1. **acquiesce** (ˌakwēˈes)  
(v) to accept without protest; to agree or submit  
syn: comply with, accede, consent, yield  
ant: resist, protest  
Management is not likely to **acquiesce** to union demands for raises because the company's profits have recently been on the decline.

2. **allure** (əˈloor)  
(v) to entice, tempt; to be attractive to  
(n) a strong attraction; the power to attract, charm  
syn: (v) beguile, tantalize; (n) temptation, enticement  
ant: (v) repel, turn off; (n) repellent  
Dreams of stardom **allure** many gifted young performers from all over the country to the bright lights of Broadway.  
The **allure** of get-rich-quick schemes may lead people down the road to financial ruin.

3. **askew** (əˈskyoo)  
(adj, adv) twisted to one side, crooked; dissaprovingly  
syn: awry, lopsided, cockeyed  
ant: straight, symmetrical  
Some people cannot refrain from straightening lampshades that are a little **askew**.  
All our plans for a picnic on the beach went suddenly **askew** when it began to rain very heavily.

4. **blithe** (bīTH,blīTH)  
(adj) cheerful, lighthearted; casual, unconcerned  
syn: carefree, nonchalant, indifferent  
ant: glum, morose, despondent, depressed  
It is difficult to deflate the **blithe** optimism of the young.

5. **contentious** (kənˈten(t)SHəs)  
(adj) quarrelsome, inclined to argue  
syn: argumentative, disputatious, combative  
ant: agreeable, amiable, affable, pacific  
The members of the on-line discussion group were annoyed by the newcomer's **contentious** and rude remarks.

6. **covet** (ˈkəvət)  
(v) to desire something belonging to another  
syn: crave, yearn for, hunger for  
ant: disdain, scorn, despise  
Those who **covet** the good fortune of others are likely to be unhappy with their own lot in life.

7. **crestfallen** (ˈkres(t)ˈfələn)  
(adj) discouraged, dejected, downcast  
syn: despondent, disconsolate  
ant: elated, cheerful, self-satisfied, cocky  
Despite the loss of an important labor endorsement, the candidate appeared in no way **crestfallen**.

8. **disheveled** (dəˈSIhevəld)  
(adj) rumpled, mussed; hanging in disorder  
syn: untidy, disarranged, tousled, unkempt  
ant: tidy, well-groomed  
Most people look a little bit **disheveled** when they get up in the morning.

9. **exponent** (ikˈspōnənt,ˈekspōnənt)  
(n) one who advocates, speaks for, explains, or interprets  
(math) the power to which a number, symbol, or expression is to be raised  
syn: defender, champion, interpreter  
ant: critic, adversary, faultfinder, detractor  
President Theodore Roosevelt was one of the first **exponents** of conservation.  
In the equation $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$, the raised 2s are all **exponents**.

10. **garrulous** (ˈɡər(y)ələs)  
(adj) given to much talking, tediously chatty  
syn: talkitive, loquacious, long-winded  
ant: reticent, mum, taciturn, laconic  
If you are conversing with a **garrulous** individual, you may find it hard to get a word in edgewise.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Synonyms</th>
<th>Antonyms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>insuperable</strong></td>
<td>(adj) incapable of being overcome</td>
<td>invincible, insurmountable</td>
<td>surmountable, conquerable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>lamentable</strong></td>
<td>(adj) to be regretted or pitied</td>
<td>deplorable, regrettable, distressing</td>
<td>praiseworthy, commendable, laudable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>misnomer</strong></td>
<td>(n) an unsuitable or misleading name</td>
<td>misnaming, malapropism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>profess</strong></td>
<td>(v) to affirm openly; to state or believe in; to claim, pretend</td>
<td>assert, declare, proclaim, purport</td>
<td>disclaim, disavow, repudiate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>respite</strong></td>
<td>(n) a period of relief or rest</td>
<td>interval, intermission, lull, breather</td>
<td>continuation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>retribution</strong></td>
<td>(n) a repayment; a deserved punishment</td>
<td>recompense, requital, just desserts</td>
<td>forgiveness, sympathy, pardon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To the composer Ludwig van Beethoven, increasing deafness was not an **insuperable** handicap.

After a long, hard winter, city streets may be in a truly **lamentable** state of disrepair.

The term World Series is a **misnomer** because only North American teams participate in this annual event.

My music teacher **professes** herself satisfied with my technical progress so far this year.

A vacation provides a **respite** from the worries and responsibilities of everyday life.

In most ancient societies **retribution** was swiftly visited on those who broke their promises.