

Level G – Vocabulary Unit 9

acclamation	(n.) a shout of enthusiastic approval by many people	The acclamation of the crowd should drown out anyone's doubt about his approval rating.
bucolic	(adj.) relating to rural life; rural	These paintings remind me of my bucolic summers of my teenage years spent on my cousin's farm.
calumniate	(v.) make hurtful untrue comments or charges about	Rather than talk his own positives, he chose to calumniate his opponent in the mayoral race.
chary	(adj.) careful ; afraid of risks	Buyers are chary and not willing to spend until they know that their jobs are secure.
collusion	(n.) secret agreement for an illegal or deceitful purpose	The CEO has been accused of collusion ; it is alleged that he and his counterpart at the rival business were keeping prices low to run a third company out of business.
dilettante	(n.) amateur ; someone who is interested in something such as art or music but does not know very much about it	He said he was an expert 18 th century painting, but it turns out he is nothing but a dilettante .
imperturbable	(adj.) not easily upset	Dan remained imperturbable even as his girlfriend broke everything he owns.
increment	(n.) amount of increase	They increased my salary in small increments over the first three years.
mandate	(n.) an order; command	The boss issued a mandate that everyone must work Saturdays.
paltry	(adj.) ridiculously small	I can barely live on my paltry salary.
paroxysm	(n.) sudden outburst	The student doesn't just sneeze once, she goes into a paroxysm of sneezes.
pedantry	(n.) overly ambitious display of knowledge; excessive attention to details or rules	The students are turned off by this teacher's pedantry ; he seems to want to correct everyone's grammar at all times.
peregrination	(n.) traveling or wandering around, esp. by foot	This book is about this one man's peregrination around the United States.
redolent	(adj.) 1. smelling ; 2. reminding you of something	His sweater was redolent with the greasy food odors from the restaurant.
refulgent	(adj.) shining brightly	The refulgent moon lit our way through the forest.
shibboleth	(n.) a word used to test to membership to a certain group; slogan; catchword	The use of the word <i>whatever</i> is a shibboleth that lets the listener know that the person speaking is probably a teenager.
tyro	(n.) beginner	The student teacher is only a tyro and is still learning how best to instruct the students.
unremitting	(adj.) never stopping	This teacher is known for his unremitting efforts to improve his students' vocabulary.
vacillate	(v.) sway back and forth (often in decisions)	The teacher keeps vacillating on whether the paper will be due this week or next week.
vituperative	(adj.) containing harsh, angry, abusive criticism	After the governor cut taxes he received a flood of vituperative emails.