

9th GRADE VOCABULARY

Allocate

to set apart for a special purpose; designate

Aphoristic

in the form of a tersely stated truth or opinion

Arrant

utter; complete

Chimera

something consisting of diverse construction (note the word's origin in Greek mythology)

Deteriorate

to become impaired in quality, function, or condition

Didactic

involving or characterized by instruction

Disconsolate

dejected, downcast, unhappy

Estuary

a passage of water where a river current meets the tide

Exceptionable

something that is likely to cause objection; may mean offensive

Gradgrind

a person who is obsessed with minutiae and formalities

Hankering

a strong, persistent desire

Indigenous

originating in and characteristic of a particular region

Liege

someone who is faithful and loyal

Optimize

to cause something to use its full potential

Penchant

a strong or habitual liking for something or tendency to do something

Proponents

a person who advocates a particular position or idea

Ravage

to have a violent destructive effect

Stimulate

to increase or encourage the level of response