

Level G – Vocabulary Unit 1

acquisitive	(adj.) eager to gain possessions or ideas	The greedy, acquisitive old man tried to buy every piece of art he could get his hands on.
arrogate	(v.) to take or claim without right	The President used fear to arrogate to himself the power that rightfully belongs to Congress.
banal	(adj.) lacking originality and freshness	I can't stand to listen to the banal dialogue in that horrible movie.
belabor	(v.) explain or discuss more than necessary	The teacher seems always to belabor the lesson. Doesn't he know we get it the first time.
carping	(adj., n., v.) complaining	Students are always carping about the food in the cafeteria. Nothing makes them happy.
coherent	(adj.) meaningful, logical	We knew Mark didn't read the book because he couldn't speak in coherent sentences when trying to discuss it.
congeal	(v.) harden, thicken	The gravy looks nasty in the fridge because all of the fat has congealed on the top.
emulate	(v.) to imitate , with hopes to equal or to outdo	Parents are worried that their children will try to emulate the dangerous stunts they see on television.
encomium	(n.) expression of praise	Her story about her mother was truly an encomium to all mothers.
eschew	(v.) avoid	The students eschew studying vocabulary because it bores them.
germane	(adj.) relevant	Mary is having a difficult time figuring out how Algebra is germane to her life.
insatiable	(adj.) impossible to satisfy	The insatiable child continued to eat until there was absolutely no food left.
intransigent	(adj.) stubborn	Unemployment seems to be an intransigent problem that is taking years to fix.
invidious	(adj.) hateful	You need to avoid invidious stereotypes and treat everyone as their own person.
largesse	(n.) generous gift or donation	He was able to win the election with the help of largesse from several extremely wealthy people.
reconnaissance	(n.) inspection of an area, mostly to gather military information	Task Force 373 was to conduct reconnaissance and identify individuals who are part of Al Qaeda.
substantiate	(v.) support with evidence	There is no evidence that substantiates any of the claims that David stole money from his employer.
taciturn	(adj.) not talkative	It is ironic that he publishes a book a year, but in interviews he is so taciturn that he barely answers any of the questions.
temporize	(v.) delay, stall	The child continued to ask her mother questions to temporize because she did not want to go to bed.
tenable	(adj.) able to be defended	Denying healthcare to someone who is sick is not tenable in a country like the United States.