

Abate

/ə'beɪt/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | To lessen in intensity, force, or amount |
| Example | The storm began to abate after several hours. |
| Sentence | Her anger slowly abated when she heard the full story. |
| Mnemonic | Think “A-bait” = calming down the storm of emotions |
| Synonyms | Diminish, Lessen |
| Antonyms | Intensify, Amplify |

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Abbreviate

/ə'brɪːvi.ert/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | To shorten a word or phrase |
| Example | ‘Govt.’ is used to abbreviate ‘government’. |
| Sentence | Always abbreviate months like January to Jan in notes. |
| Mnemonic | Abbreviate = "A brief version" |
| Synonyms | Shorten, Condense |
| Antonyms | Expand, Lengthen |

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Aberrant

/'æb.ər.ənt/

Adjective

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | Deviating from the normal or expected |
| Example | His aberrant behavior shocked his teachers. |
| Sentence | The results were aberrant and required further analysis. |
| Mnemonic | Aberrant = “A bear-ant” = clearly not normal |
| Synonyms | Abnormal, Deviant |
| Antonyms | Normal, Typical |

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Aberration

/,æb.ə'reɪ.jən/

Noun

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Meaning A departure from what is typical or expected

Example A cold July day is an aberration.

Sentence Her kind reaction was an aberration from her usual temper.

Mnemonic Aberration = “A bear at a station” = not normal

Synonyms Anomaly, Irregularity

Antonyms Regularity, Norm

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Abet

/ə'bet/

Verb

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Meaning

To assist or encourage someone in wrongdoing

Example

He was arrested for abetting the robbery.

Sentence

Hiding evidence means you abet the criminal.

Mnemonic

Abet = “A buddy in crime”

Synonyms

Assist, Encourage

Antonyms

Hinder, Deter

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Abeyance

/ə'beɪ.əns/

Noun

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | A state of temporary disuse or suspension |
| Example | The case was held in abeyance until further notice. |
| Sentence | Legal proceedings were kept in abeyance until the new evidence was examined. |
| Mnemonic | Think of 'a bay' – something parked and on hold |
| Synonyms | Suspension, Postponement |
| Antonyms | Continuation, Action |

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Abhor

/əb'hɔ:r/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Meaning | To hate or detest intensely |
| Example | She abhors cruelty to animals. |
| Sentence | Many people abhor violence in any form. |
| Mnemonic | Abhor' sounds like 'a horror' — you hate what horrifies you |
| Synonyms | Detest, Loathe |
| Antonyms | Admire, Love |

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Abject

/'æb.dʒekt/

Adjective

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Meaning Extremely bad, unpleasant, and degrading

Example They lived in abject poverty.

Sentence His apology was an abject display of remorse.

Mnemonic 'Abject' sounds like 'object' – being treated like an object

Synonyms Wretched, Miserable

Antonyms Proud, Noble

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Abjure

/æb'dʒʊər/

Verb

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Meaning To solemnly renounce a belief, cause, or claim

Example He abjured his citizenship to live abroad permanently.

Sentence The monk abjured worldly pleasures.

Mnemonic Abjure' sounds like 'injure' — you give up something to avoid injury to beliefs

Synonyms Renounce, Forswear

Antonyms Embrace, Accept

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Ablution

/ə'bluːʃən/

Noun

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Meaning

The act of washing oneself, often for ritual purposes

Example

He performed his morning ablutions before prayer.

Sentence

Daily ablutions are part of religious discipline.

Mnemonic

Think 'a blue ocean' — used for washing

Synonyms

Washing, Cleansing

Antonyms

Pollution, Contamination

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Ablutions

/ə'bluːʃənz/

Noun

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Meaning

The act of washing oneself (plural of ablution)

Example

He performed his ablutions before the morning prayer.

Sentence

Monks performed their morning ablutions near the river.

Mnemonic

Sounds like “a blue ocean” – think of cleansing water

Synonyms

Washing, Purification

Antonyms

Defilement, Pollution

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Abnegate

/'æb.nɪ.gert/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | To renounce or reject something desirable or valuable |
| Example | He abnegated all comforts to follow a spiritual path. |
| Sentence | She chose to abnegate luxury for a life of simplicity. |
| Mnemonic | “Negate” yourself — to give up willingly |
| Synonyms | Renounce, Reject |
| Antonyms | Accept, Indulge |

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Abnegation

/,æb.nɪ'geɪ.jən/

Noun

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | The act of self-denial or renouncing something |
| Example | Monks practice abnegation as a spiritual discipline. |
| Sentence | His abnegation of fame was admirable. |
| Mnemonic | Related to “abnegate” – the noun form |
| Synonyms | Denial, Self-sacrifice |
| Antonyms | Acceptance, Self-indulgence |

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Abrogate

/'æb.rə.gert/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Meaning | To cancel, abolish, or repeal by authoritative action |
| Example | The treaty was abrogated by mutual consent. |
| Sentence | They moved to abrogate outdated colonial laws. |
| Mnemonic | “A(b)-rogue ate” the law — destroyed or ended it |
| Synonyms | Repeal, Annul |
| Antonyms | Enact, Establish |

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Abscond

/əb'skɒnd/

Verb

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Meaning To leave hurriedly and secretly, typically to avoid arrest

Example He absconded with the stolen money.

Sentence The accountant absconded before anyone noticed the fraud.

Mnemonic “Abs” = away + “cond” = conduct — secretly leave

Synonyms Flee, Escape, Bolt

Antonyms Stay, Appear

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Absolution

/ˌæb.səˈluː.ʃən/

Noun

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Meaning

Formal release from guilt, obligation, or punishment

Example

The priest granted him absolution for his sins.

Sentence

She sought absolution for her wrongdoings in confession.

Mnemonic

Absolute forgiveness = absolution

Synonyms

Forgiveness, Pardon

Antonyms

Blame, Punishment

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Absolve

/əb'zɒlv/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | To declare someone free from blame, guilt, or responsibility |
| Example | The jury absolved her of all responsibility. |
| Sentence | His apology did not absolve him of the consequences. |
| Mnemonic | Solve away the blame = absolve |
| Synonyms | Exonerate, Forgive |
| Antonyms | Blame, Condemn |

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Abstain

/æb'steɪn/

Verb

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Meaning

To deliberately avoid or refrain from something

Example

He abstained from alcohol during the festival.

Sentence

Many voters abstained from casting their vote.

Mnemonic

“Abs” = away, “tain” = hold — to hold back

Synonyms

Refrain, Avoid

Antonyms

Indulge, Partake

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Abstemious

/æb'stiː.mi.əs/

Adjective

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Meaning Not self-indulgent, especially in food and drink

Example He was abstemious in his diet, avoiding all sweets.

Sentence The monk led an abstemious lifestyle.

Mnemonic Abstain + moderate = abstemious

Synonyms Moderate, Self-denying

Antonyms Gluttonous, Indulgent

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Abstract

/'æb.strækt/

Adjective

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| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Meaning | Existing in thought but not having a physical or concrete existence |
| Example | The idea of freedom is an abstract concept. |
| Sentence | Her explanation was too abstract for the audience to follow. |
| Mnemonic | Opposite of “concrete” is “abstract” |
| Synonyms | Theoretical, Conceptual |
| Antonyms | Concrete, Real |

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Abstruse

/əb'struːs/

Adjective

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Meaning

Difficult to understand; obscure

Example

The professor's lectures were abstruse to most students.

Sentence

Quantum physics can be abstruse to the average learner.

Mnemonic

"Abstract + Confuse" = Abstruse

Synonyms

Obscure, Complex

Antonyms

Clear, Simple

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Absurd

/əb'sɜːd/

Adjective

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | Wildly unreasonable, illogical, or inappropriate |
| Example | The idea that the earth is flat is absurd. |
| Sentence | His excuse for being late was simply absurd. |
| Mnemonic | Sounds like “absurdity” — totally illogical |
| Synonyms | Ridiculous, Preposterous |
| Antonyms | Logical, Reasonable |

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Abundant

/ə'bʌn.dənt/

Adjective

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | Existing or available in large quantities |
| Example | The region is abundant in natural resources. |
| Sentence | She has an abundant supply of creativity. |
| Mnemonic | "A bun dance" — lots of buns dancing = abundance |
| Synonyms | Plentiful, Ample |
| Antonyms | Scarce, Limited |

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Abysmal

/ə'biz.məl/

Adjective

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Meaning Extremely bad; appalling

Example The team's performance was abysmal last season.

Sentence His lack of knowledge was abysmal.

Mnemonic Sounds like “abyss” – bottomless, terrible

Synonyms Terrible, Dreadful

Antonyms Excellent, Superb

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Accede

/ək'siːd/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | To agree to a request or demand; to assume a position of power |
| Example | The government acceded to the demands of the workers. |
| Sentence | She finally acceded to her father's wishes. |
| Mnemonic | "Accept and proceed" = Accede |
| Synonyms | Agree, Consent |
| Antonyms | Refuse, Dissent |

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Accelerate

/ək'sel.ə.rert/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | To increase in speed or rate of progress |
| Example | The car accelerated quickly on the highway. |
| Sentence | The company plans to accelerate its growth strategy. |
| Mnemonic | Think of an “accelerator” in a car — speeds up |
| Synonyms | Hasten, Speed up |
| Antonyms | Decelerate, Slow down |

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Accentuate

/ək'sen.tʃu.eɪt/

Verb

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Meaning

To make something more noticeable or prominent

Example

Her red scarf accentuated her dark eyes.

Sentence

The speaker used gestures to accentuate key points.

Mnemonic

Accent + emphasize = Accentuate

Synonyms

Emphasize, Highlight

Antonyms

Minimize, Diminish

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Accessible

/ək'ses.ə.bəl/

Adjective

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | Easy to approach, reach, or use |
| Example | The museum is accessible to wheelchair users. |
| Sentence | Online education makes learning more accessible. |
| Mnemonic | “Access” + “able” = easy to access |
| Synonyms | Reachable, Available |
| Antonyms | Inaccessible, Restricted |

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Accolade

/ˈæk.ə.leɪd/

Noun

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| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Meaning | An award or privilege granted as a special honor |
| Example | She received accolades for her outstanding performance. |
| Sentence | The scientist was given the highest accolade for her discovery. |
| Mnemonic | Sounds like “a collar laid” — like honor placed on shoulders |
| Synonyms | Honor, Award |
| Antonyms | Criticism, Blame |

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Accommodate

/ə'kɒm.ə.dert/

Verb

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| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Meaning | To provide space for; to adapt or adjust to fit needs |
| Example | The hotel can accommodate up to 500 guests. |
| Sentence | The teacher adjusted the plan to accommodate all students. |
| Mnemonic | Think of “a commode” – fits and adjusts in small spaces |
| Synonyms | Adapt, Lodge, Adjust |
| Antonyms | Reject, Displace |

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