

9th Grade Vocabulary: Lesson 11

- 1. asperity** **n. 1. Sharpness or harshness of manner.**
[There was a noticeable *asperity* in her voice as she scolded the children for teasing Andrea.]
2. Roughness of surface; unevenness.
[Running my fingers over the new countertop, I detected a certain *asperity*.]
- 2. bane** **n. A person or thing that destroys or causes harm.**
Jonathan's little brother was the *bane* of our slumber party.]
baneful **adj. Causing destruction or ruin.**
[Hitler's *baneful* rule ended with his death in 1945.]
- 3. buffoon** **n. A person who often makes attempts to be funny; a clown**
[Although he acted like a *buffoon* at parties, Matt was usually rather serious.]
- 4. doleful** **adj. Mournful or full of sorrow; causing grief.**
[The *doleful* look on her face told me she had not gotten the grant to go to the summer program.]
- 5. extrovert** **n. A person whose attention is focused on others and on what is going on or around her or him, rather than on her or his own feelings.**
[Ray is an *extrovert* now, but he was rather shy as a young child.]
extroverted **adj. Outgoing**
[Because she is so *extroverted*, she loves to perform in front of a large crowd.]
- 6. garish** **adj. Excessively bright and flashy; tastelessly glaring.**
[I told Henry that his tie was too *garish* to wear to a job interview.]
- 7. hierarchy** **n. A group or system in which positions of power are ranked, usually from lowest to highest.**
[In the state government *hierarchy*, the governor is at the top.] I
- 8. imbue** **v. To fill completely with a feeling or idea; to inspire.**
[The really great athletes are *imbued* with a desire to excel.]
- 9. instigate** **v. To stir up or urge on; to provoke.**
[Because Joy was jealous of Dara's friendship with Kim, she *instigated* an argument between them.]
- 10. penchant** **n. A strong attraction or leaning.**
[Susan and Carl shared a *penchant* for crossword puzzles and made a ritual of doing them together every Sunday morning.]
- 11. rambunctious** **adj. Behaving in a wild and unruly manner.**
[When the puppies get too *rambunctious* in their play, the trainer separates them.]
- 12. repertoire** **n. The list of pieces an actor, musician, etc. is ready to perform; the skills or accomplishments of a person or group.**
[The band knew most of the requests, but several songs were not part of its *repertoire*.]
- 13. rudiment** **n. {usually plural} 1. A basic principle or skill.**
[This book teaches the *rudiments* of cooking, but it will not make you a master chef.]
2. An undeveloped or beginning stage.
[The *rudiments* of the club's plan to raise money seemed promising until we discussed them more, at which point we realized how unrealistic they were.]
- 14. undermine** **v. 1. To weaken or ruin by degrees.**
[His smoking habit seriously *undermined* his health.]
2. To attack by indirect, secret, or underhanded means.
[During World War II the French underground sought to *undermine* the Na occupation.]
- 15. unremitting** **adj. Not stopping or slowing down; constant.**
[The *unremitting* sounds of the city kept me awake in my hotel room all night!]