

1. insouciance n.

indifference, lack of concern, carefree

He assumed an attitude of insouciance when the detectives entered the room.

2. panegyric n.

tribute, a speech of praise

He requested the honor of speaking the panegyric at his friend's funeral.

3. <u>nepotism n</u>.

favoritism shown to relatives.

The unqualified cousin of the mayor received his position by pure nepotism.

.4. nonplused adj.

baffled,confused, puzzled

They were nonplused by his sudden willingness to help at the church work days.

5. habiliments n.

dress, attire, equipment, accouterments

The book of Jude eschews the habiliments of this world.

6. modicum n.

a small quanity or portion

The outrageuos commedian didn't show even a modicum of respect for the office of president.

7. shibboleth_n.

criterion, test

His ignorance of that social shibboleth betrayed his facade of a cultured aristocrat.

8. sinecure n...

position with no responsibility or authority.

The title "Runner-up" for the Miss America pageant is a mere sinecure.

9. <u>soiree</u> n.

evening party, gathering

To be invited to the exclusive soiree was a sign of his increasing influence in Washington politics.

10.soporific adj..

sleep inducing, having a somnelent effect

The preacher's discursive style had a soporific effect upon the congregation.