

a midsummer night's dream

VOCABULARY 1

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1. **abjure**

verb

1 a : to renounce upon oath

b : to reject solemnly

2 : to abstain from : AVOID

synonyms ABJURE, RENOUNCE, FORSWEAR, RECANT, RETRACT

2. **austerity**

noun

1 : the quality or state of being austere

2 a : an austere act, manner, or attitude

b : an ascetic practice

3 : enforced or extreme economy

3. **avouch**

verb

1 : to declare as a matter of fact or as a thing that can be proved : AFFIRM

2 : to vouch for : CORROBORATE

3 a : to acknowledge (as an act) as one's own

b : CONFESS, AVOW

4. **bait**

verb

transitive senses

1 a : to persecute or exasperate with unjust, malicious, or persistent attacks

b : TEASE

2 a : to harass (as a chained animal) with dogs usually for sport

b : to attack by biting and tearing

3 a : to furnish with bait

b : ENTICE, LURE

4 : to give food and drink to (an animal) especially on the road

intransitive senses

to stop for food and rest when traveling

synonyms BAIT, BADGER, HECKLE, HECTOR, CHIVY, HOUND

5. **beseech**

verb

transitive senses

1 : to beg for urgently or anxiously

2 : to request earnestly : IMPLORE

intransitive senses

to make supplication

synonym see BEG

6. **condole**

verb

intransitive senses

1 : GRIEVE

2 : to express sympathetic sorrow

transitive senses

LAMENT, GRIEVE

7. dote

verb

- 1 : to exhibit mental decline of or like that of old age : be in one's dotage
- 2 : to be lavish or excessive in one's attention, fondness, or affection – used especially with on

8. discretion

noun

- 1 : the quality of being discreet : CIRCUMSPECTION; especially : cautious reserve in speech
- 2 : ability to make responsible decisions
- 3 a : individual choice or judgment
 - b : power of free decision or latitude of choice within certain legal bounds
- 4 : the result of separating or distinguishing

9. dowager

noun

- 1 : a widow holding property or a title from her deceased husband
- 2 : a dignified elderly woman

10. edict

noun

- 1 : a proclamation having the force of law
- 2 : ORDER, COMMAND

11. enthralled

verb

- 1 : to hold in or reduce to slavery
- 2 : to hold spellbound : CHARM

12. entreat

verb

intransitive senses

- 1 a : NEGOTIATE
 - b : INTERCEDE
- 2 : to make an earnest request : PLEAD

transitive senses

- 1 : to plead with especially in order to persuade : ask urgently
 - 2 : to deal with : TREAT
- synonym see BEG

13. extempore

adverb or adjective

in an extemporaneous manner

14. extenuate

verb

- 1 a : to make light of
 - b : to lessen or to try to lessen the seriousness or extent of by making partial excuses : MITIGATE
 - c : DISPARAGE
- 2 a : to make thin or emaciated
 - b : to lessen the strength or effect of

15. **feign**

verb

intransitive senses

PRETEND, DISSEMBLE

transitive senses

1 a : to give a false appearance of : induce as a false impression

b : to assert as if true : PRETEND

2 a : INVENT, IMAGINE

b : to give fictional representation to

3 : DISGUISE, CONCEAL

synonym see ASSUME

16. **filch**

verb

to appropriate furtively or casually <filch a cookie>

synonym see STEAL

17. **gallant**

noun

1 : a young man of fashion

2 a : LADIES' man

b : SUITOR

c : PARAMOUR

adjective

1 : showy in dress or bearing : SMART

2 a : SPLENDID, STATELY

b : SPIRITED, BRAVE

c : nobly chivalrous and often self-sacrificing

3 : courteously and elaborately attentive especially to ladies

18. **idolatry**

noun

1 : the worship of a physical object as a god

2 : immoderate attachment or devotion to something

19. **interlude**

noun

1 : a usually short simple play or dramatic entertainment

2 : an intervening or interruptive period, space, or event : INTERVAL

3 : a musical composition inserted between the parts of a longer composition, a drama, or a religious service

20. **lamentable**

adjective

1 : that is to be regretted : DEPLORABLE

2 : expressing grief : MOURNFUL

21. **league**

noun

1 : any of various units of distance from about 2.4 to 4.6 statute miles (3.9 to 7.4 kilometers)

22. livery

noun

- 1 : the apportioning of provisions especially to servants : ALLOWANCE
- 2 a : the distinctive clothing or badge formerly worn by the retainers of a person of rank
 - b : a servant's uniform
 - c : distinctive dress : GARB
 - d : an identifying design (as on a vehicle) that designates ownership
- 3 a : one's retainers or retinue
 - b : the members of a British livery company
- 4 : the act of delivering legal possession of property
- 5 a : the feeding, stabling, and care of horses for pay
 - b : LIVERY STABLE
 - c : a concern offering vehicles (as boats) for rent

23. nimble

adjective

- 1 : quick and light in motion : AGILE
- 2 a : marked by quick, alert, clever conception, comprehension, or resourcefulness

24. perjure

verb

- 1 : to make a perjurer of (oneself)
- 2 : to cause to commit perjury

25. pert

adjective

- 1 a : saucily free and forward : flippantly cocky and assured
 - b : being trim and chic : JAUNTY
 - c : piquantly stimulating
- 2 : LIVELY, VIVACIOUS

26. relent

verb

intransitive senses

- 1 a : to become less severe, harsh, or strict usually from reasons of humanity
 - b : to cease resistance : GIVE IN
- 2 : LET UP, SLACKEN

transitive senses

SOFTEN, MOLLIFY
synonym see YIELD

27. revenue

noun

- 1 : the total income produced by a given source
- 2 : the gross income returned by an investment
- 3 : the yield of sources of income (as taxes) that a political unit (as a nation or state) collects and receives into the treasury for public use
- 4 : a government department concerned with the collection of the national revenue

28. sovereignty

noun

- 1 : supreme excellence or an example of it
- 2 a : supreme power especially over a body politic
 - b : freedom from external control : AUTONOMY
 - c : controlling influence
- 3 : one that is sovereign; especially : an autonomous state

29. **steep**

adjective

1 : LOFTY, HIGH – used chiefly of a sea

2 : making a large angle with the plane of the horizon

3 a : mounting or falling precipitously

b : being or characterized by a rapid and intensive decline or increase

4 : extremely or excessively high

synonyms **STEEP**, **ABRUPT**, **PRECIPITOUS**, **SHEER**

30. **vexation**

noun

1 : the act of harassing or vexing : **TROUBLING**

2 : the quality or state of being vexed : **IRRITATION**

3 : a cause of trouble : **AFFLICTION**

31. **visage**

noun

1 : the face, countenance, or appearance of a person or sometimes an animal

2 : **ASPECT**, **APPEARANCE**

32. **wane**

verb

1 : to decrease in size, extent, or degree : **DWINDLE**: as

a : to diminish in phase or intensity – used chiefly of the moon

b : to become less brilliant or powerful : **DIM** c : to flow out : **EBB**

2 : to fall gradually from power, prosperity, or influence

synonym see **ABATE**