

Lesson Eleven

1. **impotent** (ĩm' pə tənt) *adj.* powerless; lacking strength
Without the gun, he felt *impotent*.
syn: ineffective, helpless *ant: potent, powerful*

2. **imprecation** (ĩm prĩ kã' shən) *noun* a curse
Jennifer was so angry she pronounced an *imprecation* on him, his family, and all his friends.

3. **jocular** (jök' yə lər) *adj.* humorous, lighthearted
Dad was in such a good mood that we all enjoyed dinner because of his *jocular* manner.
syn: joking; witty, amusing *ant: solemn, morose*

4. **juxtapose** (juk stə pōz') *verb* to place side by side for comparison
To reach a decision, list the good points that might result and then list the bad. Examine the *juxtaposed* lists and see if the positives outweigh the negatives.

5. **kinetic** (kĩ nět' ĩk) *adj.* pertaining to motion
To demonstrate *kinetic* energy, he pushed a steel ball off the table.

6. **kismet** (kĩz' mĩt) *noun* destiny; fate; fortune (one's lot in life)
He said that it was a lucky accident that they had met; she said it was *kismet*.

7. **knell** (něl) *noun* a sound made by a bell rung slowly for a death or funeral
Standing at the side of the grave in the rain, they could faintly hear the *knell* of a church bell.

8. **labyrinth** (lãb' ə rĩnth) *noun* a complicated network of winding passages; a maze
The mice were made to run through a *labyrinth* in order to reach their food.

9. **lachrymose** (lãk' rə mōs) *adj.* tearful, weepy
It was time for the girl to get over her *lachrymose* behavior and start smiling again.

10. **laconic** (lã kon' ĩk) *adj.* using few words; short; concise
He was a *laconic* man who wasted few words.
syn: pithy, taciturn *ant: verbose, loquacious*

11. **lambent** (lãm' bənt) *adj.* softly bright or radiant; running or moving lightly over a surface
Lambent flames gently licked the logs.

12. **languid** (lãng' gwĩd) *adj.* sluggish; drooping from weakness
The hot summer day made everyone feel *languid*.
syn: listless, feeble, drooping *ant: robust, vigorous*

13. **lascivious** (lã sĩv' ē əs) *adj.* lustful or lewd; inciting sexual desire
He had a *lascivious* smile that disgusted the other people in the room.
syn: wanton, obscene *ant: wholesome, decent*

