

Vocabulary Words

To Kill a Mockingbird chptrs 15-22

venerable	adj	respectable (due to age, rank/position, or dignity)	verb: venerate. “Everyone rose when the venerable judge walked into the courtroom.” “My grandmother has reached the venerable age of 101!”
acquiesce	v	to passively agree or comply; to give in or yield	“We acquiesced to her demands, but were unhappy about it the whole time.”
sundry	adj	various, many	“There are sundry items in her purse.” “The grocery store sells sundry products.”
ubiquitous	adj	being everywhere; widespread	“The H1N1 virus has been less ubiquitous than feared, thanks to vaccines and preventative measures like hand-washing.”
stalwart	adj	strong (physically and/or morally)	“The stalwart soldier was known for his bravery and integrity.”
acrimonious	adj	caustic, stinging, or bitter in nature, speech, behavior, etc	an acrimonious answer; an acrimonious dispute. Root: acer/acri= sharp, sour
scrutiny	n	a searching examination or investigation; surveillance; close and continuous watching or guarding	“Those pronounced him youngest who scrutinized his face the closest” (G. W. Cable).
arid	adj	dry; lifeless & dull	Arid deodorant “Her arid and vapid personality attracted few friends.”
mollify	v	to lessen the anger of, pacify, or calm down	“He bought her roses, hoping to mollify her when he brought home a pet boa constrictor.”
expunge	v	to erase or strike out	“And when the Russian moon program was finally abandoned, the Kremlin spent considerable effort to expunge it from history” (Bill Keller, “Eclipsed”, <i>New York Times Magazine</i> , June 27, 1999). See Word of the Day
temerity	n	reckless or presumptuous daring; brashness; heedless disregard for danger	“Hither and thither he charged striking down the few who had the temerity to stand against him, and it was evident that unless a chance spear thrust brought him down he would rout the entire village...” (Edgar R. Burroughs, <i>The Son of Tarzan</i>). See Word of the Day
impassive	adj	revealing no emotion; expressionless	“His face was impassive , showing neither fear nor concern at their situation.” Synonym to stolid .
stolidly	adv	with little or not emotion	“She reacted stolidly to the news of her mother's death, leading those who did not know her to accuse her of heartlessness.” Synonym to impassive .