

Word Power 1

Power Words

Directions: Study each of the Power Words below. Note how each word is pronounced. Then read the context sentences to figure out what each Power Word means. In the left-hand margin next to each Power Word, try to jot down a synonym or short definition that defines the word.

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|----------|----------|--------|------------|
| issue | penal | edict | concede |
| intrepid | purports | docile | diminutive |

1. issue

- Maxwell's issue with papers are a reflection of his shallow mind.
- We found that none of Betty's issue arguments were based on fact.

2. intrepid

- An intrepid child who is constantly disobedient is a pest.

3. penal

- A penal institution should provide rehabilitation, not just punishment.
- The judge was unsure of the penal regulations, so she increased court to check the penal code.

4. purports

- The letter to the newspaper purports to express public opinion, but this is doubtful.
- Are you sure he knows everything he purports to know?

5. edict

- The emperor's edict demanding more taxes was resented by the populace.
- Due to the impending hurricane, an edict was issued to evacuate the area immediately.

6. docile

- Paul is a docile husband who obeys to his wife's every demand.
- Docile children are much easier to instruct than disobedient children.

7. concede

- The personnel manager conceded that his decision to hire that employee had been unwise.
- After pushing herself to her limit, Mary was forced to concede that she could not finish the race.

8. diminutive

- Napoleon was not tall, but his diminutive stature did not prevent him from becoming great and powerful.
- The diminutive furniture in Napoleon's doll house was of such precise detail that the tiny photograph actually had a miniature needle.