



Words of the Day
Secondary Schools
2025-2026
1st Semester



DAY	DATE	WORD	DEFINITION
THURSDAY	July 31	garish (adj.)	gaudy, in bad taste; overly bright and showy *Her dress was made of garish colors. *syn.: tawdry, brazen
FRIDAY	August 01	medley (n.)	a mixture of various items *The vocalist performed a medley of popular songs. *syn.: mixture; miscellany
MONDAY	August 04	denounce (v.)	to condemn; to complain about publicly *The negative review denounced the committee's work. *syn.: criticize, condemn, attack, discredit
TUESDAY	August 05	lament (v.)	to mourn a person's death; to complain about something as unsatisfactory *We lamented the end of our summer break. *syn.: regret; grieve
WEDNESDAY	August 06	reminisce (v.)	to indulge in remembering past events *Grandpa often reminisced about his youth. *syn.: recollect, muse
THURSDAY	August 07	nostalgic (adj.)	feeling warmly sentimental about the past; regret for something that is gone *When I heard my mother's favorite song on the radio, I grew nostalgic as I remembered the nights that she used to sing to me. *syn.: sentimental, wistful, homesick
FRIDAY	August 08	apprehensive (adj.)	worried; fearful that something bad or unpleasant will happen *With recent job cuts, Kate is apprehensive about losing her job. *syn.: anxious, concerned, stressed
MONDAY	August 11	concur (v.)	to agree *Local feelings or views do not necessarily concur with the press reports. *syn.: accord; consent; acquiesce
TUESDAY	August 12	flourish (v.)	grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way *Wild plants flourish on the banks of the lake. *syn.: proliferate; thrive; prosper

WEDNESDAY	August 13	astute (adj.)	having or showing an ability to accurately assess situations or people and this to one's advantage *He was an astute businessman and soon turned his new business into a profitable one. *syn.: clever, shrewd; perceptive
THURSDAY	August 14	ubiquitous (adj.)	present, appearing, or found everywhere *Because the police presence was ubiquitous at the parade, everyone felt safe. *syn.: everywhere, omnipresent, universal
FRIDAY	August 15	lucrative (adj.)	producing a great deal of profit; making large amounts of money *The sale of the property was very lucrative . *syn.: profitable
MONDAY	August 18	poignant (adj.)	deeply affecting; emotionally moving; evoking a keen sense of sadness or regret *The photograph awakened poignant memories of happy days with my brother. *syn.: touching; emotional
TUESDAY	August 19	refute (v.)	prove (a statement or theory) to be wrong; disprove *These claims have not been convincingly refuted . *syn.: deny; contradict; repudiate
WEDNESDAY	August 20	eclectic (adj.)	consisting of a diverse variety *Universities offer an eclectic mix of courses. *Her eclectic design style created an interesting room. *syn.: broad; varied; assorted
THURSDAY	August 21	mar (v.)	disfigure; to inflict damage *No wrinkles marred her face. *Violence marred a number of New Year's celebrations. *syn.: spoil
FRIDAY	August 22	terminate (v.)	to end; to end abruptly *The CEO terminated the lazy employee. *syn.: stop; end; arrest; foil
MONDAY	August 25	implacable (adj.)	incapable of being satisfied, calmed, or soothed *Even after being offered a free gift card, the angry customer remained implacable . *syn.: uncompromising, unyielding, unforgiving
TUESDAY	August 26	tenacious (adj.)	stubborn; holding tightly *The story of the headless horseman is a tenacious local legend. *The vines covering the side of the house were tenacious , making them difficult to remove. *syn.: persevering; persistent
WEDNESDAY	August 27	adversary (n.)	opponent; enemy *Batman finally defeated his old adversary , the Joker. *syn.: rival; nemesis; antagonist

THURSDAY	August 28	disdain (n.)	the feeling that someone or something is unworthy of one's consideration or respect *The arrogant shopkeeper viewed the ragged and dirty child with disdain . *syn.: contempt; derision; scorn
FRIDAY	August 29	eschew (v.)	to shun; to deliberately avoid; abstain from *Some vegetarians are also vegan, meaning that they eschew all food that comes from living animals. *syn.: renounce; forgo
MONDAY	September 01	XXXX	Labor Day Holiday
TUESDAY	September 02	reciprocate (v.)	to give in return; respond to (a gesture or action) by making a corresponding one *The favor was reciprocated . *syn.: repay
WEDNESDAY	September 03	harrowing (adj.)	greatly distressing; extremely unsettling or disturbing; provoking feelings of fear *His book tells of the harrowing experience of climbing Mt. Everest. *syn.: agonizing; excruciating; tortuous
THURSDAY	September 04	impudent (adj.)	marked by cocky boldness or disregard of others; casually rude; lacking modesty *The impudent guest was finally removed from the party. *syn.: impertinent; audacious; brazen; insolent
FRIDAY	September 05	hapless (adj.)	unlucky *After the storm, the hapless passengers were stranded at the airport for three days. *syn.: unfortunate; jinxed
MONDAY	September 08	bilk (v.)	to cheat, to defraud *There are many "get-rich-quick" schemes that bilk unsuspecting investors. *syn.: swindle; exploit; fleece
TUESDAY	September 09	myriad (adj.) myriad (n.)	extremely great in number *I will never be able to count the myriad blessings I have received. *syn.: countless; innumerable; unlimited a countless number *Seeing the myriad of city lights, I was reminded of the lights of Paris. *syn.: multitude; mass
WEDNESDAY	September 10	desiccated (adj.)	dried up, dehydrated *The withered, desiccated landscape appeared empty of any living thing. *syn.: deplete; shrivel; parch

THURSDAY	September 11	expurgate (v.)	to remove offensive or incorrect parts, usually of a book *The songwriter was told he must expurgate the offensive lyrics from his latest song if he wanted it to be published. *syn.: edit; purge; censor
FRIDAY	September 12	aspersion (n.)	a curse; an expression of ill-will; a disrespectful or scornfully abusive remark *Even though I am angry at you, I will not cast an aspersion upon your character. *syn.: vilification; defamation; denigration
MONDAY	September 15	daunting (adj.)	intimidating; causing one to lose courage *Janet is so shy that she finds it daunting to attend a party. *syn.: formidable; ominous; fearsome
TUESDAY	September 16	hardy (adj.)	robust; capable of surviving through adverse conditions *Trees in the northern woodlands are hardy withstanding cold winters and severe weather in the spring. *syn.: robust; sturdy
WEDNESDAY	September 17	forbearance (n.)	patience; restraint; toleration *Due to health issues the woman was granted a forbearance for the repayment of her loan. *syn.: endurance; fortitude; leniency
THURSDAY	September 18	vocation (n.)	the work in which someone is employed; profession especially in a religious capacity or in an area of service *Jan knew from an early age that her vocation would be in the medical field. *syn.: mission; niche; calling
FRIDAY	September 19	ephemeral (adj.)	short-lived; fleeting; lasting a very short time *The thunderstorm was ephemeral , starting suddenly and gone within minutes. *syn.: transient; evanescent
MONDAY	September 22	crescendo (n.)	a steady increase in intensity or volume *As the star receiver scored the touchdown, a roar rose in a crescendo from the crowd of football fans. *syn.: apex; climax; apogee
TUESDAY	September 23	inception (n.)	the starting point of existence *Since its inception in 1837, Tiffany's has become the standard in jewelry and fine goods. *syn.: genesis; nascent
WEDNESDAY	September 24	implore (v.)	to beg *In his letters, Edward implored his sister to visit. *syn.: plead; entreat

THURSDAY	September 25	audacious (adj.)	bold; openly showing a desire to take risks *She made an audacious decision to quit her job. *syn.: blatant; flagrant; conspicuous; brazen
FRIDAY	September 26	clandestine (adj.)	secretive and hidden; hard to see *While doing clandestine research, Betsy discovered the bookkeeper's stealing. *syn.: stealthy; surreptitious; furtive
MONDAY	September 27	vociferous (adj.)	loud; boisterous; crying out noisily *He is her most vociferous critic when remarking on her poor performance. *syn.: vehement; insistent; emphatic; clamorous
TUESDAY	September 28	implacable (adj.)	incapable of being satisfied, calmed, or soothed *Even after being offered a free gift card, the angry customer remained implacable . *syn.: uncompromising, unyielding, unforgiving
WEDNESDAY	October 01	restive (adj.)	restless; agitated *The citizens became restive in the weeks after the storm. *syn.: unruly; uncontrollable
THURSDAY	October 02	peruse (v.)	to read carefully *It is always advisable to peruse legal documents. *syn.: scrutinize; inspect
FRIDAY	October 03	imminent (adj.)	about to happen; likely to occur at any moment *We are awaiting their imminent arrival. *syn.: impending; forthcoming; looming
MONDAY - FRIDAY	October 06 – October 10	XXXX	FALL BREAK
MONDAY	October 13	empirical (adj.)	based on, concerned with, or verifiable by observation or experience rather than theory or pure logic. *This theory is grounded in empirical support. *syn.: data-driven; verifiable
TUESDAY	October 14	perennial (adj.)	lasting for a long time; enduring *His wholesale nursery focuses on perennial plants. *syn.: perpetual; eternal
WEDNESDAY	October 15	pernicious (adj.)	creating enormous harm, especially when done gradually *The pernicious weed has spread all through the flower bed. *syn.: detrimental; adverse
THURSDAY	October 16	divert (v.)	to turn or redirect something *We tried to divert the toddlers' attention to a quieter game. *syn.: deflect; avert; reroute

FRIDAY	October 17	emulate (v.)	to strive to equal or surpass a person or achievement; imitate *That is not a hairstyle I wish to emulate . *syn.: mimic; echo; parrot; simulate
MONDAY	October 20	inundate (v.)	to overwhelm or flood *The dean was inundated with angry phone calls from parents. *syn.: glut; saturate; deluge
TUESDAY	October 21	reconcile (v.)	to bring together *The two countries could not reconcile their differences over trade policy. *syn.: resolve
WEDNESDAY	October 22	pedestrian (adj.)	lacking wit and imagination; boring *The movie was average, and it followed a pedestrian plot. *syn.: prosaic; banal; conventional; trite
THURSDAY	October 23	acclaimed (adj.)	enthusiastically approved or applauded *The new museum exhibit is an acclaimed exhibition of indigenous art. *syn.: hailed, lauded, commended
FRIDAY	October 24	apathetic (adj.)	uninterested, bored, showing no emotion *There was an apathetic response to our request for volunteers. *syn.: indifferent, nonchalant, complacent, impassive
MONDAY	October 27	efficacious (adj.)	effective *Yoga is very efficacious at reducing stress. *syn.: effectual; potent; worthwhile
TUESDAY	October 28	verbose (adj.)	using an excessive number of words; wordy *We became bored by the speaker's verbose presentation. *syn.: loquacious; repetitious; talkative
WEDNESDAY	October 29	succinct (adj.)	concise; brief to the point *Everyone was happy with the politician's succinct speech. *syn.: terse; laconic; pithy
THURSDAY	October 30	ambiguity (n.)	open to more than one interpretation; inexactness *We can detect no ambiguity in this section of the protocol. *syn.: ambivalence; vagueness
FRIDAY	October 31	enmity (n.)	deep-seated, often mutual, hatred *Because both women wanted the same position, their friendship dissolved into enmity . *syn.: animosity; hostility
MONDAY	November 03	susceptible (adj.)	easily influenced *Tom was highly susceptible to scams offering "get-rich-quick" schemes. *syn.: impressionable; malleable; credulous
TUESDAY	November 04	prudent (adj.)	wise in handling practical matter; good judgment *It is not prudent to swim when rip tide warnings are posted. *syn.: circumspect; astute; expedient

WEDNESDAY	November 05	surreal (adj.)	having an oddly dreamlike quality; seeming unreal *Driving through the total darkness was a surreal experience. *syn.: uncanny; bizarre
THURSDAY	November 06	subterfuge (n.)	a strategy meant to deceive or trick; deceit used to achieve one's goal *Pinocchio's lies and subterfuge caused his nose to grow longer and longer. *syn.: intrigue; cunning; scheme
FRIDAY	November 07	oust (v.)	to eject from a position or place; to force out *The dictator was ousted by the rebels. *syn.: expel; evict; topple
MONDAY	November 10	fervor (n.)	intense feelings of passion *The patriotic fervor spread throughout the nation. *syn.: yearning; passion; ardor; zeal
TUESDAY	November 11	florid (adj.)	flushed with rosy color; very ornate or flowery *After running for two miles, the soldier's face was florid . *Jack's florid marriage proposal was full of hyperbole and rhyming words. *syn.: ruddy; flamboyant
WEDNESDAY	November 12	exoneration (n.)	the act of showing that someone is not guilty *Because he believed in his innocence, Michael fought for his exoneration . *syn.: vindication; acquittal
THURSDAY	November 13	acuity (n.)	sharpness of vision or perception *In order to qualify for the program, Luke had to take a mental acuity test. *syn.: acuteness; astuteness; discernment
FRIDAY	November 14	flippant (adj.)	showing disrespectful levity or casualness; not taking a situation or person in a serious manner *If you are flippant during your interview, you may not get the job. *syn.: frivolous; glib
MONDAY	November 17	arduous (adj.)	difficult and tiring *This dictionary represents decades of arduous work. *syn.: onerous; formidable; laborious
TUESDAY	November 18	ameliorate (v.)	to make or become better; improve *The priest wanted to ameliorate suffering in his parish by offering free food, job training, and school supplies. *syn.: mitigate; ease; alleviate; remediate; abate
WEDNESDAY	November 19	elocution (n.)	the art of public speaking; speaking in a dignified manner *The elocution of the actress was magnificent. *syn.: articulation; diction
THURSDAY	November 20	amorphous (adj.)	lacking definite form; shapeless *The painting was full of amorphous images, making it difficult to understand. *syn.: nebulous; formless

FRIDAY	November 21	impugn (v.)	to dispute validity; to attack as false or questionable *In an attempt to impugn her credibility, the team fabricated the evidence. *syn.: impeach; assail; traduce
MONDAY – FRIDAY	November 24 – November 28	XXXX	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
MONDAY	December 01	august (adj.)	esteemed; revered; impressive *We met with an august group of writers. *syn.: distinguished; venerable; prestigious
TUESDAY	December 02	appropriate (v.)	to set aside for a specific purpose. *Five million dollars has been appropriated for this research. *syn.: secure; acquire; allocate; earmark
WEDNESDAY	December 03	exemplary (adj.)	very good; serving as a model; worthy of imitation *As exemplary citizens, they participate in community events. *syn.: irreproachable; indisputable; pristine
THURSDAY	December 04	innate (adj.)	possessed at birth, possessing naturally rather than through experience *Charles has an innate ability to lead. *syn.: intuitive; inherent; intrinsic
FRIDAY	December 05	malodorous (adj.)	having a bad odor *A malodorous smell filled the room, causing people to leave. *syn.: foul
MONDAY	December 08	pragmatic (adj.)	dealing with things in a sensible and realistic way *Before spending any money on the research, he tried to make a very pragmatic prediction of the outcome. *syn.: feasible; sound; cogent
TUESDAY	December 09	acumen (n.)	quickness, accuracy, and keenness of judgment; insight *John's business acumen , along with his computer skills, made him a good candidate for the job. *syn.: awareness; shrewdness; intuition; ingenuity
WEDNESDAY	December 10	eminent (adj.)	of high rank, station, or quality; noteworthy *Everyone was looking forward to taking a class with such an eminent professor. *syn.: prominent; renowned; esteemed
THURSDAY	December 11	garrulous (adj.)	using excessive and often trivial or rambling talk; wordy; tiresomely talkative *Desperate for peace and quiet, Amanda told the garrulous man seated next to her to "Shut up!" *syn.: loquacious; effusive; bombastic

FRIDAY	December 12	amicable (adj.)	showing goodwill, especially in an agreement; neighborly *After much debate, they came to an amicable conclusion. *syn.: friendly; cordial; harmonious; congenial
MONDAY	December 15	confluence (n.)	the flowing together of two or more things, such as streams, ideas, etc. *The confluence of warm and cold temperatures is going to create a powerful storm. *syn.: convergence; junction
TUESDAY	December 16	effervescent (adj.)	to emit small bubbles; bubbly; high spirits or excitement *Her effervescent personality was a needed addition to the cast. *syn.: vivacious; ebullient; scintillating
WEDNESDAY	December 17	ruminate (v.)	to contemplate; reflect *At graduation, many students ruminated on the next steps in their lives. *syn.: meditate; ponder; deliberate
THURSDAY	December 18	fabricate (v.)	to make up; invent *The novelist was able to fabricate a story based on ideas submitted by her fans. *syn.: contrive; construct; compose
FRIDAY	December 19	esoteric (adj.)	understood by only a select few *Reading the computer manual is difficult because of its esoteric vocabulary. *syn.: obscure; arcane; difficult to understand



Merry Christmas

