

Word of the Day
Secondary Schools
2025-2026
2nd semester

DAY	DATE	WORD	DEFINITION
TUESDAY	January 06	auspicious (adj.)	showing or suggesting that future success is likely; favorable *He made an auspicious debut in the school play. *syn.: worthwhile; encouraging; optimistic; propitious
WEDNESDAY	January 07	euphoria (n.)	a feeling of great happiness or excitement * Michigan State fans were thrilled with their win against Michigan, but that euphoria could turn to concern as a strong showing by the Spartans could entice other schools to make a serious run at MSU coach Mel Tucker. *syn.: ecstasy; exhilaration; elation; rapture.
THURSDAY	January 08	anomaly (n.)	something that deviates from the general or common order; different; abnormal *With his quiet nature, he was an anomaly in his exuberant family. *syn.: aberration, exception, deviation
FRIDAY	January 09	insubstantial (adj.)	lacking material form or substance *Their contribution to the scholarship fund was insubstantial . *syn.: flimsy; filmy
MONDAY	January 12	bantering (adj.)	cleverly amusing in tone; to speak or address in a clever or teasing manner *He's much better at comedy, and the humorous banter between him and his costars has a nice zing to it. *syn.: jest, quip
TUESDAY	January 13	retrospective (adj.)	concerned with or related to the past *These prose works touch on retrospective topics from the twentieth century. *syn.: reflective, historical
WEDNESDAY	January 14	endearment (n.)	a word or act of showing affection *What endearment do you call your pet? *syn.: attachment, fondness
THURSDAY	January 15	iota (n.)	a tiny or scarcely detectable amount *There's not an iota of doubt about the defendant's guilt. *syn.: modicum, minute
FRIDAY	January 16	rendezvous (n.)	a meeting planned at a certain time and place; a secret meeting *They failed to make the agreed rendezvous at the headquarters. *syn.: gathering, retreat, tryst
MONDAY	January 19	XXXX	MLK Holiday

TUESDAY	January 20	bevy (n.)	a flock of birds; a large gathering or collection *The bevy of pass interference penalties against the home team showed their lack of focus on this game. *syn.: assembly, crowd
WEDNESDAY	January 21	acme (n.)	the highest point *Beating last year's state champ was the acme of their basketball season. *syn.: apex, apogee, crest, pinnacle, summit, zenith
THURSDAY	January 22	escapade (n.)	any carefree episode; usually an adventurous action that runs counter to approved or conventional conduct *As a teenager, he embarked on a number of ill-advised escapades . *syn.: antic, caper
FRIDAY	January 23	assuage (v.)	to ease, lessen pain or intensity *I did what little I could to assuage my guilt. *syn.: alleviate, mitigate, mollify, allay
MONDAY	January 26	epic (adj.)	very imposing or impressive; surpassing the ordinary *The football game was an epic battle between two great teams. *syn.: imposing, majestic, monumental
TUESDAY	January 27	opulent (adj.)	luxurious, sleek, affluent *He lives in an opulent mansion filled with priceless art and antiques. *syn.: prosperous, profuse, lavish, palatial
WEDNESDAY	January 28	elicit (v.)	to draw out by discussion or questioning *Her enthusiastic remarks will elicit cheers from the crowd. *syn.: evoke
THURSDAY	January 29	disparity (n.)	a noticeable and usually significant difference *The disparity between the dwarf's height and the giant's height is obvious. *syn.: inequality, discrepancy, gap
FRIDAY	January 30	optimal (adj.)	best; most effective; most desirable or satisfactory *He keeps his engine tuned for optimal performance. *syn.: superlative, unsurpassed
MONDAY	February 02	erroneous (adj.)	containing an error; incorrect *Blaine received erroneous information and was the only one wearing a costume. *syn.: mistaken, inaccurate
TUESDAY	February 03	ardent (adj.)	having intense or passionate feeling *Mike is such an ardent fan; he has a copy of every song the Beatles ever recorded. *syn.: enthusiastic, committed, fervent
WEDNESDAY	February 04	scathing (adj.)	bitterly severe; harshly critical *The cruel girls shouted scathing insults at each other. *syn.: caustic, cutting, acerbic
THURSDAY	February 05	fabricate (v.)	to create or make something up; to lie *Mark has a list of excuses he fabricated to explain late homework. *syn.: create; prevaricate; equivocate; palter

FRIDAY	February 06	impecunious (adj.)	having little or no money *After buying his car, Stewart was so impecunious he couldn't afford to drive it. *syn.: poor, penniless, impoverished, indigent, penurious, insolvent
MONDAY	February 09	languid (adj.)	lacking energy or vitality; sluggish in character or disposition; lacking force or quickness of movement *On hot days, Carrie likes to take languid strolls on the beach, *syn.: lethargic, enervated, indolent, listless
TUESDAY	February 10	erudite (adj.)	learned or scholarly *The erudite professor sometimes had trouble speaking so that others could understand him. *syn.: educated, highbrow
WEDNESDAY	February 11	malevolent (adj.)	showing ill will; evil; spiteful *There was a malevolent force in the haunted house. *syn.: malicious, vicious, virulent
THURSDAY	February 12	nonchalant (adj.)	coolly unconcerned; not worried about anything *Melanie tried to be nonchalant about winning the scholarship, but we knew she was excited. *syn.: casual, indifferent, lackadaisical
FRIDAY	February 13	precarious (adj.)	unsure; not safe, steady, or strong; dependent on chance circumstances, unknown conditions, or uncertain developments *Dolly was in a precarious position, with two of the five votes already against her. *syn.: unstable, perilous, risky
MONDAY	February 16	XXXX	PRESIDENTS' DAY
TUESDAY	February 17	renowned (adj.)	celebrated, famous, well-known *That restaurant is renowned for its decadent desserts. *syn.: acclaimed, distinguished, eminent, esteemed
WEDNESDAY	February 18	havoc (n.)	great destruction or devastation; confusion and disorder *The tornado wreaked havoc on the town, leaving rubble where houses once stood. *syn.: ruin, chaos, disarray
THURSDAY	February 19	myriad (n.)	a great number of people or things *I don't need to explain the myriad of reasons not to jump out of a moving car. *syn.: plethora, profusion, multitude
FRIDAY	February 20	repudiate (v.)	to reject as false or unjust; to refuse to acknowledge or pay *Olivia's consistent high scores repudiate the idea that girls aren't good at math. *syn.: deny, renounce, refute
MONDAY	February 23	facetious (adj.)	not meant seriously or literally; meant to be funny but regarded as annoying, silly, or not proper *I was being facetious when I said I loved your acid-wash jeans. *syn.: comic; sarcastic; flippant
TUESDAY	February 24	slovenly (adj.)	untidy or unclean *Amanda's slovenly appearance keeps her from making a good impression on future employers. *syn.: sloppy, unkempt, messy

WEDNESDAY	February 25	flippant (adj.)	frivolously disrespectful; lacking proper respect or seriousness *Sandy's flippant comments covered up her disappointment in losing her race. *syn.: glib, irreverent
THURSDAY	February 26	tractable (adj.)	easily managed or controlled *The tractable group of kids was talked into staying out after curfew. *syn.: docile, amenable, compliant
FRIDAY	February 27	transient (adj.)	not lasting or permanent *The manager rents his apartments month-to-month because many of his tenants are transient . *syn.: transitory, ephemeral, evanescent
MONDAY	March 02	estrangement (n.)	state of being separated or kept at a distance *His estrangement from his family made Lance realize how much he missed them all. *syn.: alienation, divorce
TUESDAY	March 03	uniformity (adj.)	the state of being the same or homogenous *School dress codes are meant to encourage uniformity . *syn.: similarity, equality
WEDNESDAY	March 04	futile (adj.)	incapable of producing results; pointless or useless *Callie made a futile attempt to eat three entire pizzas by herself. *syn.: ineffective; frivolous, unsuccessful, vain
THURSDAY	March 05	veiled (adj.)	disguised; concealing; hidden; covered or concealed as if by a veil *Andrea asked to borrow my phone in a veiled attempt to get Seth's number. *syn.: shrouded, obscured
FRIDAY	March 06	nostalgia (n.)	a longing for the past; sentimental yearning for some aspect of the past *Hallmark Christmas movies create a feeling of nostalgia . *syn.: wistfulness, sentimentality, reminiscence
MONDAY - FRIDAY	March 09-March 13	XXXX	SPRING BREAK
MONDAY	March 16	verbose (adj.)	having or using too many words; wordy *I got lost in his verbose explanation and never heard its conclusion. *syn.: garrulous, loquacious
TUESDAY	March 17	austere (adj.)	severe in manner or appearance *Ms. Kenney's austere nature made her students fearful. *syn.: uncompromising, strict
WEDNESDAY	March 18	fallacy (n.)	a deceptive or false notion or idea *It's a fallacy that butter heals a burn. *syn.: misconception; delusion; illusion
THURSDAY	March 19	lassitude (n.)	weariness of body or mind *After our long day, a feeling of lassitude overcame us, so we napped instead of hiked. *syn.: listlessness, languor
FRIDAY	March 20	vigilant (adj.)	carefully observant or attentive; watching for danger *They were vigilant about protecting their children. *syn.: heedful; circumspect

MONDAY	March 23	copious (adj.)	large in quantity or number *June took copious notes in preparation for the test. *syn.: plentiful, abundant, profuse, ample
TUESDAY	March 24	evasive (adj.)	intentionally vague or ambiguous *You can always tell when Tony is lying; his answers become evasive and shifty. *syn.: equivocal; indefinite
WEDNESDAY	March 25	clandestine (adj.)	done with secrecy or concealment *The cat burglar's clandestine crimes were virtually unsolvable. *syn.: covert, surreptitious, stealthy, furtive.
THURSDAY	March 26	gregarious (adj.)	enjoying the company of others *Billy's gregarious personality makes him the favorite at any party. *syn.: sociable; outgoing; convivial
FRIDAY	March 27	spurious (adj.)	of a deceitful nature or quality *Thomas's spurious gossip ended his friendship with Andrew. *syn.: fake, false, specious
MONDAY	March 30	laud (v.)	to praise *Fans laud great athletes by carrying them around on their shoulders. *syn.: extol
TUESDAY	March 31	convoluted (adj.)	intricately involved *Marcy's convoluted explanation of cell reproduction left me even more confused. *syn.: complex, complicated
WEDNESDAY	April 01	gullible (adj.)	easily deceived or cheated *Jack is so gullible ; we convinced him he could fly if he jumped off the roof. *syn.: trusting, naïve, unwary
THURSDAY	April 02	iconoclastic (adj.)	pertaining to image breaking or an attack on beliefs *The church youth group was offended by the iconoclastic pamphlet. *syn.: irreligious, nonconforming, radical
FRIDAY & MONDAY	April 03 & April 06	XXXX	EASTER BREAK
TUESDAY	April 07	mandate (n.)	a command or authorization to act in a certain way; an official order to do something *The cell phone company issued a mandate that any minutes not used would be lost. *syn.: directive
WEDNESDAY	April 08	demeanor (n.)	conduct, behavior *Walt's calm demeanor puts everyone at ease. *syn.: attitude, poise, deportment
THURSDAY	April 09	fervent (adj.)	having or showing intensity of spirit or feeling *Joan has a fervent hope that her ACT score will lead to a scholarship for college. *syn.: zealous, ardent, passionate, vehement, torrid
FRIDAY	April 10	ebullient (adj.)	overflowing with excitement *The ebullient crowd went crazy when John took the stage. *syn.: enthusiastic, cheerful

MONDAY	April 13	impede (v.)	to stop or hinder progress; to interfere with *The clown's gigantic feet impede his progress when he tries to run. *syn.: encumber, obstruct, hamper, inhibit
TUESDAY	April 14	tentative (adj.)	not definite or positive; uncertain or hesitant; subject to change *Pat's tentative handshake makes him seem unsure. *syn.: timid, irresolute, conditional
WEDNESDAY	April 15	dubious (adj.)	doubtful *Rachel is dubious about the addition of a new judge to the singing competition. *syn.: uncertain, suspicious
THURSDAY	April 16	astute (adj.)	having practical intelligence *The detective's astute observations helped solve the crime. *syn.: ingenious, shrewd
FRIDAY	April 17	benign (adj.)	having a kind disposition *The old man's benign manner was masked by his creepy appearance. *syn.: gracious, caring
MONDAY	April 20	impudent (adj.)	having or showing offensive boldness; disrespectful; rude *Randy's impudent comments got him sent to his room without dinner. *syn.: impertinent, audacious, brash, insolent, brazen
TUESDAY	April 21	acquiesce (v.)	to submit without protest *Aaron rarely stands up to his wife; he acquiesces to her every whim. *syn.: assent, agree
WEDNESDAY	April 22	unparalleled (adj.)	unequaled or unmatched *Phillip's skill on the tightrope is unparalleled by other performers. *syn.: matchless, peerless, unsurpassed
THURSDAY	April 23	enigmatic (adj.)	mysterious or perplexing *Layla was at once popular and enigmatic ; no one knew much about her. *syn.: unknowable, puzzling
FRIDAY	April 24	dilatory (adj.)	tending to delay or procrastinate * Dilatory students will be given an office referral. *syn.: dallying, delaying, tardy
MONDAY	April 27	flamboyant (adj.)	strikingly bold or brilliant; elaborate or colorful display or behavior *Elvis's flamboyant jumpsuits are as famous as his music. *syn.: flashy, showy, conspicuous, dramatic, ostentatious
TUESDAY	April 28	banal (adj.)	lacking originality *Watching scary movies on Halloween is too banal ; let's hang out at the graveyard. *syn.: unoriginal, ordinary, prosaic, vapid, trite, insipid, tedious
WEDNESDAY	April 29	idiosyncratic (adj.)	belonging to one's character or temperament; an individualizing characteristic or quality *Her use of "like" in every sentence was just one of her idiosyncratic speech habits. *syn.: peculiar, quirky, eccentric

THURSDAY	April 30	squander (v.)	to spend or use wastefully; to lose through negligence or inaction *Danny squanders every penny he earns and so has no retirement savings. *syn.: waste, misuse, dissipate, “fritter away”
FRIDAY	May 01	daunting (adj.)	discouraging through fear; seemingly impossible *Climbing Mt. Everest is a daunting task. *syn.: intimidating, fazing, dismaying, stressful, ominous, formidable, harrowing, dire
MONDAY	May 04	terse (adj.)	abruptly concise; using few words *Dad’s terse response made it clear he wasn’t going to listen to my excuses. *syn.: curt, brusque, blunt, succinct, pithy, laconic
TUESDAY	May 05	diffident (adj.)	lacking self-confidence *Pam’s diffident demeanor is characterized by her shuffling walk and lack of eye contact. *syn.: hesitant, unconfident, timorous, abashed
WEDNESDAY	May 06	ambivalent (adj.)	relating to uncertainty, fluctuation, or mixed feelings *Gretchen was ambivalent about going to the beach on a windy day. *syn.: unsure, indecisive, equivocal, irresolute.
THURSDAY	May 07	evoke (v.)	to call up or produce *Disco music evokes memories of polyester leisure suits. *syn.: elicit; suggest, summon, kindle, conjure
FRIDAY	May 08	cacophony (n.)	harsh, loud discordant sounds *The music recital was more cacophony than concert. *syn.: dissonance, discord
MONDAY	May 11	prodigious (adj.)	extraordinary in size, amount, or degree *Nate’s prodigious backpack rose well over his head when he put it on. *syn.: epic, immense, mammoth, enormous, colossal, herculean
TUESDAY	May 12	capricious (adj.)	subject to or led by whim *Candy’s capricious behavior keeps even her best friend guessing. *syn.: erratic, whimsical, changeable
WEDNESDAY	May 13	impetuous (adj.)	having sudden or rash action; impulsive *Jane made an impetuous decision to quit soccer and join the debate team. *syn.: spontaneous
THURSDAY	May 14	cavalier (adj.)	showing arrogant disregard *Lisa’s cavalier attitude about the group project frustrated her classmates. *syn.: dismissive, disdainful, offhand
FRIDAY	May 15	strident (adj.)	having a harsh, grating sound *Minnie’s strident voice could be heard from across the street. *syn.: shrill, discordant
MONDAY	May 18	impugn (v.)	to challenge as false; to question the validity or truthfulness of a statement *To win the popularity contest, Lisa had to impugn her opponent’s charitable deeds. *syn.: denounce, accuse, assail
TUESDAY	May 19	venerable (adj.)	demanding respect due to dignity or age *Many cultures see the elderly as wise and venerable . *syn.: revered, honorable, admirable, august

WEDNESDAY	May 20	gaffe (n.)	a social blunder; a noticeable mistake *Anita made the embarrassing gaffe of publicly mispronouncing the director's name. *syn.: faux pas, error
THURSDAY	May 21	spurious (adj.)	not genuine, authentic, or true *Joe's spurious hundred-dollar bill didn't fool the bank teller. *syn.: false, fake, bogus
FRIDAY	May 22	ardent (adj.)	having intense or passionate feeling *Mike is such an ardent fan; he has a copy of every song the Beatles ever recorded. *syn.: enthusiastic, committed, fervent

END of Semester 2

HAPPY SUMMER!!

