Mr. Valentine's 12th Grade English - Vocabulary List 8 - Honors

*Standard classes should only study the bolded words. Honors classes should study all twenty words.*

1. Adamant - (Noun) - very hard native crystalline carbon valued as a gem. (Adjective) - Being hard or stubborn, like said material.

Example - The door on the space station was so impenetrable that the spacemen joked it must be made of both adamant and mithril.

Synonyms - Hard, stubborn, unmoveable. Antonyms - Flexible, malleable, soft.

2. Asunder - (Adjective) - In separate parts or pieces.

Example - The lightning split the tree asunder.

Synonyms - Split, rend, shatter. Antonyms - Mend, heal, join, fix.

3. Beguile - (Verb) - To attract or cause to be enamored by.

Example - One of Puck's favorite jokes is to change his voice to that of a female horse and beguile male horses into thinking there truly is a female horse around.

Synonyms - Attract, deceive, trick. Antonyms - Refuse, repulse, be honest.

4. Chide - (Verb) - To censure or scold severely or angrily.

Example - Joe-Bob chided Gilbert for throwing his empty soda can on the floor.

Synonyms - Censure, scold, criticize. Antonyms - Praise, commend, compliment.

5. Defile - (Verb) - To spot, stain, or pollute.

Example - The mighty warrior felt that since the small beast was so beneath his abilities, he would lessen and defile himself by using a sword instead of his bare hands.

Synonym - Besmirch, debase, degrade. Antonyms - Elevate, honor, praise.

6. Derision - (Noun) - The act of treating with contempt.

Example - Helena cannot believe her lover's compliments, thinking they are actually insults and derision.

Synonyms - Insults, offenses, scorn, mockery. Antonyms - Praises, compliments, truths, sincerity.

7. Disparage - (Verb) - To express a negative opinion of.

Example - The viewers disparaged the poorly-made movie for having an incoherent plot, bad acting, and poorly-written lines.

Synonyms - Belittle, scorn, insult, criticize. Antonyms - Admire, honor, praise, approve.

8. Dissemble - (Verb) - To give false or misleading appearance to; conceal the truth or real nature of.

Example - The wacky mirror in the carnival fun-house distorted and dissembled anyone who looked at it.

Synonyms - Conceal, counterfeit, mask, falsify. Antonyms - Expose, reveal, tell truth.

9. Enthrall - (Verb) - To hold spellbound, captivate, or charm.

Example - The performer's grace, skill, and virtuousity enthrall her audiences.

Synonyms - Charm, captivate, enchant. Antonyms - Repulse, repell, push away.

10. Entice - (Verb) - To lead on by way of exciting hope or desire; allure; excite.

Example - Many settlers were enticed westward by dreams of gold.

Synonyms - Excite, allure, attract. Antonyms - Repel, repulse, disgust.

11. Fray - (Noun) - A fight, battle, or skirmish.

Example - Some warriors leapt right into the fray, while others trembled and ran.

Synonyms - Fight, battle, skirmish. Antonyms - Calm, peace, quiet.

12. Harbinger - (Noun) - a person who goes ahead and makes known the approach of another; a herald.

Example - Smoke is often a harbinger of fire.

Synonyms - Herald, sign, signal, forerunner. Antonyms - N/A

13. Impeach - (Verb) - To accuse of misconduct; to challenge the credibility of; to call into question or cast doubt upon.

Example - The trash, slime, and dirty dishes all over the house impeached Joe-Bob's earlier claims that he kept a clean house.

Synonyms - Accuse, criticize, impugn, question. Antonyms - Absolve, praise, approve, commend.

14. Knavish - (Adjective) - Untrustworthy or dishonest, waggish, roguish, mischievous.

Example - The knavish imp pulled pranks on all the men and women of the village.

Synonyms - Impish, mischievous, dishonest. Antonyms - Honest, noble, honorable.

15. Officious - (Adjective) - Objectionably aggressive in offering one's unrequested or unwanted services, help, or advice.

16. Progeny - (Noun) - A descendant or offspring, as a child, plant, or animal.

17. Purge - (Verb) - To rid of whatever is impure or undesirable; cleanse; purify.

18. Recreant - (Adjective) - Cowardly or craven; unfaithful, disloyal, or traitorous.

19. Surfeit - (Noun) - Excess; an excessive amount; overindulgence.

20. Wrath - (Noun) - Strong, stern, or fierce anger. (Adjective) - Having or showing said anger.