

# Pastor's Classic Ten Friends



*excellent words for exceptional students*

1. *Acquiesce* (v) acquiescence (n) acquiescent (adj) I *acquiesce* (agree, consent, accept); your plan suits me entirely.
2. *Altercation* (n) When they disagree, their *altercations* (quarrels, bitter arguments, angry disputes) can be heard from a distance.
3. *Anathema* (n) Don't mention golf to my uncle; it's *anathema* (a thing accursed, despised, detested by him) to him.
4. *Bestial* (adj) bestiality (n) The *bestial* (brutal, vile, cruel and violent) axe-murder was in all the headlines.
5. *Cavil* (v) caviler (n) caviling (adj) You let her buy that expensive dress, so don't *cavil* (find fault, quibble, carp) at the cheap accessories.
6. *Clairvoyant* (adj) clairvoyance (n) As I saw her car turn in the drive, I had a *clairvoyant* (discerning, perceptive, beyond the ordinary) premonition that something was wrong.
7. *Compunction* (n) compunctive (adj) He turned down the plea without *compunction* (pity, remorse, scruple).
8. *Copious* (adj) copiousness (n) The student took *copious* (abundant, plentiful, ample) notes during the lectures and so had little trouble preparing for the exam.
9. *Covert* (adj) He had a *covert* (secret, hidden, surreptitious) plan to get his rival fired.
10. *Demure* (adj) demureness (n) The little flower girl, with her downcast eyes, was very *demure* (modest, sedate, decorous).
11. *Dormant* (adj) dormancy (n) It is to be hoped that his talents are only *dormant* (sleeping, inactive, quiescent) in him and not totally extinct.
12. *Efficacy* (n) efficacious (adj) The *efficacy* (capacity to accomplish some desired end, effectiveness) of the new plan has not yet been demonstrated.
13. *Emulous* (adj) emulousness (n) Because he is *emulous* (imitative, desirous of rivaling) of great athletes, he forces himself to maintain a vigorous training schedule.
14. *Ensconce* (v) Once *ensconced* (securely settled, firmly established) in his armchair he could never be persuaded to go out at night.
15. *Entreaty* (n) entreat (v) He was unable to resist so moving an *entreaty* (a petition, earnest request) and yielded against his better judgment.
16. *Equivocate* (v) equivocal (adj) equivocation (n) When you try to pin him down he always *equivocates* (lies cunningly, speaks ambiguously with the intention of misleading).
17. *Factitious* (adj) factitiousness (n) That's a *factitious* (made-up, not genuine, artificial) argument; you don't believe it yourself.
18. *Flagitious* (adj) flagitiousness (n) In *flagitious* (openly wicked, flagrant, shameless) disregard of decency, the gangsters made the city hall their headquarters.
19. *Forensic* (adj) His speech is always *forensic* (argumentative, debating, full of disputations); he should be on a debating team.
20. *Fulsome* (adj) fulsomeness (n) Their praise of the child was so *fulsome* (exaggerated, excessive, gross) even the parents objected.
21. *Homogeneous* (adj) homogeneousness (n) Some nations are so *homogeneous* (similar, alike, uniform) that the people all have the same color of hair.
22. *Impecunious* (adj) impecuniousness (n) Although he dresses well and drives a big car, he is really *impecunious* (poor, penniless, unprosperous).
23. *Inadvertent* (adj) inadvertence (n) You must not take offense at my *inadvertent* (unintentional, careless, heedless) remark.
24. *Indigent* (adj) indigence (n) He gives money to every *indigent* (poverty-stricken, needy, destitute) person he sees.
25. *Iniquitous* (adj) iniquitousness (n) Cheating is *iniquitous* (evil, wicked, sinful), no matter who does it.
26. *Inveterate* (adj) inveteracy (n) The enmity of the two old men was *inveterate* (deep seated, long established, habituated); they had hated each other for sixty years.
27. *Languid* (adj) languidness (n) On very hot days, everyone feels *languid* (drooping, dull, limp).
28. *Machination* (n) The unscrupulous politicians used all their *machinations* (plots, schemes, wiles) to win the election.
29. *Mollify* (v) mollification (n) She's very angry; see if you can *mollify* (soothe, appease, pacify) her.
30. *Neophyte* (n) The *neophyte* (newcomer, beginner, novice) made the mistake of advising the old-timer.
31. *Noisome* (adj) noisomeness (n) The skunk cabbage has a *noisome* (offensive, foul, noxious) smell.
32. *Obtuse* (adj) obtuseness (n) One who will not see our point of view usually seems *obtuse* (slow, stupid, imperceptive) to us.
33. *Opprobrious* (adj) opprobriousness (n) The *opprobrious* (shameful, disgraceful, infamous) charge was brought against the leader that he had cheated his followers.
34. *Parody* (n) The monkey's chatter sounded like a *parody* (humorous imitation, caricature, travesty) of the old woman's excited talk.
35. *Peruse* (v) perusable (adj) perusal (n) I found him thoughtfully *perusing* (reading with care, studying, scrutinizing) a timetable.
36. *Pithy* (adj) pithiness (n) He is full of *pithy* (concise, terse, yet full of meaning) statements like "Waste Not - Want not."
37. *Preponderate* (v) preponderant (adj) preponderance (n) She has many virtues but kindness *preponderates* (is strongest, is most important, predominates).
38. *Quandary* (n) He's in a *quandary* (an uncertainty, puzzlement, dilemma) over whether to take the job or not.
39. *Recant* (v) recantation (n) Many former communists have *recanted* (renounced their former beliefs).
40. *Redolent* (adj) redolence (n) Her garden was *redolent* (sweetly smelling of, fragrant with, associated in our minds with) of roses and lilacs.
41. *Ribald* (adj) ribaldry (n) Some of our most solemn writers have been fond of *ribald* (coarse, vulgar, offensive) jokes in private.
42. *Sapient* (adj) sapience (n) The old man was our most *sapient* (wise, sage, sagacious) advisor.
43. *Sinuous* (adj) sinuousness (n) The old road led us a *sinuous* (winding, meandering, serpentine) route through the hills.
44. *Sophistry* (n) sophistical (adj) Blaming all our problems on the other political party is sheer *sophistry* (false argument, appealing but fallacious reasoning).
45. *Splenetic* (adj) Scrooge was a *splenetic* (bitter, complaining, irritable) old man.
46. *Succor* (n) succorable (adj) She devoted her life to bringing *succor* (aid, relief, assistance) to the poor.
47. *Truncate* (v) truncation (n) truncated (adj) A poet sometimes *truncates* (shortens, chops off, abridges) a line of his poem, to change the rhythm.
48. *Upbraid* (v) upbraiding (n) Don't *upbraid* (scold, reproach, chide) her for such a small fault.
49. *Vicissitude* (n) vicissitudinous (adj) All human plans are subject to the *vicissitudes* (changes, variations, alterations) of fate.
50. *Vociferous* (adj) vociferousness (n) They were *vociferous* (loud, emphatic, clamorous) in their objections.