesting a statue, in dignity, grace or beauty:

*She was statuesque in a long white satin gown.*

**successor**

(say suhk-**sess**-uh)

*noun* someone or something that comes after and takes the place of:

*I am leaving the job in the capable hands of my successor.*

**succinct**

(say suhk-**singkt**)

*adjective* expressed in a few words:

*Our teacher advised us to write succinct answers as we did not have a lot of time.*

**surreptitious**

(say su-ruh-p-**tish**-uhs)

*adjective* secret or stealthy:

*She tried to sneak a surreptitious look at the answers, but was caught and punished for cheating.*

**swathe**

(say swaydh)

*verb* to wrap something up with strips of material or other wrappings:

*She decided to swathe her neck with a scarf before going out into the cold night.*

**tortilla**

(say taw-**tee**-yuh)

*noun* a thin, round, unleavened cake made from cornmeal:

*We wrapped some chicken and salad in a tortilla for lunch.*

**vestibule**

(say **vest**-uh-byoohl)

*noun* an entrance hall:

*We waited in the church vestibule until the service was about to start.*

**witticism**

(say **wit**-uh-siz-uhm)

*noun* a joke or witty remark:

*He often came out with a clever joke or witticism.*

## Categorised Words:

### Junior Arts Level 1

#### actor

(say **ak**-tuh)

*noun* someone who acts the part of a character in a play or film, or on television:  
*The actor who played the killer was frightening.*

#### clay

(say klay)

*noun* a thick, sticky earth which is used in making pottery and bricks:  
*We made vases out of clay in our art class.*

#### drum

(say drum)

*noun* a musical instrument with a round hollow body often covered with a tightly stretched skin, which makes a deep sound when it is hit:  
*The beating of the drum indicated that the procession was about to start.*

#### fair

(say fair)

*noun* an event at which things are displayed or sold and games and rides are provided as entertainment:  
*We were in charge of selling tickets for rides on the Ferris wheel at the fair.*

#### harp

(say hahp)

*noun* a large musical instrument with a frame into which strings of different length are fixed. It is played by plucking the strings with your fingers:  
*The harp is a beautiful instrument, but not many people play it nowadays.*

#### mime

(say muym)

*noun* a form of acting in which the actors use movements of their body and face instead of words:  
*You have to train for years to perform mime well.*

#### paint

(say paynt)

*noun* a liquid colouring substance that you can put on a surface to give it colour:  
*We asked our teacher for more purple paint.*

#### poem

(say **poh**-uhm)

*noun* a piece of writing set out in a special way, often with lines that match in length, rhythm or rhyme:  
*'The Man from Snowy River' is a famous Australian poem.*

#### solo

(say **soh**-loh)

*noun* a musical performance by one person:  
*I was nervous because I was singing a solo in the concert.*

#### song

(say song)

*noun* a short musical composition with words:  
*At the concert, Alex sang a song that she had written herself.*

**stage**

(say stayj)

*noun* a raised floor, usually in a theatre, on which public performances take place:

*Yellow tape was stuck on the stage where the actors were supposed to stand.*

**story**

(say **staw**-ree)

*noun* A **story** is something told or written which has either happened in real life or has been made up in someone's mind:

*We read a short story about pirates in class today.*

**talent**

(say **tal**-uhnt)

*noun* **Talent** is what you have if you can do something very well:

*The teacher said that my paintings show a talent for art.*

**tone**

(say tohn)

*noun* a musical sound:

*The audience admired the mellow tone of the cello.*

**verse**

(say vers)

*noun* a group of lines that go together in a song or poem:

*We usually only sing the first verse of the national anthem.*

## Junior Arts Level 2

### carol

(say **ka**-ruhl)

*noun* a joyful song, especially a Christmas song or hymn:

*'Silent Night' is my favourite Christmas carol.*

### casting

(say **kah**-sting)

*noun* the selection of actors for a play, film, etc.:

*The casting for the new film is being done entirely in Australia.*

### cello

(say **chel**-oh)

*noun* a stringed instrument which is held upright on the floor between the knees of the player:

*The cello is an instrument with a lovely deep sound.*

### composer

(say kuhm-**poh**-zuh)

*noun* someone who writes music:

*Beethoven was a famous German composer.*

### context

(say **kon**-tekst)

*noun* the circumstances or facts that surround a particular situation or event:

*The novel was written in the context of the Vietnam War.*

### costume

(say **koss**-tyoohm)

*noun* a set of clothes, especially to make you look like someone else or for a particular purpose:

*Luke wore a Batman costume to the party.*

### creative

(say kree-**ay**-tiv)

*adjective* good at making or inventing things:

*She was very creative and often made her own clothes.*

### debut

(say **day**-byooh or **day**-booh or duh-**booh**)

*noun* a first appearance in public, on stage, etc.:

*She made her debut in the chorus of 'Swan Lake'.*

### editor

(say **ed**-uh-tuh)

*noun* someone who prepares written material for publication:

*Mum is the editor of a health magazine.*

### essay

(say **ess**-ay)

*noun* a short piece of writing about a particular subject:

*We had to write a one-page essay about our favourite animal.*

### fable

(say **fay**-buhl)

*noun* a short, made-up story, often about animals, that teaches a lesson about how to behave:

*Have you heard the fable of the boy who cried wolf?*

**festival**

(say **fest**-uh-vuhl)

*noun* a celebration with performances of music and dance and other displays:

*Our town has an annual Christmas festival.*

**foxtrot**

(say **fo**ks-trot)

*noun* a ballroom dance which uses short, quick steps, and which was very popular in the past:

*The dancers were exhausted after the energetic foxtrot.*

**fresco**

(say **fress**-koh)

*noun* a painting done on a wall or ceiling:

*The council hired an artist to paint a fresco on the ceiling of our new town hall.*

**harmony**

(say **hah**-muh-nee)

*noun* a pleasant combination of musical notes sounding together:

*The choir sang in perfect harmony.*

**jazz**

(say jaz)

*noun* a type of music, first played by African Americans, with complex melodies and rhythms, often with the performers making up or varying the music as they play:

*My parents enjoy listening to jazz, in particular the cool grooves of Chet Baker.*

**melodic**

(say muh-**lod**-ik)

*adjective* tuneful:

*He played us a melodic tune on his clarinet.*

**movie**

(say **mooh**-vee)

*noun* a film:

*Would you like to see a movie during the holidays?*

**music**

(say **myooh**-zik)

*noun* sounds combined together in a way that is nice to listen to, and expresses ideas or feelings:

*I like listening to music on the radio.*

**myth**

(say mith)

*noun* an ancient traditional story, often about gods and supernatural events, that was used to explain natural events such as the weather:

*Our teacher read us an ancient Greek myth about how the stars were formed.*

**novel**

(say **nov**-uhl)

*noun* a long written story about made-up people and events:

*Her favourite novel was the seventh Harry Potter book.*

**opera**

(say **op**-ruh)

*noun* a play that is sung to music:

*Luckily I know the story of this opera because it is sung in Italian and I can only speak English.*

**pastel**

(say **pass**-tuhl)

*noun* a soft pale colour:

*The walls are painted in a pretty pastel.*

**pencil**

(say **pen**-suhl)

*noun* a thin, pointed piece of wood with a stick of graphite or crayon in the middle, used for writing or drawing:

*I need a red pencil for this drawing.*

**picture**

(say **pik**-chuh)

*noun* a drawing, painting, photograph or something similar:

*I gave my dad a birthday card with a picture of a boat on it.*

**pitch**

(say pich)

*noun* (plural **itches**)

the quality of a musical note thought of in terms of its highness or lowness:

*The part was too high for the pitch of her voice.*

**scene**

(say seen)

*noun* one of the divisions of a play:

*The murder occurs in the first scene of the play.*

**script**

(say skript)

*noun* the words written down for the actors to say in a play or film:

*I practised my part for the play by reading the script in the bath.*

**tango**

(say **tang**-goh)

*noun* a dramatic dance from South America, danced by couples:

*We each found a partner and learned how to dance the tango.*

**tempo**

(say **tem**-poh)

*noun* the speed of a piece of music:

*The music had a very fast tempo.*

**tenor**

(say **ten**-uh)

*noun* a man with a singing voice in the higher range:

*There is a part for a tenor in the school musical.*

**theme**

(say them)

*noun* the main subject of a book, speech or piece of music:

*The theme of his speech was the protection of the natural environment.*

**trio**

(say **tree**-oh)

*noun* a group of three musicians:

*My two brothers and I have formed a trio and we busk every weekend in the city.*

**trumpet**

(say **trum**-puht)

*noun* a brass wind instrument with a flared end:

*The trumpet players in the school band always played the loudest.*

**tuba**

(say **tyooh**-buh)

*noun* a big brass wind instrument with a very low pitch:

*Carol didn't like carrying her tuba to and from band practice because it was so big and heavy.*

**tune**

(say tyoohn)

*noun* a series of musical notes, played or sung, that form a pattern that is nice to listen to:

*Marco whistled the tune of his favourite song while he did the dishes.*

**tutu**

(say **tooh**-tooh)

*noun* a short ballet skirt, usually made out of layers of net-like material:

*The ballerina leapt onto the stage in a tutu covered in sparkling crystals.*

**understudy**

(say **un**-duh-stud-ee)

*noun* an actor or singer who stands by to replace someone who is unable to perform, usually because of illness:

*Luckily the understudy had trained well for the part and the show was a total success.*

**upstage**

(say up-**stayj**)

*verb* to steal attention from, by placing yourself in a more favourable position:

*He thought he could upstage all the other singers if he practised really hard.*

**vocal**

(say **voh**-kuhl)

*adjective* Something that is **vocal** has to do with the human voice:

*The singer has a broad vocal range.*

### Junior Arts Level 3

#### acclaim

(say uh-**klaym**)

*noun* enthusiastic praise:

*The new movie premiered to great acclaim.*

#### accompany

(say uh-**kum**-puh-nee or uh-**kump**-nee)

*verb* to go in company with someone or something:

*My Dad thought it was important to accompany me on my first day of school.*

#### acoustics

(say uh-**kooh**-stiks)

*noun* the properties of a room which affect the quality of the sounds produced in it:

*We tested the acoustics of different-sized rooms to see which room would carry the sound the best.*

#### alphabet

(say **al**-fuh-bet)

*noun* all the letters of a language arranged in their usual order:

*My little sister has just learned to say the alphabet.*

#### artisan

(say **ah**-tuh-zuhn)

*noun* a skilled worker who makes useful things like tools, cooking items, etc.:

*The medieval town had an artisan who made fine silverware.*

#### audition

(say aw-**dish**-uhn)

*noun* a test given to see how suitable an actor or performer is for a particular role:

*Connie was very nervous about her audition for the school play.*

#### ballad

(say **bal**-uhd)

*noun* a simple poem with short verses, which tells a story and is often turned into a song:

*Most people find that a ballad is the easiest type of song to sing.*

#### ballerina

(say bal-uh-**ree**-nuh)

*noun* a girl or woman who dances in a ballet:

*Sonia goes to ballet lessons every week, and wants to be a ballerina when she grows up.*

#### bassoon

(say buh-**soohn**)

*noun* a woodwind instrument with a low pitch:

*He plays the bassoon in the school band.*

#### castanets

(say kass-tuh-**nets**)

*plural noun* a pair of shell-shaped pieces of wood which you hold in your hand and click together in time to music and dancing:

*The flamenco dancer played the castanets as she danced.*

#### cellist

(say **chel**-uhst)

*noun* someone who plays the cello:

*The solo was going to be performed by the lead cellist.*

**ceramics**

(say suh-**ram**-iks)

*noun* the craft of making things out of clay:

*When we do ceramics in art, the teacher always operates the kiln.*

**choral**

(say **ko**-ruhl)

*adjective* sung by a choir or a chorus:

*The choral performance of the famous rock song was beautiful.*

**chord**

(say kawd)

*noun* three or more musical notes played together:

*When Jess first got her guitar, she could only play one chord, and now she's in a band.*

**cinema**

(say **sin**-uh-muh)

*noun* a theatre where films are shown:

*For my birthday, my friends took me to the cinema to see a movie.*

**circus**

(say **ser**-kuhs)

*noun* a show in a big tent with clowns, acrobats and sometimes animals such as lions and elephants:

*My brother loved going to the circus to see the acrobats.*

**classical**

(say **klas**-i-kuhl)

*adjective* **Classical** music is usually thought of as traditional and serious:

*I had to learn two classical pieces as well as a jazz piece for my saxophone exam.*

**claves**

(say klayvz or **klah**-vayz)

*plural noun* a simple musical instrument which consists of two wooden sticks which are hit together:

*I didn't know how to play an instrument so the teacher got me to play the claves.*

**composition**

(say kom-puh-**zish**-uhn)

*noun* a short piece of writing which you do as part of school work:

*We had to write a composition about what we would do with a million dollars.*

**concert**

(say **kon**-suht)

*noun* a public performance by one or more musicians or other performers:

*At the end of each year my ballet school puts on a concert.*

**conversation**

(say kon-vuh-**say**-shuhn)

*noun* talk among people:

*My little sister got upset when my friends and I didn't include her in our conversation.*

**curator**

(say kyoooh-**ray**-tuh)

*noun* someone who looks after a museum, art gallery or similar kind of collection:

*The curator was congratulated on the latest exhibition of the museum.*

**descant**

(say **des**-kant)

*noun* a tune played or sung above the main tune:

*The girls in the choir sang the descant part of the song.*

**design**

(say duh-**zuyn**)

*noun* the combination of lines, colours and other parts of a work of art into a pleasing whole:

*Alisha sketched the design for her poster before starting to paint it.*

**dirge**

(say derj)

*noun* a funeral song or tune, or one expressing grief:

*The dirge played at the funeral was very long.*

**dramatist**

(say **dram**-uh-tuhst)

*noun* a writer of plays:

*The actor was overwhelmed to be chosen by the dramatist to perform in his new play.*

**duet**

(say dyooh-**et**)

*noun* a musical piece for two performers:

*She and her sister played a duet together on the piano.*

**dye**

(say duy)

*noun* a liquid that is used to colour cloth, hair, and other things:

*The fashion designer ordered a special dye to colour the fabric for his new collection.*

**easel**

(say **eez**-uhl)

*noun* a stand for holding a painting or drawing while the artist is working on it:

*We each set up an easel under the trees and began to paint the landscape.*

**encore**

(say **on**-kaw)

*noun* an extra song or piece of music performed at the end of a concert, in response to the audience's applause:

*The band came back on stage and played an encore, much to the delight of the crowd.*

**etching**

(say **ech**-ing)

*noun* a process of making designs or pictures on metal, glass, etc., using acid:

*Etching is a difficult process and should be undertaken with care.*

**fiction**

(say **fik**-shuhn)

*noun* stories that are made up from the imagination:

*Jessie liked reading fiction, because it was usually more exciting than non-fiction.*

**guitar**

(say guh-**tah**)

*noun* a musical instrument with a long neck and strings which you play by plucking or strumming:

*Shane wanted to learn how to play the guitar so he could play in a band with his friends.*

**handicraft**

(say **han**-dee-krahft)

*noun* an occupation or art in which you use your hands:

*Pottery is a popular handicraft.*

**harmonica**

(say hah-**mon**-ik-uh)

*noun* a small wind instrument with metal reeds, which you play by blowing:

*He pulled the harmonica from his pocket and played a tune while he waited for the bus.*

**illustrator**

(say **il**-uh-stray-tuh)

*noun* an artist who makes illustrations:

*This illustrator uses lots of bright colours.*

**intonation**

(say in-tuh-**nay**-shuhn)

*noun* the pattern of changes of pitch in speech or music:

*The actor changed the intonation of his voice to give his words added menace.*

**melody**

(say **mel**-uh-dee)

*noun* a tune:

*That new advertising jingle has a catchy melody.*

**minim**

(say **min**-uhm)

*noun* a note in music equal to half a semibreve in length:

*My music teacher gets cross because I always forget how long a minim is.*

**minstrel**

(say **min**-struhl)

*noun* a musician in the Middle Ages who sang or recited poetry while playing an instrument:

*The minstrel wandered around the tavern, singing songs of brave knights.*

**museum**

(say myooh-**zee**-uhm)

*noun* a place where rare and interesting things are displayed:

*Our class visited the museum to see the exhibition of dinosaur bones.*

**octave**

(say **ok**-tiv)

*noun* a series of eight notes between two musical notes of the same name but different pitch:

*Chan played an octave on the clarinet to warm up.*

**orator**

(say **o**-ruh-tuh)

*noun* a public speaker, especially a skilful one:

*The audience was captivated by speech the orator gave.*

**origami**

(say o-ruh-**gah**-mee)

*noun* the art of folding paper into interesting shapes, first developed in Japan:

*We learned how to make boxes using origami.*

**performance**

(say puh-**faw**-muhns)

*noun* a show of singing, music, acting or other entertainment:

*The Year Six students put on a great performance at the end of the year.*

**pianola**

(say pee-uh-**noh**-luh)

*noun* a type of mechanical piano that plays predetermined music when the pedals are pressed:

*She didn't know how to play the piano but she could play the pianola simply by pressing the pedals.*

**playwright**

(say **play**-ruyt)

*noun* someone who writes plays:

*Shakespeare is the most famous English playwright.*

**portrait**

(say **paw**-truht or **paw**-trayt)

*noun* a painting, drawing or photograph of someone, especially of their face:

*My mother was asked to paint a portrait of the mayor of our town.*

**prologue**

(say **proh**-log)

*noun* a speech at the beginning of a play:

*The prologue to 'The Tempest' provides some good clues as to the themes of the play.*

**quotation**

(say kwoh-**tay**-shuhn)

*noun* a part of a piece of writing that someone copies and repeats somewhere else:

*Dad's speech at the wedding had lots of good quotations about love in it.*

**rehearse**

(say ruh-**herce**)

*verb* To **rehearse** is to practise in private before giving a public performance:

*Our school choir has to rehearse for the concert every afternoon.*

**satire**

(say **sat**-uy-uh)

*noun* a literary composition in which someone's failings are ridiculed:

*The play was a satire that poked fun at the government.*

**soprano**

(say suh-**prah**-noh)

*noun* (plural **sopranos**)

a woman or boy who sings with a high voice:

*Her voice is too low to sing the part of soprano.*

**tambourine**

(say tam-buh-**reen**)

*noun* a type of small drum which has small, round pieces of metal set into a frame, and is played by hitting or shaking it:

*You have to have a good sense of rhythm to play the tambourine.*

**tapestry**

(say **tap**-uhs-tree)

*noun* (plural **tapestries**)

a piece of cloth with a design which has been woven or embroidered, usually by hand:

*The tapestry was in exquisitely rich colours of red and burgundy.*

**textile**

(say **teks**-tuyl)

*noun* any woven material used for clothing, curtains and so on:

*The curtains in the music room were made of a heavy textile to improve the acoustics.*

**theatrical**

(say thee-**at**-rik-uhl)

*adjective* in or belonging to a theatre:

*My uncle loves the stage and often works in theatrical productions.*

**trombone**

(say trom-**bohn**)

*noun* a brass wind instrument, on which you play different notes by sliding a tube in and out:

*Joe gets very annoyed when his sister practises her trombone while he is trying to watch television.*

**vibrato**

(say vuh-**brah**-toh)

*noun* a pulsating effect produced in the singing voice or in an instrumental tone:

*The flautist used vibrato on the final note.*

**weave**

(say weev)

*verb* If you **weave**, you make things like wool or cotton into material by passing the threads under and over each other:

*It took the family three weeks to weave the rug.*

## Junior Arts Level 4

### alabaster

(say **al**-uh-bas-tuh)

*noun* a fine white stone used for carving:

*Alabaster is often carved into ornaments.*

### allegro

(say uh-**lay**-groh or uh-**leg**-roh)

*adverb* a direction indicating that music should be played or sung at a fast speed:

*The most difficult passage to play was the one marked 'allegro'.*

### anthology

(say an-**thol**-uh-jee)

*noun* a collection of poems, short stories or songs, each by a different author or songwriter:

*I bought my mother an anthology of Australian poetry for her birthday.*

### cameo

(say **kam**-ee-oh)

*noun* a short appearance in a film by a celebrity:

*The Prime Minister agreed to do a cameo in the new film about politics.*

### chorister

(say **ko**-ruhs-tuh)

*noun* someone who sings in a choir:

*She loved singing and wanted to be a chorister in the cathedral choir.*

### concerto

(say kuhn-**cher**-toh)

*noun* a piece of music for one or more solo instruments, such as a piano or violin, and an orchestra:

*The concerto was performed by a famous orchestra.*

### critique

(say kruh-**teek**)

*noun* an article or essay reviewing something:

*The newspaper featured a critique of the new film.*

### crotchet

(say **kroch**-uht)

*noun* a musical note equal to the time of one beat:

*A minim is twice as long as a crotchet, and a crotchet is twice as long as a quaver.*

### cymbal

(say **sim**-buhl)

*noun* one of a pair of curved brass plates which are hit together to make a sharp, musical, ringing sound:

*The percussionist dropped a cymbal during a very quiet passage, and we all jumped.*

### decibel

(say **dess**-uh-bel)

*noun* a measure of loudness used to show how much louder one sound is than another:

*If the music got one decibel louder we were sure our ears would explode!*

### documentary

(say dok-yooh-**men**-tuh-ree or dok-yooh-**men**-tree)

*noun* a film, television or radio program about a real event or someone's life:

*We watched a documentary about World War II on television last night.*

**exhibition**

(say eks-uh-**bish**-uhn)

*noun* a show or display of something that a lot of people can go and see:

*All their parents and friends came to see the students' art exhibition.*

**instrumentalist**

(say in-struh-**men**-tuhl-uhst)

*noun* a person who performs on a musical instrument:

*She worked as an instrumentalist accompanying different singers.*

**musician**

(say myooh-**zish**-uhn)

*noun* someone who plays or composes music:

*Becky practises the piano every day because she wants to have a career as a musician.*

**photography**

(say fuh-**tog**-ruh-fee)

*noun* the act of producing images with a camera:

*The skill involved in photography is often underestimated.*

**premiere**

(say prem-ee-**air**)

*noun* A **premiere** is the first time something is shown or done:

*There were lots of famous people at the premiere of the film.*

**quadrille**

(say kwuh-**dril**)

*noun* a dance where four couples dance in a square pattern:

*The dancing class was divided into groups of eight to learn the steps of the quadrille.*

**simile**

(say **sim**-uh-lee)

*noun* a figure of speech which points out a likeness between two generally unlike things, usually using the words `like' or `as':

*An example of a simile is `She sings like a bird'.*

**staccato**

(say stuh-**kah**-toh)

*adverb* in music, played with the notes very short and detached from each other:

*This piece should be played staccato, to sound like high-heeled shoes on the pavement.*

**symphony**

(say **sim**-fuh-nee)

*noun* a musical composition for a full orchestra, usually with four movements or parts:

*Mozart was very young when he composed his first symphony.*

## Junior Arts Level 5

### **adagio**

(say uh-**dah**-zhee-oh or uh-**dah**-jee-oh)

*adverb* a direction indicating that music should be played or sung slowly and calmly:

*The conductor made the violins slow down during the passage marked 'adagio'.*

### **articulation**

(say ah-tik-yuh-**lay**-shuhn)

*noun* the degree of clearness of speech:

*The newsreader had impeccable articulation.*

### **bouzouki**

(say buh-**zoo**-kee)

*noun* a stringed instrument from Greece, related to a mandolin, played by plucking:

*The music of the bouzouki immediately transported us to a sparkling Greek island.*

### **cerise**

(say suh-**rees** or suh-**reez**)

*adjective* red like the colour of a cherry:

*His favourite shade of red is cerise.*

### **decrescendo**

(say dee-kruh-**shen**-doh)

*noun* in music, a gradual reduction in loudness:

*The piece of music ended with a decrescendo that faded away to silence.*

### **elocution**

(say el-uh-**kyoo**-shuhn)

*noun* the way you speak:

*Newsreaders have to have very clear elocution.*

### **glockenspiel**

(say **glok**-uhn-speel or **glok**-uhn-shpeel)

*noun* a musical instrument with steel bars set in a frame, which you hit with hammers:

*He enjoyed playing the glockenspiel in the band.*

### **harpsichord**

(say **hahp**-suh-kawd)

*noun* an old-fashioned musical instrument like a piano:

*We listened to the sound of the harpsichord echoing through the old castle.*

### **manuscript**

(say **man**-yuh-skript)

*noun* a book, letter, or piece of music, written by hand or typed:

*The manuscript of my unfinished novel is in the bottom drawer.*

### **pastiche**

(say pas-**teesh**)

*noun* a work of art which consists of parts borrowed from the work or style of other artists:

*The film was a pastiche of scenes from twelve different directors.*

### **rhapsody**

(say **rap**-suh-dee)

*noun* a type of musical composition:

*The first track on this CD is a famous rhapsody.*

**saxophone**

(say **sak**-suh-fohn)

*noun* a wind instrument with a curved brass body:

*Lisa is my favourite Simpsons character because she plays the saxophone.*

**synopsis**

(say suh-**nop**-suhs)

*noun* a short version or summary:

*I will give you a synopsis of what we have done so far.*

**timbre**

(say **tim**-buh or **tam**-buh)

*noun* the particular sound an instrument makes:

*His voice has a rich, warm timbre which is perfect for this particular role.*

**waltz**

(say wawlts or wolts)

*noun* a type of dance in which you and your partner move in circles:

*The bride and groom danced a waltz.*

## Junior Science & Maths Level 1

### **cube**

(say kyooohb)

*noun* a solid shape with six equal square sides:

*Most dice are in the shape of a cube.*

### **flask**

(say flahsk)

*noun* a small, often flat bottle:

*Our science teacher warned us to be very careful when we poured the acid solution into the flask.*

### **heat**

(say heet)

*noun* warmth or the quality of being hot:

*We came inside to escape the heat.*

### **number**

(say **num**-buh)

*noun* the particular numeral or figure given to something to fix its place in a list or series:

*I am always number 38 on the class roll because my surname starts with 'Z'.*

### **odd**

(say od)

*adjective* An **odd** number is one which cannot be divided evenly by two:

*One, three, five and seven are all odd numbers.*

### **oval**

(say **oh**-vuhl)

*noun* a field for playing sport on:

*We kicked the ball around the oval for a few hours.*

### **plus**

(say plus)

*preposition* **Plus** is used to show that one number or quantity is added to something else:

*Two plus three equals five.*

### **round**

(say rownd)

*adjective* If something is **round**, it is shaped like a circle:

*I like the round mirror better than the square one.*

### **ruler**

(say **roohl**-uh)

*noun* a strip of wood or plastic with a straight edge, used for measuring and drawing straight lines:

*She needed her ruler to measure the diameter of the circle.*

### **space**

(say spayce)

*noun* the continuous openness which exists outside the earth's atmosphere:

*A rocket was used to launch a satellite into space.*

### **speed**

(say speed)

*noun* quickness in moving, going, or doing something:

*He started running at a slow speed and then got faster.*

**unit**

(say **yoo**h-nuht)

*noun* an amount used in measurement:

*The gram is the basic unit of weight.*

**value**

(say **val**-yoooh)

*noun* the amount of money something is worth:

*She asked the jeweller to tell her the value of the ring.*

**volt**

(say vohlt)

*noun* a measurement of electric force:

*The remote-controlled car needs a 9-volt battery.*

**wide**

(say wuyd)

*adjective* If something is **wide**, it measures a lot from one side to the other:

*The river is so wide that I wouldn't try to swim across it.*

## Junior Science & Maths Level 2

### acid

(say **ass**-uhd)

*noun* a chemical substance which can eat away metals:

*The spilt acid began to eat away the steel surface.*

### area

(say **air**-ree-uh)

*noun* the size of a flat or curved surface:

*The national park has an area of 9500 hectares.*

### atom

(say **at**-uhm)

*noun* the smallest part that an element can be divided into and still keep its special qualities or take part in a chemical reaction:

*An atom is made up of protons, neutrons and electrons.*

### balance

(say **bal**-uhns)

*verb* If you **balance** something, you keep it in a steady position so that it doesn't fall or tip over:

*I tried to balance a plate on my head while walking.*

### billion

(say **bil**-yuhn)

*noun, adjective* a thousand times a million:

*There are over six billion people in the world.*

### breadth

(say bredth)

*noun* the distance from one side of something to the other:

*The breadth of the lake is about 100 metres.*

### capsule

(say **kap**-shoohl)

*noun* a very small container that has powdered medicine inside it:

*Mum prefers to take medication in the form of a capsule rather than a tablet.*

### carbon

(say **kah**-buhn)

*noun* a common element found in all living things:

*Diamond is a form of carbon.*

### deduce

(say duh-**dyoohs**)

*verb* to reach a decision by reasoning and considering all the facts known to you:

*The police were able to deduce the identity of the thief.*

### digit

(say **dij**-uht)

*noun* any of the numerals from 0 to 9:

*He misread the third digit as a three instead of a five.*

### dissolve

(say duh-**zolv**)

*verb* A solid substance **dissolves** when it is mixed into a liquid and it disappears:

*These tablets dissolve quickly in water.*

**distance**

(say **dis**-tuhns)

*noun* the length of a space:

*She trained for the cross-country event by running a distance of five kilometres every day.*

**eighteen**

(say ay-**teen**)

*noun, adjective* **Eighteen** is a number, two less than twenty:

*Eighteen people came to my party and it was very noisy.*

**explode**

(say uhk-**splod**)

*verb* to blow up or burst into pieces with a loud noise:

*We watched the fireworks explode over the water and make a beautiful display of colours.*

**fathom**

(say **fadh**-uhm)

*noun* an old-fashioned measure of the depth of water equal to 6 feet, or nearly 2 metres in the metric system

**friction**

(say **frik**-shuhn)

*noun* the rubbing of two surfaces against each other:

*The friction of two stones being rubbed together can produce a spark.*

**funnel**

(say **fun**-uhl)

*noun* an open-ended cone used for pouring liquid into a container with a narrow opening:

*We didn't want to spill any water so we used a funnel to pour it into the bottle.*

**germ**

(say jerm)

*noun* a very tiny living thing which causes disease:

*If you really want to see a germ, you will have to look through a microscope.*

**gravity**

(say **grav**-uh-tee)

*noun* **Gravity** is the strong force that pulls things or that makes them fall towards the earth:

*If it wasn't for gravity, we would all be floating around.*

**hundredth**

(say **hun**-druhth)

*adjective* next after the 99th:

*My great-grandmother celebrated her hundredth birthday last week.*

**length**

(say length)

*noun* the measure of something from one end to the other:

*The length of the pool is 50 metres.*

**litre**

(say **lee**-tuh)

*noun* a measure of liquid in the metric system:

*The container holds one litre of milk.*

**maximum**

(say **maks**-uh-muhm)

*noun* The **maximum** is the most you can have:

*The maximum who can come on the excursion is 20.*

**measure**

(say **mez**-uh)

*verb* to find out the size or quantity of something, usually by using a special instrument such as a ruler or scales:

*We need to measure the window before we buy blinds.*

**minus**

(say **muy**-nuhs)

*preposition* **Minus** is used to show that one number is being taken away from another:

*Four minus one equals three.*

**oblong**

(say **ob**-long)

*noun* a four-sided shape which is longer than it is wide, and which has four right angles:

*The swimming pool was in the shape of an oblong.*

**particle**

(say **pah**-tik-uhl)

*noun* a very tiny piece or amount:

*A particle of dust flew into her eye.*

**predict**

(say pruh-**dikt**)

*verb* If you **predict** the future, you tell what is going to happen:

*The weather bureau tries to predict when it will rain, but it's not always right.*

**prove**

(say proohv)

*verb* If you **prove** something, you show that it is true by presenting convincing facts:

*The scientist could prove his theory -- he had all of the facts.*

**quart**

(say kwawt)

*noun* a liquid measure in the imperial system, equal to  $\frac{1}{4}$  gallon, or 1.136 litres:

*One quart is equal to a bit more than one litre.*

**question**

(say **kwes**-chuhn)

*noun* a request for information:

*Could you please answer a question about the new timetable?*

**solar**

(say **soh**-luh)

*adjective* to do with the sun:

*We have a solar hot water system on our roof, to heat our water using the rays from the sun.*

**solution**

(say suh-**looh**-shuhn)

*noun* a substance which is made up of one chemical, usually a solid, mixed throughout another chemical, usually a liquid:

*Salt can be dissolved in water to make a saline solution.*

**strength**

(say strength)

*noun* the quality of being strong:

*He did a lot of exercises to increase the strength of his muscles.*

**theory**

(say **thear**-ree)

*noun* a suggested explanation with little or no basis in fact:

*They had to undertake a lot a research before their theory could be proved.*

**thermal**

(say **ther**-muhl)

*adjective* having to do with heat:

*Thermal energy was used to power the machine.*

**valve**

(say valv)

*noun* the part of a pipe or other passage that opens and shuts to control the flow of liquid or gas:

*Because of a broken valve, the machine had been losing oil.*

**volume**

(say **vol**-yoohm)

*noun* the size, measure, or amount of anything in three dimensions:

*We had to calculate the volume of the parcel before we could send it.*

**width**

(say width)

*noun* The **width** of something is how wide it is from one side to the other:

*The river reaches its greatest width right here -- it takes a strong swimmer to reach the other side.*

**zinc**

(say zingk)

*noun* a bluish-white type of metal:

*Zinc is used in making galvanised iron.*

### Junior Science & Maths Level 3

#### **abacus**

(say **ab**-uh-kuhs)

*noun* a frame with rods through it which hold beads used for counting:

*The abacus was used as a calculation tool in ancient times.*

#### **accounting**

(say uh-**kown**-ting)

*noun* the theory and system of setting up and looking after the books of a business, so that its financial position can be examined and the owners can find out how well it is doing:

*It is important that every business has someone to look after the accounting so that they can keep track of their money.*

#### **addition**

(say uh-**dish**-uhn)

*noun* the act of adding numbers together:

*I think addition is much easier than division.*

#### **altitude**

(say **al**-tuh-tyoohd)

*noun* height above sea level:

*The top of the mountain is at such a high altitude that it is above the clouds.*

#### **answer**

(say **an**-suh)

*noun* a solution to a problem:

*He had trouble working out the answer to the problem.*

#### **atmosphere**

(say **at**-muhs-fear)

*noun* the air that surrounds the earth:

*The burning of some fuels can result in the pollution of the atmosphere.*

#### **audiology**

(say aw-dee-**ol**-uh-jee)

*noun* the study of the process of hearing, especially diagnosis and measurement:

*Audiology is the branch of science that deals with hearing.*

#### **average**

(say **av**-rij)

*noun* the result you get if you add two or more amounts together, and then divide the total by the number of amounts:

*In the last three games our team scored 7, 12 and 20, so our average was 13.*

#### **botany**

(say **bot**-uh-nee)

*noun* the study of plants:

*He loves plants and is going to study botany at university.*

#### **calcium**

(say **kal**-see-uhm)

*noun* a soft, silvery-white type of metal which is found in limestone and chalk, as well as in teeth and bones:

*If you have enough calcium in your diet you will have strong bones and teeth.*

**calculator**

(say **kal**-kyuh-lay-tuh)

*noun* a small machine that you can use to do sums:

*I would rather use a calculator than work out problems in my head.*

**capacity**

(say kuh-**pas**-uh-tee)

*noun* the quantity or amount which can be held or contained:

*The fuel tank has a capacity of fifty litres.*

**centimetre**

(say **sen**-tuh-mee-tuh)

*noun* a unit of length equal to one hundredth of a metre:

*The dress needs to be one centimetre longer.*

**chlorine**

(say **klaw**-reen)

*noun* a greenish-yellow gas which is dissolved in water and used to keep swimming pools clean:

*After I've been swimming in the pool, my hair smells of chlorine.*

**correlate**

(say **ko**-ruh-layt)

*verb* to match, usually one thing against another:

*We had to correlate one set of figures with another.*

**corrosive**

(say kuh-**roh**-siv)

*adjective* having the quality of corroding or eating away:

*If you spill that corrosive acid on the metal, it will eat away the surface.*

**decimal**

(say **dess**-uh-muhl)

*adjective* relating to a number system based on the number ten:

*Australia uses decimal currency.*

**diagonal**

(say duy-**ag**-uh-nuhl)

*adjective* a **diagonal** line is a sloping line that joins two opposite corners of a square or rectangle:

*If you draw a diagonal line from one corner of a square to another, you will make two triangles.*

**dilution**

(say duy-**looh**-shuhn)

*noun* the act of diluting:

*Some people thought that dilution would be the solution to pollution.*

**dissect**

(say duh-**sekt** or duy-**sekt**)

*verb* to cut something up carefully to examine it:

*In our science class we watched the teacher dissect a sheep's heart to show us how it worked.*

**divisible**

(say duh-**viz**-uh-buhl)

*adjective* able to be divided:

*Twenty is divisible by ten.*

**empirical**

(say em-**pir**-i-kuhl)

*adjective* taken from or guided by experience or experiment

**enzyme**

(say **en**-zuym)

*noun* a protein in the body which produces a chemical change:

*Each enzyme aids the digestion of food in the stomach.*

**fluoride**

(say **floo**-ruyd)

*noun* a chemical which protects your teeth from decay:

*The toothpaste I use contains fluoride to keep my teeth strong.*

**formula**

(say **faw**-myuh-luh)

*noun* in chemistry, the representation of the atoms in a molecule by symbols:

*The formula for ordinary salt is NaCl.*

**fraction**

(say **frak**-shuhn)

*noun* a part of a whole number:

*At school, we are learning how to multiply a number by a fraction.*

**gene**

(say jeen)

*noun* one of the units in the body which is responsible for passing on characteristics, like eye colour, from parents to their children:

*I have inherited the gene for red hair from my mother.*

**geology**

(say jee-**ol**-uh-jee)

*noun* the study of the rocks which form the earth:

*I would like to study geology to know more about rocks.*

**hydroponics**

(say huy-druh-**pon**-iks)

*noun* the growing of plants with their roots in water rather than soil:

*With a system of hydroponics you need only a small area to grow food that is both tasty and nutritious.*

**inertia**

(say in-**er**-shuh)

*noun* the tendency of something to continue to stay still or keep moving in the same direction:

*In our physics class we learnt that inertia is the force that makes an object stay still until it is moved or keep moving until it is stopped.*

**insolvent**

(say in-**solv**-uhnt)

*adjective* not able to pay your debts

**integer**

(say **in**-tuh-juh)

*noun* any whole number:

*Two is an integer, and so is zero.*

**isobar**

(say **uy**-suh-bah)

*noun* a line drawn on a weather map, connecting all the places that have the same air pressure:

*The weather presenter pointed out each isobar on the map.*

**kilowatt**

(say **kil**-uh-wot)

*noun* 1000 watts:

*The power company charges us for each kilowatt we use.*

**kinetic**

(say kuh-**net**-ik)

*adjective* having to do with movement

**latitude**

(say **lat**-uh-tyoohd)

*noun* the distance, measured in degrees, by which a point on the earth is north or south of the equator:

*The equator is at zero degrees latitude.*

**magnitude**

(say **mag**-nuh-tyood)

*noun* size:

*What is the magnitude of the angle?*

**methodology**

(say meth-uh-**dol**-uh-jee)

*noun* (plural **-gies**)

the science of method, especially a branch of logic dealing with the logical principles underlying the organisation of the various special sciences, and the conduct of scientific enquiry:

*The success of the experiment was helped by a sound methodology.*

**microscope**

(say **muy**-kruh-skohp)

*noun* an instrument used for looking at extremely tiny things that you normally cannot see:

*We examined a mosquito under the microscope.*

**millilitre**

(say **mil**-uh-lee-tuh)

*noun* a unit of measurement in the metric system equal to one thousandth of a litre:

*The baby needs only one millilitre of this medicine because she is so small.*

**molecule**

(say **mol**-uh-kyoohl)

*noun* the smallest unit or particle into which something can be divided without changing its features:

*A molecule of water is made up of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen.*

**momentum**

(say muh-**men**-tuhm)

*noun* the force with which something is moving:

*It was hard to stop the billycart once it had picked up momentum.*

**multiply**

(say **mul**-tuh-pluy)

*verb* When you **multiply** one number by another, you add up as many lots of the first number as there are of the second number:

*If you multiply six by three you get eighteen.*

**nucleus**

(say **nyooh**-klee-uhs)

*noun* in biology, the central part of a living cell:

*When the doctor examined the blood under the microscope he found that the nucleus of each cell was damaged.*

**numeracy**

(say **nyooh**-muh-ruh-see)

*noun* basic skills in mathematics:

*Her numeracy skills are not as well developed as her basketball skills!*

**ounce**

(say ownce)

*noun* a measure of weight in the imperial system, equal to about 29 grams:

*The recipe said to add one ounce of butter, but I had none left.*

**percentage**

(say puh-**sen**-tij)

*noun* a number which shows the rate in every hundred:

*I got seven out of ten -- or, as a percentage, seventy.*

**prism**

(say **priz**-uhm)

*noun* a transparent object, usually of glass and with triangular ends, used for breaking light down into the colours of the rainbow:

*We used a prism to break up light into the colours of the rainbow.*

**procedure**

(say pruh-**see**-juh)

*noun* writing or speaking which tells how to do or make something step by step:

*The procedure for our science experiment was written clearly on the whiteboard.*

**propulsion**

(say pruh-**pul**-shuhn)

*noun* a force which moves something forward:

*The missile was under rocket propulsion.*

**pyramid**

(say **pi**-ruh-mid)

*noun* a structure with a square base and with sides sloping to a point:

*In ancient Egypt, a pyramid was used as a tomb for a king or queen.*

**quantitative**

(say **kwon**-tuh-tay-tiv or **kwon**-tuh-tuh-tiv)

*adjective* measured or able to be measured

**quarter**

(say **kwaw**-tuh)

*noun* one of the four equal parts into which something can be divided:

*My four brothers each ate a quarter of the cake for afternoon tea, and now there is none left.*

**quotient**

(say **kwoh**-shuhnt)

*noun* the number or result you get when one number is divided by another:

*In the expression  $15 \div 3$ , the quotient is 5.*

**ratio**

(say **ray**-shee-oh)

*noun* the relationship between two amounts or quantities expressed in the lowest possible whole numbers:

*The male--female ratio of kids in our school is about 4 to 3.*

**rhombus**

(say **rom**-buhs)

*noun* a shape with four equal sides, and angles that are not right angles:

*I have a kite that is in the shape of a rhombus.*

**scientist**

(say **suy**-uhn-tuhst)

*noun* A **scientist** is someone who studies science or whose job is to do work using science:

*The scientist was very disappointed when her experiments did not produce the desired results.*

**specimen**

(say **spess**-uh-muhn)

*noun* a single thing or part taken as being typical of a whole group or mass:

*We found a very good starfish specimen in a shallow rock pool.*

**sphere**

(say sfear)

*noun* something completely round in shape, such as a ball or a planet:

*A marble is a good example of a sphere.*

## Junior Science & Maths Level 4

### ampere

(say **am**-pair)

*noun* a unit of electric current:

*Electricians usually shorten the word 'ampere' to 'amp'.*

### anatomy

(say uh-**nat**-uh-mee)

*noun* the structure of the body of a human, animal or plant:

*The anatomy of a human is very similar to that of an ape.*

### apparatus

(say ap-uh-**rah**-tuhs)

*noun* a collection of tools or machines used for a particular purpose:

*We set up the apparatus for the experiment.*

### astronomy

(say uh-**stron**-uh-mee)

*noun* the scientific study of the sun, moon, stars and planets:

*When you study astronomy, you learn things like how long it takes light from the sun to reach different planets.*

### barometer

(say buh-**rom**-uh-tuh)

*noun* an instrument that measures air pressure, used to help work out what changes in the weather can be expected:

*The barometer is falling which means we are in for bad weather.*

### calculus

(say **kal**-kyuh-luhs)

*noun* a method of calculation which uses a special system of algebra:

*Calculus is a branch of maths which is used a lot in science and engineering.*

### caustic

(say **koss**-tik)

*adjective* capable of burning or eating away living cells in the body:

*We handled the caustic cleaning substance with great care.*

### chemistry

(say **kem**-uh-stree)

*noun* the science of what substances are made of and the ways they react with each other:

*My father studied chemistry and physics at university.*

### circumference

(say suh-**kum**-fuh-ruhns)

*noun* the distance around something, especially around a circle or circular object:

*The good thing about knowing the circumference of a circle is that you can then work out its diameter.*

### conductivity

(say kon-duk-**tiv**-uh-tee)

*noun* the ability of a substance to conduct heat, electricity or sound:

*Copper is commonly used for electrical wiring because it has a high conductivity.*

**cylinder**

(say **sil**-uhn-duh)

*noun* a tube-shaped object, either hollow or solid, with circular ends:

*A toilet roll is a good example of a cylinder.*

**denominator**

(say duh-**nom**-uh-nay-tuh)

*noun* the number under the line in a fraction which shows how many equal parts it may be divided into:

*In the fraction  $\frac{3}{4}$  4 is the denominator.*

**diameter**

(say duy-**am**-uh-tuh)

*noun* the straight line which goes through the centre of a circle from one side to the other:

*The part of a circle on one side of the diameter is always exactly half the whole circle.*

**frequency**

(say **free**-kwuhn-see)

*noun* the rate of movements in a sound wave:

*What is the frequency of your favourite radio station?*

**hypothesis**

(say huy-**poth**-uh-suhs)

*noun* an idea put forward as a useful starting point for a discussion or scientific investigation:

*The scientist proposed the hypothesis that the earth was much older than commonly thought.*

**longitude**

(say **long**-guh-tyood)

*noun* the distance, measured in degrees, by which a point on the earth is east or west of Greenwich in England:

*We had to find the longitude and latitude of each of the capital cities in Australia.*

**magnetism**

(say **mag**-nuh-tiz-uhm)

*noun* typical qualities of magnets:

*We learned lots about magnetism by moving the poles of the magnets around.*

**observation**

(say ob-zuh-**vay**-shuhn)

*noun* When you make an **observation**, you watch something or someone carefully:

*The researcher's observation of the koalas' habitat produced a lot of information about how endangered they are.*

**protractor**

(say pruh-**trak**-tuh)

*noun* an instrument used to measure or mark off angles:

*He needed a protractor to measure the angles accurately.*

**statistics**

(say stuh-**tis**-tik)

*plural noun* the science which deals with the collection, ordering, and use of information in the form of numbers and amounts:

*Statistics show that more boys are born than girls.*

## Junior Science & Maths Level 5

### algebra

(say **al**-juh-bruh)

*noun* the branch of mathematics which uses letters to stand for numbers:

*We have just started to learn about algebra in maths.*

### alphanumeric

(say al-fuh-nyoooh-**me**-rik)

*adjective* consisting of both letters and numerals:

*My password is alphanumeric: ABC986.*

### chromosome

(say **kroh**-muh-sohm or **kroh**-muh-zohm)

*noun* a tiny threadlike body found in the nucleus of all living cells, which carries the genetic codes for the characteristics of the organism:

*Down syndrome occurs when a person has an extra chromosome or one chromosome has an extra part.*

### equilatera

(say eek-wuh-**lat**-ruhl)

*adjective* having equal sides:

*It is easy to draw an equilateral triangle if you have a compass.*

### horizontal

(say ho-ruh-**zon**-tuhl)

*adjective* parallel, or in line, with the horizon, as opposed to vertical:

*He had to leap over a horizontal bar a metre from the ground.*

### hypothetical

(say huy-puh-**thet**-i-kuhl)

*adjective* assumed by hypothesis; supposed:

*The medical student was asked how he would treat a hypothetical case of pneumonia.*

### mathematician

(say math-uh-muh-**tish**-uhn)

*noun* an expert in mathematics:

*Grace was good with numbers and wanted to be a mathematician.*

### percentile

(say puh-**sen**-tuyl)

*noun* a group equalling one hundredth of a set of statistics:

*It was her dream to be in the top percentile in maths.*

### quadrilateral

(say kwod-ruh-**lat**-ruhl)

*noun* a closed, plane figure with four sides:

*A parallelogram is an example of a quadrilateral.*

### rhomboid

(say **rom**-boyd)

*noun* a four-sided shape like a diamond:

*Each tile had four sides and was in the shape of a rhomboid.*

### spherical

(say **sfe**-ruh-kuhl)

*adjective* having the shape of a sphere or ball:

*Soccer is played with a spherical ball, unlike Rugby.*

**symmetry**

(say **sim**-uh-tree)

*noun* the arrangement of the parts of something so that they are all balanced in size and shape:

*We marvelled at the perfect symmetry of the butterfly's wings.*

**temperature**

(say **tem**-pruh-chuh)

*noun* a measure of the degree of heat or cold of something or someone:

*She agreed to go to the doctor if her temperature rose any further.*

**thermodynamics**

(say ther-moh-duy-**nam**-iks)

*noun* the science concerned with the relationship between heat and mechanical energy:

*Thermodynamics is a branch of science studied at university.*

**veterinary**

(say **vet**-uh-ruhn-ree or **vet**-uhn-ree)

*adjective* relating to the study, prevention and treatment of animal diseases and injuries:

*She wants to study veterinary science so she can treat sick animals.*

## Junior Sports Level 1

### **bowl**

(say boh1)

*noun* a deep round dish, usually used for holding food:

*Dom ate a big bowl of spaghetti.*

### **catch**

(say kach)

*verb* If you **catch** a ball or something similar, you take hold of it as it moves through the air:

*I'll throw the ball to you so you can catch it.*

### **field**

(say feeld)

*noun* a piece of open ground or space:

*Every Saturday we play football at our local sports field.*

### **goal**

(say gohl)

*noun* an area, basket or something similar at which you aim the ball in sports such as football, basketball and so on:

*Dad put a ring up on a tree for us to use as a goal so we could practise our netball.*

### **golf**

(say golf)

*noun* an outdoor game in which a small ball is hit with special clubs around a set course:

*Playing golf is good exercise because it involves a lot of walking.*

### **jog**

(say jog)

*verb* To **jog** is to run or go along at a slow regular speed:

*Mum tries to jog every morning to keep fit.*

### **lap**

(say lap)

*noun* a single round of a racing track or a single length of a swimming pool:

*By the second lap, he had passed all the other swimmers.*

### **match**

(say mach)

*noun* a game between two or more people or teams:

*Today's football match has been cancelled because of the rain.*

### **netball**

(say **net**-bawl)

*noun* a game played by two teams of seven players, in which the players must try to throw the ball through a hoop on a pole at the opponents' end of the court:

*We play netball every Saturday.*

### **player**

(say **play**-uh)

*noun* A **player** is someone who plays a game or sport:

*Ivan is a good tennis player.*

### **race**

(say rayce)

*noun* a contest of speed:

*It was an exciting race, and Tom was the first to reach the finish line.*

**saddle**

(say **sad**-uhl)

*noun* a seat for the rider of a horse:

*She leapt into the saddle and galloped away.*

**score**

(say skaw)

*noun* the number of points gained in a game, competition or test:

*Our team's score was three goals, and the other team's score was one, so we won!*

**softball**

(say **soft**-bawl)

*noun* a form of baseball played with a larger, softer ball which is pitched underarm:

*We can choose between softball and cricket for sport.*

**team**

(say teem)

*noun* a group of people who do an activity together, such as a game or sport:

*My best friend and I are in the same hockey team.*

## Junior Sports Level 2

### ace

(say ayce)

*noun* a serve in tennis which the other player cannot return at all:

*He served his fifth ace of the match and won the set.*

### archer

(say ah-chuh)

*noun* someone who shoots with a bow and arrows:

*Robin Hood was a magnificent archer.*

### arrow

(say a-roh)

*noun* a thin pointed piece of wood shot from a bow:

*The arrow hit a tree, just inches from his head.*

### athlete

(say ath-leet)

*noun* someone who trains and competes in some kind of sport, especially running or jumping events:

*Paul is an excellent athlete and wants to compete in the Olympic Games.*

### backspin

(say bak-spin)

*noun* the reverse spinning of a ball causing it to bounce backwards or stop in the shortest possible time:

*It's really hard to hit a ball with backspin on it.*

### baseball

(say bays-bawl)

*noun* a game played by two teams with a bat and a ball, on a field with four bases which the batter must pass to score a run:

*Baseball is probably the favourite sport of Americans.*

### boxing

(say boks-ing)

*noun* the sport of fighting with your fists, especially with boxing gloves:

*Anthony Mundine is a famous name in Australian boxing.*

### canoe

(say kuh-nooh)

*noun* a light, narrow boat that you move by using paddles:

*We paddled across the lake in a canoe.*

### capsize

(say kap-suyz)

*verb* to turn over:

*Look out! The boat is going to capsize.*

### catcher

(say kach-uh)

*noun* in baseball, the player who stands behind the batter or home base to catch the pitched ball:

*I was nervous when it was my turn to be catcher.*

### champion

(say cham-pee-uhn)

*noun* someone who holds first place in a sport or contest:

*Ian Thorpe is an Australian swimming champion who won five Olympic gold medals.*

**compete**

(say kuhm-**peet**)

*verb* To **compete** is to set yourself against another person or other people to win something:

*Our school team will compete in the district cross-country competition -- I hope we win.*

**court**

(say kawt)

*noun* the hard ground where games such as tennis and basketball are played:

*We arrived at the basketball court in time for a warm-up before the game.*

**cricket**

(say **krik**-uht)

*noun* a game for two teams where players have to run between two points after hitting the ball with a bat:

*We play cricket on the beach every summer.*

**cyclist**

(say **suy**-kluhst)

*noun* someone who rides a bicycle:

*When he got his first bike, he didn't imagine that he would become an Olympic cyclist.*

**dartboard**

(say **daht**-bawd)

*noun* the target in the game of darts, marked with circles, with a bullseye at the centre:

*I'll never get a bullseye -- I can't even hit the dartboard.*

**defeat**

(say duh-**feet**)

*verb* If you **defeat** someone in a game or contest, you win a victory over them:

*We knew we could easily defeat the visiting netball team.*

**duel**

(say **dyooh**-uhl)

*noun* in past times, an arranged fight between two people with weapons such as guns or swords:

*The two soldiers used pistols in their duel. They each fired in turn but they both missed.*

**fencing**

(say **fen**-sing)

*noun* the sport of sword fighting:

*When you are learning fencing, you don't use a real sword.*

**finalist**

(say **fuy**-nuh-luhst)

*noun* A **finalist** is a person who is in the last part of a competition:

*You have to be a placegetter in the heats to qualify to be a finalist.*

**gallop**

(say **gal**-uhp)

*noun* the fastest pace a horse can run at:

*The horse broke into a gallop and raced across the paddock.*

**gymnast**

(say **jim**-nuhst)

*noun* someone specially trained and skilled in gymnastics:

*She is the first Australian gymnast to win an Olympic medal.*

**judo**

(say **joo**-doh)

*noun* a Japanese art of self-defence which is practised as a sport:

*When you fall in judo, you roll to avoid being hurt.*

**polo**

(say **poh**-loh)

*noun* a ball game played on horseback, between two teams using long wooden mallets and a wooden ball:

*You need to be very good at horseriding to play polo.*

**relay**

(say **ree**-lay)

*noun* a team race in which each member runs or swims a part of the distance:

*The last runner in the relay took the baton and ran towards the finish line.*

**rodeo**

(say **roh**-dee-oh or roh-**day**-oh)

*noun* an event in which people compete or display skills in riding horses, lassoing cattle, and so on:

*When the rodeo is in town, everyone comes to watch.*

**rugby**

(say **rug**-bee)

*noun* a type of football:

*There are two types of rugby -- league and union.*

**sail**

(say sayl)

*verb* If you **sail** a boat, you cause it to move over water, using sails:

*They sail their yacht every weekend and have won several yachting races.*

**scrum**

(say skrum)

*noun* a way of restarting the play in a game of Rugby football:

*The team's weak point was the poorly formed scrum.*

**snooker**

(say **snooh**-kuh)

*noun* a game like billiards or pool, played on a table with a cue and different-coloured balls:

*In snooker, you use a cue to try to shoot a ball into one of the pockets around the table.*

**sprint**

(say sprint)

*verb* To **sprint** is to race at top speed, especially over a short distance:

*He can sprint really quickly, but he gets tired over longer distances.*

**squash**

(say skwosh)

*noun* a game for two players with racquets and a small rubber ball, played in a small court with four walls:

*Squash is very energetic game.*

**stadium**

(say **stay**-dee-uhm)

*noun* a large sports ground, designed to hold many people:

*We are going to the stadium to watch the tennis.*

**surfboard**

(say **serf**-bawd)

*noun* a long, narrow board used to ride waves towards the shore:

*The waves looked great so I carried my surfboard down to the beach.*

**tackle**

(say **tak**-uhl)

*verb* In sports such as football and hockey, if you **tackle** your opponent, you try to get the ball from them:

*At soccer training we are being taught how to tackle.*

**trainer**

(say **tray**-nuh)

*noun* someone who trains athletes in a sport:

*Our trainer makes us run for an hour every day.*

**umpire**

(say **um**-puy-uh)

*noun* someone who makes sure a game is played according to the rules:

*The umpire sent the player off the field because she had broken the rules.*

**wicket**

(say **wik**-uht)

*noun* the set of three pieces of wood with two bails on top at which the bowler aims the ball in cricket:

*The ball hit the wicket and I was out.*

**windsurf**

(say **wind**-serf)

*verb* to ride on a windsurfer:

*The resort has facilities to play golf, tennis, catch reef fish, windsurf or just laze by the pool.*

**yoga**

(say **yoh**-guh)

*noun* a set of exercises which involve deep breathing and holding unusual body positions, in order to reach a calm, peaceful state of mind:

*My mother does yoga to relax.*

### Junior Sports Level 3

#### **ache**

(say ayk)

*noun* An **ache** is a pain that goes on for a long time. It is usually not a strong pain:

*Helen has an ache across her shoulders from playing too much tennis yesterday.*

#### **acrobat**

(say **ak**-ruh-bat)

*noun* someone who performs gymnastic tricks:

*The best act at the circus was the acrobat on the tightrope.*

#### **agility**

(say uh-**jil**-uh-tee)

*noun* the ability to move quickly and easily:

*The gymnast showed great agility in her performance on the bar.*

#### **aquatic**

(say uh-**kwot**-ik)

*adjective* living or growing in water:

*The aquatic plants growing in the pond have beautiful flowers.*

#### **archery**

(say **ah**-chuh-ree)

*noun* the sport of shooting with a bow and arrows:

*We tried archery on our school camp, and I shot an arrow into the bullseye.*

#### **arena**

(say uh-**ree**-nuh)

*noun* an enclosed space for sports events:

*The team were greeted by loud cheers as they ran into the arena.*

#### **athletics**

(say ath-**let**-iks)

*noun* events that take place on a track, such as running and hurdling, javelin throwing and the high jump:

*The athletics at the Olympic Games are exciting to watch, particularly the running and hurdling.*

#### **backstroke**

(say **bak**-strohk)

*noun* a stroke in swimming in which you lie on your back in the water and move your arms backwards in turn:

*Our school sports team won the backstroke swimming championship.*

#### **badminton**

(say **bad**-min-tuhn)

*noun* a game in which two or four players use racquets to hit a feathered ball called a shuttlecock over a high net:

*It's hard to play badminton in the wind, because the shuttlecock keeps blowing away.*

#### **basketball**

(say **bah**-skuht-bawl)

*noun* a game played by two teams of five players, who try to score points by shooting a ball through a metal hoop at the top of the other team's goalpost:

*We play basketball every Saturday morning -- our team hasn't lost a game all year.*

**baton**

(say **bat**-uhn or buh-**ton**)

*noun* a short stick, especially one handed by one runner to the next in a relay race:

*I reached out to grab the baton from the first runner in the relay, but disaster struck and I dropped it.*

**biceps**

(say **buy**-seps)

*noun* a large muscle at the top of the arm or the back of the leg:

*The weightlifter worked on developing his biceps.*

**bicycle**

(say **buy**-sik-uhl)

*noun* a two-wheeled machine for riding on, which you steer by a bar shaped for the rider to hold on to and drive by pushing pedals:

*I rode my bicycle to school this morning.*

**bobsleigh**

(say **bob**-slay)

*noun* a racing sledge with two sets of runners, one behind the other:

*Bobsleigh racing has been a part of the Winter Olympic Games since 1924.*

**bodysurf**

(say **bod**-ee-serf)

*verb* to ride waves in the surf, by holding your body stiff, usually with outstretched arms:

*We're going to bodysurf all day when we go to the beach for our holiday.*

**cheerleader**

(say **cheer**-leed-uh)

*noun* a person who leads cheering, especially at sports matches:

*I don't want to be a cheerleader -- I want to play!*

**competitor**

(say kuhm-**pet**-uh-tuh)

*noun* someone who competes:

*He was the only competitor not to fall down in the skating race, so he won!*

**deuce**

(say dyooohs)

*noun* a stage in a game of tennis when both players have a score of 40:

*The scoreboard showed that they were exactly even -- one game each and at deuce in the current game.*

**discus**

(say **dis**-kuhs)

*noun* a circular plate for throwing in athletic contests:

*He won because he threw the discus the furthest.*

**doubles**

(say **dub**-uhlz)

*noun* a game, especially tennis, played by teams of two players:

*The two sisters won the doubles competition.*

**dumbbell**

(say **dum**-bel)

*noun* a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a short bar with weights attached to either end:

*Exercising by lifting a dumbbell will strengthen your arm muscles.*

**exercise**

(say **eks**-uh-suyz)

*noun* an activity of the body or mind to train or improve it:

*Walking is good exercise.*

**fielder**

(say **feel**-duh)

*noun* in cricket, etc., any member of the team which is fielding, as opposed to the one which is batting:

*The fielder ran towards the ball, arms outstretched.*

**goalkeeper**

(say **gohl**-kee-puh)

*noun* in soccer or hockey, a player whose special duty is to prevent the ball from going through, into, or over the goal:

*In hockey practice, we all take turns at being goalkeeper.*

**gridiron**

(say **grid**-uy-uhn)

*noun* the field that American football is played on:

*In Australia, American football is sometimes called gridiron.*

**groundsman**

(say **growndz**-muhn)

*noun* a man responsible for the care and maintenance of a sports field:

*Marco's dad is a groundsman at the cricket ground and he sometimes lets us practise there.*

**gymnastics**

(say jim-**nass**-tik)

*noun* the performance of exercises to develop muscle strength and tone up your body:

*We do gymnastics every week to strengthen our muscles.*

**hockey**

(say **hok**-ee)

*noun* a game played on a field or on ice in which two teams compete to hit a ball or disc into a goal using a stick with a curved end:

*Ice hockey is an extremely fast game.*

**hurdle**

(say **her**-duhl)

*noun* a small fence over which people jump in a race:

*The crowd cheered as she jumped over the last hurdle in the race.*

**javelin**

(say **jav**-uh-luhn or **jav**-luhn)

*noun* a spear which is thrown in sporting contests:

*He could throw the javelin further than anyone else.*

**jockey**

(say **jock**-ee)

*noun* someone who professionally rides horses in races:

*He loved horses and thought that one day he might become a jockey.*

**karate**

(say kuh-**rah**-tee)

*noun* a Japanese form of self-defence which uses only hands, elbows, feet and knees as weapons:

*Amy wants to do karate so she can learn to smash bricks with her hands.*

**marathon**

(say **ma**-ruh-thon)

*noun* a long-distance race:

*He loved long-distance running and it was his dream to compete in the Olympic marathon.*

**mountaineer**

(say mown-tuh-**near**)

*noun* a climber of mountains:

*Sir Edmund Hillary was a famous mountaineer.*

**muscular**

(say **muss**-kyuh-luh)

*adjective* having to do with muscles:

*After a day of heavy training, he had an intense muscular pain across his back.*

**nutrition**

(say nyoooh-**trish**-uhn)

*noun* eating or eating habits:

*Good nutrition is vital to athletes.*

**opponent**

(say uh-**poh**-nuhnt)

*noun* someone who is on the opposite side to you in a competition or fight:

*My opponent was much taller than me, so I was very nervous.*

**pentathlon**

(say pen-**tath**-lon)

*noun* an athletic contest made up of five different events:

*The pentathlon will include running, swimming, riding, fencing and shooting, so you must be extremely fit to compete.*

**perspiration**

(say pers-puh-**ray**-shuhn)

*noun* sweat:

*She used the towel to wipe the perspiration from her forehead.*

**quoits**

(say koyts)

*plural noun* a game played by throwing rings made of stiff rope over a peg on the ground:

*We like to play quoits in the backyard in summer.*

**referee**

(say ref-uh-**ree**)

*noun* someone who makes sure that the rules in a sporting match are followed:

*He is a very good referee -- everybody thinks he is fair.*

**regatta**

(say ruh-**gat**-uh)

*noun* a meeting for boat races:

*Our school won the rowing regatta last year.*

**skiing**

(say **skee**-ing)

*noun* the sport of travelling down slopes on skis:

*We like skiing so it is lucky we live near the mountains.*

**skittle**

(say **skit**-uhl)

*noun* a bottle-shaped piece of wood, that people try and knock down with a ball as part of a game:

*The dog had buried a skittle somewhere in the garden so we couldn't play.*

**skydiving**

(say **skuy**-duyv-ing)

*noun* the sport of falling from an aircraft for some distance before opening a parachute:

*Bianca thought it would be exciting to learn skydiving.*

**slalom**

(say **slay**-luhm or **slah**-luhm)

*noun* a skiing race with a winding course:

*Skiing in the slalom puts a lot of pressure on your knees.*

**soccer**

(say **sok**-uh)

*noun* a form of football played with a round ball which the players kick but in general are not allowed to touch with their hands or arms:

*Andrew is very keen to play soccer this season.*

**sportswoman**

(say **spawts**-woom-uhn)

*noun* (plural **-women**)

a woman who engages in sport, usually with a degree of expertise:

*She was a great sportswoman and a credit to our town.*

**stamina**

(say **stam**-uh-nuh)

*noun* physical power or strength, especially to fight off tiredness or sickness:

*She will need enormous stamina to keep up the burning pace of the marathon.*

**steeplechase**

(say **steep**-uhl-chays)

*noun* a horserace over a course which has obstacles such as jumps and ditches:

*The horse managed to jump all the obstacles in the steeplechase.*

**stirrup**

(say **sti**-ruh-p)

*noun* a loop or ring of metal hung from the saddle of a horse to support the rider's foot:

*The horserider's foot caught in the stirrup and she was in real trouble!*

**tournament**

(say **taw**-nuh-muhnt)

*noun* a meeting for contests in sport or other games:

*Clare played in a tennis tournament last weekend.*

**trapeze**

(say truh-**peez**)

*noun* a short bar joined to the ends of two hanging ropes, on which gymnasts and acrobats perform:

*When I grow up, I want to be an acrobat and swing from a trapeze.*

**treadmill**

(say **tred**-mil)

*noun* a exercise machine for walking, jogging or running:

*I can think of better places to walk than the treadmill at the gym.*

**triathlete**

(say truy-**ath**-leet)

*noun* an athlete who takes part in a triathlon, which consists of three events, usually swimming, cycling, and running:

*A triathlete needs to be very fit.*

**triathlon**

(say truy-**ath**-lon)

*noun* an athletic contest made up of three events straight after each other -- usually running, swimming and cycling:

*I'll be competing in my first triathlon this weekend -- I've been practising all three sports.*

**volleyball**

(say **vol**-ee-bawl)

*noun* a team game in which a large ball is volleyed by hand or arm over a net:

*We like playing volleyball on the beach.*

**weightlifting**

(say **wayt**-lift-ing)

*noun* the sport of lifting weights, in competition or for exercise:

*Our PE teacher won a medal in weightlifting at the Commonwealth Games.*

**wetsuit**

(say **wet**-sooht)

*noun* a tight rubber piece of clothing worn by divers and surfers to keep in body heat:

*She decided to pack her wetsuit as well as her snorkel in case the water was too cold.*

**wrestle**

(say **ress**-uhl)

*verb* to fight with someone and try to throw them to the ground without using any weapons:

*Our coach taught us how to wrestle without injuring each other.*

## Junior Sports Level 4

### adversary

(say **ad**-vuh-suh-ree)

*noun* someone you compete against or fight with:

*My old adversary beat me in the fencing tournament.*

### aerobics

(say air-**roh**-biks)

*plural noun* exercises done to improve your physical fitness by stimulating your heart and lungs:

*My mother likes to keep fit and does aerobics during her lunch hour.*

### billiards

(say **bil**-yuhdz)

*noun* a game played on a long table, with hard balls hit by a long stick called a cue:

*We can have a game of billiards after dinner because we have just bought a billiards table and some cues.*

### breaststroke

(say **bre**st-strohk)

*noun* a way of swimming in which your arms move in a circle in front of your chest and your legs kick in a frog-like manner:

*Swimming breaststroke always exhausts me.*

### catamaran

(say **kat**-uh-muh-ran)

*noun* a boat with two hulls:

*We spent a fantastic week sailing a catamaran around the islands.*

### croquet

(say **kroh**-kay)

*noun* a game played by hitting wooden balls with mallets through metal arches set in a lawn:

*Croquet is a sport that requires accuracy more than strength.*

### dais

(say **day**-uhs)

*noun* a raised platform at the end of a hall:

*The football trophies were lined up on a table on the dais.*

### decathlon

(say duh-**kath**-lon)

*noun* a contest in which athletes compete for the highest score in ten different events:

*The decathlon is an exhausting contest because it has ten different events in it.*

### disqualify

(say dis-**kwol**-uh-fuy)

*verb* If you **disqualify** someone from doing something, you do not allow them to do it, often because they have broken some rule:

*The judges will disqualify you if you start running before the whistle blows.*

### equestrian

(say uh-**kwess**-tree-uhn)

*adjective* having to do with horseriding:

*Jane and her horse showed great skill and stamina to win the equestrian event.*

**gymnasium**

(say jim-**nay**-zee-uhm)

*noun* a building or room specially equipped for gymnastics and sport:

*The gymnasium has a lot of different equipment such as running machines and climbing ropes.*

**lacrosse**

(say luh-**kross**)

*noun* a ball game played by two teams, who use long-handled racquets to try to send the ball through a goal:

*Lacrosse is a team sport that was first played by Native American people.*

**liniment**

(say **lin**-uh-muhnt)

*noun* an oily liquid for rubbing on bruises, sprains or sore muscles:

*After tennis practice my shoulder was sore, so I rubbed some liniment onto it.*

**parasailing**

(say **pa**-ruh-say-ling)

*noun* the sport of soaring in the air with the aid of a parachute while being towed by a motorboat:

*Yan loved parasailing -- she felt like she was flying.*

**qualifier**

(say **kwol**-uh-fuy-uh)

*noun* someone or something that qualifies:

*Excitement overwhelmed him when he found out he was a qualifier for the finals.*

**shuttlecock**

(say **shut**-uhl-kok)

*noun* a thin rounded piece of plastic with feathers attached to it, which is hit from one player to another over a net as a game:

*The game was declared a draw when the shuttlecock got stuck in a tree.*

**spinnaker**

(say **spin**-uh-kuh)

*noun* a large triangular sail:

*As soon as the spinnaker was raised, the yacht sped to the lead.*

**toboggan**

(say tuh-**bog**-uhn)

*noun* a light kind of sled used for sliding over snow or ice:

*My little sister is too young to ski but she loves sliding down the slopes on a toboggan.*

**tricycle**

(say **truy**-sik-uhl)

*noun* a cycle with three wheels, one at the front and two at the back:

*My little sister rides a tricycle because she doesn't have very good balance yet.*

**velodrome**

(say **vel**-uh-droh-m)

*noun* an arena with sloping sides used for cycling races:

*We all crowded into the velodrome to watch the Olympic cycling final.*

## Junior Sports Level 5

### abseiling

(say **ab**-say-ling)

*noun* the sport of lowering yourself down a cliff or wall, using a rope attached to a harness:

*They found a low cliff that would be suitable for beginners to try abseiling.*

### acrobatically

(say ak-ruh-**bat**-ik-lee)

*adverb* in an acrobatic manner:

*The fullback scored a try by leaping acrobatically over his opponent and rolling into a somersault over the line.*

### bantamweight

(say **ban**-tuhm-wayt)

*noun* a boxer weighing between 51 and 54 kg (amateur):

*The boxer had lost weight and was now classified as a bantamweight.*

### carbohydrate

(say kah-buh-**huy**-drayt)

*noun* a chemical compound containing oxygen, hydrogen and carbon:

*Foods high in carbohydrate include fruits, sweets, soft drinks, breads, pastas, and cereals.*

### catapult

(say **kat**-uh-pult)

*noun* a Y-shaped stick with a length of elastic joined to the prongs, used for shooting stones at things:

*In some shooting competitions, a small catapult is used to launch targets into the air.*

### chiropractor

(say **kuy**-ruh-prak-tuh)

*noun* someone trained to treat back pain and other types of illness by massaging and adjusting the spine:

*The footballer's back felt much better after a few sessions with the chiropractor.*

### circumnavigate

(say ser-kuhm-**nav**-uh-gayt)

*verb* to sail round something:

*The contestants in the sailing race had to circumnavigate the island.*

### guernsey

(say **gern**-zee)

*noun* a close-fitting knitted jumper, often worn by sailors, footballers, and so on:

*Each member of the team wore a red and white guernsey.*

### gymkhana

(say jim-**kah**-nuh)

*noun* horseriding events with games and contests:

*Sam rode her horse every day, practising for the gymkhana.*

### jodhpurs

(say **jod**-puhz)

*plural noun* riding trousers which are close-fitting below the knee:

*She pulled on her jodhpurs and walked to the stables.*

**muscly**

(say **muss**-uh-lee)

*adjective* If someone is **muscly**, they have big muscles, and are usually very strong:

*My brother became very muscly after several months of weight training at the gym.*

**physiology**

(say fiz-ee-**ol**-uh-jee)

*noun* the science concerned with the bodies of living things and how they work:

*An important part of sports medicine is a thorough knowledge of anatomy and physiology.*

**quadriceps**

(say **kwod**-ruh-seps)

*noun* the great muscle of the front of the thigh, which stretches the leg and is considered as having four heads or origins:

*He strained his quadriceps during the football game.*

**somersault**

(say **sum**-uh-solt)

*noun* A **somersault** is a way of putting your head down and rolling your body forward over your head:

*She could do a triple somersault off the diving board.*

**trifecta**

(say truy-**fek**-tuh)

*noun* a form of betting in which the first three placegetters in a particular race must be selected in the correct order:

*My uncle picked the first three placegetters in the Melbourne Cup and won the trifecta.*

## Junior Technology Level 1

### control

(say kuhn-**trohl**)

*noun* a device that allows you to change something such as temperature or speed:

*She used the control to turn the temperature up.*

### data

(say **day**-tuh or **dah**-tuh)

*noun* information collected for analysis or reference:

*We collected data on the number of insects we found in the school playground and then entered it into the computer.*

### invent

(say in-**vent**)

*verb* To **invent** something is to make it up:

*For our project, we had to invent a new method of transport.*

### plastic

(say **plass**-tik)

*noun* a substance which can be shaped when soft and then hardened:

*My drink bottle is made of plastic.*

### power

(say **pow**-uh)

*noun* energy or force that can be used for doing work:

*We lost all electrical power in the blackout.*

### radio

(say **ray**-dee-oh)

*noun* the sending of electrical signals through the air to a set which receives them:

*Radio was a sensation when it was first invented.*

### record

(say **rek**-awd)

*noun* a self-contained piece of data on a computer database:

*Each record had to be entered into the spreadsheet separately.*

### steel

(say steel)

*noun* iron mixed with carbon and other metals so that it is very hard and strong:

*The frame of our house is made of steel.*

### user

(say **yoo**h-zuh)

*noun* someone who uses a computer:

*The needs of the user have to be taken into account when writing software.*

### weld

(say weld)

*verb* If you **weld** two pieces of metal, you join them together by applying intense heat:

*You use a special torch to weld pieces of metal together.*

### wire

(say **wuy**-uh)

*noun* a long wire or cable used in a telegraph, telephone, or cable system:

*The telephone repairer found that a wire under the house had become dislodged.*

**zip**

(say zip)

To **zip** computer data is to put it into a form that uses less storage:

*The files were so big that he had to zip them before they could be emailed.*

## Junior Technology Level 2

### airboat

(say **air**-boht)

*noun* a flat-bottomed boat propelled by means of an engine-driven propeller:

*The new ferry is an airboat.*

### battery

(say **bat**-uh-ree or **bat**-ree)

*noun* a container which stores electricity:

*I couldn't find the right battery for the torch.*

### binary

(say **buy**-nuh-ree)

*adjective* consisting of, or involving two numbers, usually 0 and 1:

*A simple binary system is at the basis of how most modern computers work.*

### broadcast

(say **brawd**-kahst)

*verb* To **broadcast** a program or message is to send it out by radio or television:

*The news is broadcast at 7 p.m. each evening.*

### channel

(say **chan**-uhl)

*noun* a frequency band for radio or television:

*We watched a movie on our favourite television channel.*

### compress

(say kuhm-**press**)

*verb* Computers to encode data into a form that uses less storage:

*She put the data into a zip file in order to compress it.*

### computer

(say kuhm-**pyooh**-tuh)

*noun* an electronic machine which stores and gives out information, and does calculations very quickly, according to a set of instructions called a program:

*Our new computer allows us to access the internet very quickly.*

### current

(say **ku**-ruhnt)

*noun* a movement or flow of electric charges:

*The electrician used a special meter to measure the current.*

### cycle

(say **suy**-kuhl)

*noun* any round of operations or events:

*In our experiment we measured how long each wave cycle took.*

### engine

(say **en**-juhn)

*noun* a machine that changes energy from something like petrol or steam into movement:

*Our car's engine stopped because we had run out of petrol.*

### internet

(say **in**-tuh-net)

*noun* the connection of computers all around the world so that you can share information:

*We used many sites on the internet to get information for our project.*

**keyboard**

(say **ki**-bcd)

*noun* a row or set of keys such as on a piano or computer:

*The statistician's fingers flew over the keyboard as he entered the data.*

**metal**

(say **met**-uhl)

*noun* a type of material which is shiny, able to be shaped or worked, and is often a good conductor of electricity:

*Iron is a kind of metal, and so is gold.*

**model**

(say **mod**-uhl)

*noun* a copy of something, usually in a smaller size, to show what the real thing looks like or how it works:

*My brother has made a beautiful model of a ship.*

**modem**

(say **moh**-dem or **moh**-duhm)

*noun* an electronic device that allows one computer to link to others through the telephone system:

*We turned on the modem so we could send an email to our grandmother.*

**mouse**

(say mows)

*noun* a small object which you hold and move to position the cursor on a computer screen:

*The position of the cursor on the screen is controlled by the mouse.*

**router**

(say **rowt**-uh)

*noun* a device which provides connection between computers in a network and controls the network areas that each can access:

*We had to follow the instructions to set up the router.*

**sensor**

(say **sen**-suh)

*noun* any device that can detect something and respond to it, usually by setting off a signal:

*The sensor detected smoke, and set off the fire alarm.*

**server**

(say **serv**-uh)

*noun* a computer or program which provides services to another computer by a network:

*A hacker managed to bring down the company server.*

**tablet**

(say **tab**-luht)

*noun* a type of portable computer of a size and shape comparable to a tablet notebook with a touch screen and an onscreen virtual keyboard:

*A portable computer such as a tablet is very convenient on a plane flight for watching movies and playing video games.*

**toggle**

(say **tog**-uhl)

*verb* in computers, to switch backwards and forwards from one state to another using a key to do so:

*You can toggle between having the function on and off by pressing the tab key.*

**transformer**

(say trans-**fawm**-uh)

*noun* an electrical device used for changing one voltage to another:

*The power plant's main transformer buckled under the force of the explosion.*

**transmit**

(say trans-**mit**)

*verb* (**transmits; transmitting; transmitted; has transmitted**)

To **transmit** a signal or message to a place, is to send it there by means of electronic equipment:

*They plan to transmit the game live from the playing ground.*

**upload**

(say **up**-loh-d)

*verb* To **upload** data is to transfer or copy it from a computer to a larger system, such as from a personal computer to a network:

*After you upload the material from your computer, the rest of the class will be able to use it.*

**video**

(say **vid**-ee-oh)

*noun* (plural **videos**)

A **video** is a film, television show or event which has been recorded on a special tape, and which you can watch on television:

*My aunt said she will keep the video we made of her wedding for ever and ever.*

**viewer**

(say **vyoo**-uh)

*noun* someone who watches television or a television program:

*One angry viewer reported that they had switched off the program as soon as it started.*

**wavelength**

(say **wayv**-length)

*noun* the length of the radio wave used by a particular radio station for broadcasting:

*I couldn't tune in the station because I didn't know what wavelength it was on.*

**wireless**

(say **wuy**-uh-luhs)

*adjective* not using telephone lines, cables, etc.:

*Wireless technology allows people to access the internet even when they are outside.*

**worm**

(say werm)

*noun* a rogue computer program which, once it is loaded on a computer, replicates itself until it takes up all the available memory, bringing the whole system to a standstill:

*We lost all the data on our computer because it had become infected with a worm.*

### Junior Technology Level 3

#### **amplify**

(say **am**-pluh-fuy)

to make larger or greater:

*We used a microphone to amplify our voices so that we could be heard at the back of the hall.*

#### **animation**

(say an-uh-**may**-shuhn)

*noun* the process of preparing animated cartoons:

*The computer animation in the cartoon film was amazing.*

#### **astronaut**

(say **ass**-truh-nawt)

*noun* someone specially trained to travel in a spaceship:

*The astronaut tried to repair the space shuttle's damaged landing gear.*

#### **audiovisual**

(say aw-dee-oooh-**vizh**-yooh-uhl)

*adjective* relating to recording or reproducing both sound and pictures:

*William was required to do an audiovisual presentation for his history class.*

#### **avatar**

(say **av**-uh-tah)

*noun* the representation of a person in virtual reality on a computer screen:

*In some video games each player is represented on the screen by an avatar.*

#### **biofuel**

(say **buy**-oh-fyooh-uhl)

*noun* any type of fuel that is made from renewable sources such as plants:

*Ethanol is a type of biofuel that is made from sugar cane or grains.*

#### **browser**

(say **brow**-zuh)

*noun* a computer program that allows you to access web pages:

*This new browser is much faster than the previous version.*

#### **byte**

(say buyt)

*noun* a unit of information stored by a computer:

*A byte is a small unit of information -- this DVD holds 700 million bytes!*

#### **cache**

(say kaysh)

*noun* a section of a computer's memory which can be accessed very quickly:

*Sometimes you need to clear out the cache to make your computer work more quickly.*

#### **communication**

(say kuh-myoooh-nuh-**kay**-shuhn)

*noun* the act or fact of communicating; transmission:

*Communication of the event came across clearly despite a short power outage.*

#### **compressor**

(say kuhm-**press**-uh)

*noun* any machine, as a pump, in which a gas is forced into a small space so that its expansion may be used as a source of power:

*They used a compressor to reduce the volume of the gas.*

**cosmonaut**

(say **koz**-muh-nawt)

*noun* a person trained as a pilot, to take part in the flight of a spacecraft:

*The cosmonaut prepared the spacecraft for its return to Earth.*

**cursor**

(say **ker**-suh)

*noun* the small moving sign which shows you where the writing will start when you type on a computer screen:

*Can you see the cursor? There it is, blinking at you!*

**deactivate**

(say dee-**ak**-tuh-vayt)

*verb* (t) (-**vated**; -**vating**)

to treat a bomb, shell, etc., so that it cannot explode:

*The soldiers were able to deactivate the bomb quickly.*

**device**

(say duh-**vice**)

*noun* something which has been invented for a particular purpose:

*This device counts each step you take.*

**digital**

(say **dij**-uh-tuhl)

*adjective* having to do with a device that works by storing information in a similar way to a computer:

*Many people have a digital television these days.*

**dynamite**

(say **duy**-nuh-muyt)

*noun* a substance that makes a powerful explosion when set off:

*Dynamite is a dangerous substance made up from nitroglycerine and other materials.*

**emission**

(say uh-**mish**-uhn or ee-**mish**-uhn)

*noun* that which is emitted; discharge; emanation:

*The emission of chemicals from the factory caused a lot of pollution.*

**engineer**

(say en-juh-**near**)

*noun* someone who is trained to design and build things and to use machinery:

*His father is an engineer who designs roads and bridges.*

**equipment**

(say uh-**kwip**-muhnt)

*noun* anything used in doing a job, especially tools, machines, materials, and so on:

*All of the laboratory equipment was stored in the locked cupboard.*

**function**

(say **funk**-shuhn)

*noun* any basic computer operation:

*Each of the keys along the top of a computer keyboard is used to operate a particular function.*

**futuristic**

(say fyoooh-chuh-**ris**-tik)

*adjective* in a style thought likely to be in fashion at some future time:

*The design of the car was very futuristic -- it could hover in the air.*

**hyperlink**

(say **huy**-puh-lingk)

*noun* (in computers) a link from one document to another:

*I clicked on the hyperlink to get to the next page.*

**kilobyte**

(say **kil**-uh-buyt)

*noun* a unit of information stored by a computer:

*We couldn't complete the download because the file measured too many kilobytes.*

**locomotive**

(say loh-kuh-**moh**-tiv)

*noun* the engine which pulls railway carriages or trucks:

*The railway guard waved a flag to signal that the locomotive was ready to depart.*

**machinery**

(say muh-**sheen**-uh-ree)

*noun* machines in general:

*Machinery has made our lives easier.*

**microphone**

(say **muy**-kruh-fohn)

*noun* an instrument which changes sound waves into electrical waves, often used in equipment that makes sounds louder or records them:

*Hold the microphone fairly close to your mouth so it can pick up the sound of your voice.*

**monitor**

(say **mon**-uh-tuh)

*noun* the part of a computer which contains the screen:

*Your eyes will get tired if you stare at the monitor for too long.*

**narrowcast**

(say **na**-roh-kahst)

to transmit (data) to a limited number of recipients as in cable television where only subscribers' receivers can take the signal:

*We didn't see the program because it was narrowcast on a pay-TV station only.*

**nuclear**

(say **nyooh**-klee-uh)

*adjective* A **nuclear** weapon produces an explosion created by a process involving the nucleus of an atom:

*The atomic bomb was the first nuclear weapon.*

**operator**

(say **op**-uh-ray-tuh)

*noun* someone who works a machine:

*He is training to be a computer operator.*

**piracy**

(say **puy**-ruh-see)

*noun* the making and selling of illegal copies of CDs, DVDs, videos, computer programs, books, etc.:

*The DVD cover displayed a warning that piracy is a crime.*

**process**

(say **proh**-ses)

*verb* to treat a substance with chemicals or machines:

*Scientists are developing a new way to process nuclear fuel.*

**prototype**

(say **proh**-tuh-tuyp)

*noun* the original or the model of something which is later copied:

*The prototype of this racing car is in a motor museum.*

**radiotherapy**

(say ray-dee-oh-**ther**-uh-pee)

*noun* the treatment of disease by X-rays or radioactive substances:

*She had radiotherapy every day for a month to cure her cancer.*

**recycle**

(say ree-**suy**-kuhl)

*verb* To **recycle** things that have already been used is to process them or change them in some way so that they can be used again:

*Our council now has a scheme to recycle most glass and plastic bottles.*

**refrigeration**

(say ruh-frij-uh-**ray**-shuhn)

*noun* the process of producing low temperatures, usually so as to keep food and drink cold and fresh:

*We had no refrigeration for several days when the electricity failed and all our food went bad.*

**research**

(say ruh-**serch** or ree-serch)

*noun* the process of studying something deeply and doing tests to find out more about it:

*One day, medical research might discover a cure for colds.*

**resolution**

(say rez-uh-**looh**-shuhn)

*noun* the degree of fineness in the reproduction of an image, as by a photograph, television screen, etc.:

*The high resolution of the photograph allowed us to see the insect's wings in great detail.*

**supersonic**

(say sooh-puh-**son**-ik)

*adjective* If an aircraft is **supersonic**, it travels faster than sound travels:

*Jeff would like to be a pilot and fly supersonic jets.*

**tabulate**

(say **tab**-yuh-layt)

*verb* to put or form into a table, plan, and so on:

*We had to tabulate the amount of rain that fell each day over the whole month.*

**technical**

(say **tek**-nik-uhl)

*adjective* having to do with machines and the way that things like industry and communications work:

*We have technical problems with the lines at the moment so you can't make any phone calls.*

**telecast**

(say **tel**-uh-kahst)

*noun* the showing of a program or event on television:

*The telecast was to be screened at eight o'clock that night so we made sure we got home in time.*

**telephone**

(say **tel**-uh-fohn)

*noun* a piece of equipment which lets you talk over long distances by sending electrical signals over wires:

*She ran to the telephone and called the police.*

**telescope**

(say **tel**-uh-skohp)

*noun* a tube-shaped device you look through, which makes things that are far away seem closer and bigger:

*The stars looked much brighter through the telescope.*

**television**

(say **tel**-uh-vizh-uhn)

*noun* a piece of equipment which receives pictures and sounds sent by waves through the air:

*Let's turn on the television and watch the race.*

**template**

(say **tem**-pluht or **tem**-playt)

*noun* a computer file from which copies are made in order to use the basic form of the file again and again:

*She uses a template on her computer for all of her letters.*

**turbine**

(say **ter**-buyn)

*noun* a turning motor in which a wheel with blades is driven by a liquid or gas passing through it:

*The turbine was propelled by water.*

**ultrasound**

(say **ul**-truh-sownd)

*noun* an image obtained by ultrasound waves (similar to sound waves) of an internal organ of the body or of a foetus in the uterus:

*The ultrasound showed a very clear image of the unborn baby.*

**workstation**

(say **werk**-stay-shuhn)

*noun* an area in an office which is assigned to a user of electronic equipment such as a computer terminal, etc.:

*Each employee has their own computer workstation.*

## Junior Technology Level 4

### aluminium

(say al-yuh-**min**-ee-uhm)

*noun* a light, silvery-grey type of metal:

*Aluminium is used to make cans, and can be rolled into thin sheets to make aluminium foil.*

### antenna

(say an-**ten**-uh)

a wire or rod that you put up to receive radio or television signals:

*I had to adjust the antenna on the radio to receive a good signal.*

### appliance

(say uh-**pluy**-uhns)

*noun* a tool which has a motor worked by electricity:

*The best appliance in the kitchen is the dishwasher.*

### aviation

(say ay-vee-**ay**-shuhn)

*noun* the science or act of flying in an aircraft:

*The air force had an exhibition on the history of aviation.*

### circuitry

(say **ser**-kuh-tree)

*noun* a system of electrical circuits:

*The toaster stopped working because of a problem in the circuitry.*

### contraption

(say kuhn-**trap**-shuhn)

*noun* a complicated device or piece of machinery:

*They pulled the contraption apart to try and see how it worked.*

### cyberspace

(say **suy**-buh-space)

*noun* the internet:

*She spent hours at the computer lost in cyberspace.*

### electricity

(say uh-lek-**triss**-uh-tee)

*noun* a form of energy which can be used for heating, lighting, driving a motor, and other things:

*We had no electricity in our house because a tree fell across the wires.*

### generator

(say **jen**-uh-ray-tuh)

*noun* a machine for producing electricity:

*The hospital was able to depend on the generator when power cuts occurred.*

### microprocessor

(say muy-kroh-**proh**-ses-uh)

*noun* the most important electronic chip in a computer:

*A computer would not be able to work without a microprocessor.*

### programming

(say **proh**-gram-ing)

*noun* the writing of instructions in a computer language which will cause a computer to perform a particular operation:

*My sister is studying programming because she loves working with computers.*

**prosthesis**

(say pros-**thee**-suhs or pruh-s-**thee**-suhs)

*noun* an artificial body part:

*No-one could tell that part of his leg was a prosthesis.*

**receptor**

(say ruh-**sep**-tuh)

*noun* one of or a group of the end organs of sensory or afferent neurons, specialised to be sensitive to stimulating agents:

*The first level of feeling in the body starts at the receptor -- and there are many of these in the skin to feel things like heat, cold, pain and pressure.*

**satellite**

(say **sat**-uh-luyt)

*noun* an object sent into orbit around the earth or around another planet to send information back to earth:

*The satellite transmitted images of Mercury's surface back to Earth.*

**simulator**

(say **sim**-yuh-lay-tuh)

*noun* a device used in training or experiments that simulates movement or flight:

*Pilots begin their training on a simulator before actually flying a plane.*

**simulcast**

(say **sim**-uhl-kahst)

*noun* a program broadcast on both television and radio at the same time:

*The concert was to be presented as a simulcast on television and radio before the end of the year.*

**telecommunication**

(say tel-uh-kuh-myoooh-nuh-**kay**-shuhn)

*noun* the sending of information by line or radio waves:

*An air strike had destroyed sites necessary for telecommunication.*

**transmitter**

(say trans-**mit**-uh)

*noun* the part of a radio system which produces and changes the radio waves and sends them out to the aerial:

*The radio transmitter was out of order.*

**vehicle**

(say **vee**-ik-uhl)

*noun* a form of transport, such as a car or bicycle:

*My brother's favourite type of vehicle is a racing car.*

## Junior Technology Level 5

### **analgesic**

(say an-uhl-**jee**-zik)

*noun* a medicine that removes or lessens pain:

*She took an analgesic and soon her headache improved.*

### **antibiotic**

(say an-tee-buy-**ot**-ik)

*noun* a drug capable of killing bacteria and other germs:

*The doctor prescribed an antibiotic for my chest infection.*

### **centrifugal**

(say sen-**trif**-uh-guhl or sen-truh-**fyoo**h-guhl)

*adjective* moving outwards from the centre:

*Centrifugal force is what keeps water in a bucket when you swing it over your head.*

### **chemotherapy**

(say kee-moh-**ther**-uh-pee)

*noun* the treatment of disease using chemicals as drugs, especially in treating cancer:

*Different kinds of chemotherapy are used in treating cancer.*

### **gasification**

(say gas-uh-fuh-**kay**-shuhn)

*noun* the process of converting a substance into gas:

*Coal gasification is a way of reducing the pollution caused by the burning of coal.*

### **gelignite**

(say **jel**-uhg-nuyt)

*noun* an explosive substance used in mining:

*The miners kept their store of gelignite locked away safely.*

### **interstellar**

(say **in**-tuh-stel-uh)

*adjective* between the stars:

*The science fiction novel was about interstellar travel.*

### **pharmaceutical**

(say fahm-uh-**syoo**ht-i-kuhl)

*adjective* relating to the preparation of drugs used in medicine:

*The pharmaceutical company is about to release a new asthma medication.*

### **seismograph**

(say **suyz**-muh-graf)

*noun* an instrument for measuring and recording vibrations within the earth, such as earthquakes:

*At the museum, we were shown how a seismograph measures the strength of an earthquake.*

### **stereophonic**

(say ste-ree-uh-**fon**-ik)

*adjective* using two channels and two speakers to transmit and broadcast sound:

*Joshua listened to his MP3 player with stereophonic headphones.*

### **teleprompter**

(say **tel**-uh-promp-tuh)

*noun* a device used especially by television performers, on which words to be spoken appear while the speaker reads them:

*When the teleprompter broke down, the TV host didn't know what to say.*

**titanium**

(say tuy-**tay**-nee-uhm)

*noun* a dark grey metal used to remove oxygen and nitrogen from steel and to toughen it:

*Titanium can make steel extremely strong.*

**vaccinate**

(say **vak**-suh-nayt)

*verb* to give a vaccine to in order to prevent illness:

*We had to vaccinate against hepatitis before travelling overseas.*