

## Level G – Vocabulary Unit 2

<b>accost</b>	(v.) to approach and speak to someone with a demand or a request	The politician was <b>accosted</b> by the angry mob who demanded that there be a tax break.
<b>animadversion</b>	(n.) harsh criticism	That teacher’s lectures are filled with <b>animadversions</b> of all the military actions of the U.S for the past 50 years.
<b>avid</b>	(adj.) enthusiastic	Judy does well in her English class because she is an <b>avid</b> reader.
<b>brackish</b>	(adj.) <b>slightly salty</b> water; unpleasant to drink; mixture of sea water and fresh water	The oil has made its way to Lake Pontchartrain, a <b>brackish</b> body of water that is technically an estuary.
<b>celerity</b>	(n.) speed	I am impressed with the <b>celerity</b> with which they got married. They met just two months ago.
<b>devious</b>	(adj.) misleading, tricky; not honest	The <b>devious</b> governor of Illinois tried to use his office to make himself rich rather than help the people of the state.
<b>gambit</b>	(n.) An opening move or remark where one gives up something small with the hopes of gaining an upper hand	The president talking to Iran is a high stakes diplomatic <b>gambit</b> .
<b>halcyon</b>	(adj.) calm and peaceful	When life gets really hectic, I like to think back on the <b>halcyon</b> days of my youth when I was able to lie around the pool all summer.
<b>histrionic</b>	(adj.) excessively dramatic or emotional	The problem with many television shows is the <b>histrionic</b> performances from some of the actors.
<b>incendiary</b>	(adj.) causing fires or conflict	By their count, his bad temper and <b>incendiary</b> tongue has gotten him kicked out of school 5 times.
<b>maelstrom</b>	(n.) 1. large and violent whirlpool; 2. any violent or disorderly situation; chaos	John’s life was one big <b>maelstrom</b> once his wife found out that he was cheating on her. Once everything calmed down, he realized he had nothing.
<b>myopic</b>	(adj.) shortsighted	Merely repaving the road is <b>myopic</b> since almost anyone can see we need to redesign the roads in a few years.
<b>overt</b>	(adj.) not secret	It is difficult for us today to realize how <b>overt</b> the racism was 50 years ago when certain races were actually prohibited from participating in everything equally.
<b>pejorative</b>	(adj.) insulting	Most people find the word <i>retarded</i> to be <b>pejorative</b> .
<b>propriety</b>	(n.) correct or appropriate behavior	The students ignored <b>propriety</b> when they chose to plagiarize their final papers.
<b>sacrilege</b>	(n.) disrespectful treatment of something regarded as sacred	Many people in the congregation found the pastor’s speech about how god is a woman to be <b>sacrilege</b> .
<b>summarily</b>	(adv.) immediately	Once they found out he was stealing money from the registered, they <b>summarily</b> fired him.
<b>suppliant</b>	(adj.) begging; (n.) beggar	Kyrgyzstan is no stranger to the role of a <b>suppliant</b> . For the past twenty years they have depended on donors for their survival.
<b>talisman</b>	(n.) any object thought to have magical or protective powers	The tribe leader said everything will work out well as he rubbed the tiger’s claw that hung around his neck, a <b>talisman</b> that supposedly has the power to end conflicts.
<b>undulate</b>	(v.) make something move in a wavelike motion	The critic undulated in his opinion of the movie. At one moment he loved the film and the next he hated the film.