

things fall apart

# VOCABULARY 3

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1. **abominable**

*adjective*

1 : worthy of or causing disgust or hatred : DETESTABLE

2 : quite disagreeable or unpleasant

2. **amiable**

*adjective*

1 : PLEASING, ADMIRABLE

2 a : generally agreeable

b : being friendly, sociable, and congenial

synonyms GOOD-NATURED, OBLIGING, COMPLAISANT

3. **apothecary**

*noun*

1 : one who prepares and sells drugs or compounds for medicinal purposes

2 : PHARMACY

4. **auspicious**

*adjective*

1 : affording a favorable auspice : PROPITIOUS

2 : attended by good auspices : PROSPEROUS

synonym FAVORABLE

5. **benign**

*adjective*

1 : of a gentle disposition : GRACIOUS

2 a : showing kindness and gentleness

b : FAVORABLE, WHOLESOME

3 a : of a mild type or character that does not threaten health or life

b : having no significant effect : HARMLESS

6. **chattel**

*noun*

1 : an item of tangible movable or immovable property except real estate, freehold, and things (as buildings) connected with real property

2 : SLAVE, BONDSMAN

7. **condescend**

*verb*

1 a : to descend to a less formal or dignified level : UNBEND

b : to waive the privileges of rank

2 : to assume an air of superiority

8. **contentious**

*adjective*

1 : likely to cause contention

2 : exhibiting an often perverse and wearisome tendency to quarrels and disputes

synonym BELLIGERENT

**9. dictum**

*noun*

- 1 a : a formal pronouncement of a principle, proposition, or opinion
- b : an observation intended or regarded as authoritative
- 2 : a judge's expression of opinion on a point other than the precise issue involved in determining a case

**10. discernable**

*verb*

- 1 a : to detect with the eyes
- b : to detect with senses other than vision
- 2 : to recognize or identify as separate and distinct : DISCRIMINATE
- 3 : to come to know or recognize mentally
- 4 : to see or understand the difference

**11. dispensation**

*noun*

- 1 a : a general state or ordering of things; specifically : a system of revealed commands and promises regulating human affairs
- b : a particular arrangement or provision especially of providence or nature
- 2 a : an exemption from a law or from an impediment, vow, or oath
- b : a formal authorization
- 3 a : the act of dispensing
- b : something dispensed or distributed

**12. eccentric**

*adjective*

- 1 a : deviating from an established or usual pattern or style
- b : deviating from conventional or accepted usage or conduct especially in odd or whimsical ways
- 2 a : deviating from a circular path; especially : ELLIPTICAL
- b : located elsewhere than at the geometrical center; also : having the axis or support so located

synonym STRANGE

**13. erratic**

*adjective*

- 1 a : having no fixed course : WANDERING
- b archaic : NOMADIC
- 2 : transported from an original resting place especially by a glacier
- 3 a : characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or uniformity
- b : deviating from what is ordinary or standard : ECCENTRIC

synonym STRANGE

**14. expound**

*verb*

- 1 a : to set forth : STATE
- b : to defend with argument
- 2 : to explain by setting forth in careful and often elaborate detail
- 3 : to make a statement : COMMENT

synonym EXPLAIN

**15. foray**

*verb*

- 1 : to ravage in search of spoils : PILLAGE
- 2 : to make a raid or brief invasion

16. **fractious**

*adjective*

1 : tending to be troublesome : UNRULY

2 : QUARRELSOME, IRRITABLE

17. **illicit**

*adjective*

not permitted : UNLAWFUL

18. **imprudent**

*adjective*

lacking discretion

19. **indigenous**

*adjective*

1 : having originated in and being produced, growing, living, or occurring naturally in a particular region or environment

2 : INNATE, INBORN

synonym NATIVE

20. **iniquity**

*noun*

1 : gross injustice : WICKEDNESS

2 : a wicked act or thing : SIN

21. **malevolent**

*adjective*

1 : having, showing, or arising from intense often vicious ill will, spite, or hatred

2 : productive of harm or evil

22. **morbid**

*adjective*

1 a : of, relating to, or characteristic of disease

b : affected with or induced by disease

c : productive of disease

2 : abnormally susceptible to or characterized by gloomy or unwholesome feelings

3 : GRISLY, GRUESOME

23. **nebulous**

*adjective*

1 : of, relating to, or resembling a nebula : NEBULAR

2 : INDISTINCT, VAGUE

24. **nocturnal**

*adjective*

1 : of, relating to, or occurring in the night

2 : active at night

25. **piety**

*noun*

1 a : fidelity to natural obligations (as to parents)

b : dutifulness in religion : DEVOUTNESS

2 : an act inspired by piety

3 : a conventional belief or standard : ORTHODOXY

synonym FIDELITY

26. **placid**

*adjective*

1 : serenely free of interruption or disturbance

2 : COMPLACENT

synonym CALM

27. **predilection**

*noun*

an established preference for something

synonyms PREPOSSESSION, PREJUDICE, BIAS

28. **probate**

*noun*

1 a : the action or process of proving before a competent judicial authority that a document offered for official recognition and registration as the last will and testament of a deceased person is genuine

b : the judicial determination of the validity of a will

2 : the officially authenticated copy of a probated will

29. **stricture**

*noun*

1 a : an abnormal narrowing of a bodily passage; also : the narrowed part

b : a constriction of the breath passage in the production of a speech sound

2 : something that closely restrains or limits : RESTRICTION

3 : an adverse criticism : CENSURE

30. **synonymous**

*adjective*

1 : having the character of a synonym; also : alike in meaning or significance

2 : having the same connotations, implications, or reference

31. **tacit**

*adjective*

1 : expressed or carried on without words or speech

2 a : implied or indicated but not actually expressed

b (1) : arising without express contract or agreement

(2) : arising by operation of law

32. **taciturn**

*adjective*

temperamentally disinclined to talk

synonym SILENT

33. **unsullied**

*adjective*

1: spotlessly clean and fresh

2: of reputation, clean

synonyms STAINLESS, UNSTAINED, UNTAINTED, UNTARNISHED

34. **vapid**

*adjective*

lacking liveliness, tang, briskness, or force : FLAT, DULL

synonym INSIPID

35. **wallow**

*verb*

1 : to roll oneself about in an indolent or ungainly manner

2 : to billow forth : SURGE

3 : to devote oneself entirely; especially : to take unrestrained pleasure : DELIGHT

4 a : to become abundantly supplied : LUXURIATE

b : to indulge oneself immoderately

5 : to become or remain