

## 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. **pendant**      ***n.* A strong attraction or leaning.**  
 [Susan and Carl shared a *pendant* 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!]