

**curriculum
vitae**

Like a resume, gives the details of your work and professional history, but also includes your academic background, personal achievements, and any awards and recognitions you have received.

tenure

Can refer to a specific period of time. Used in academics to denote an indefinite period of time.

hiatus

Pause or break in something that is otherwise ongoing. A gap in a regular schedule. Most frequently used when talking about one instance in time.

elucidate

**To make
clear or to
shed light on.**

sinecure

A job where you don't have any duties or responsibilities, but you still get paid.

equanimity

Calmness, especially during stressful situations. It's a characteristic of someone who maintains his or her composure. It's often used to refer to a person's way of speaking as well as their attitude. Can also refer to stability or steadiness, in a mental or emotional sense.

affable

Friendly, but in a quiet, calm way. Other adjectives that describe this type of person are "amiable" and "cordial" – that is to say, polite and willing to go along with others, in a spirit of friendship.

mitigate

To reduce or decrease the effect of something negative

congenial

Having the same likes and dislikes. Kindred spirits. If you're in a group of people who enjoy the same thing, you're surrounded by congenial people

serendipity

The accidental discovery of something good or beneficial. A "happy accident."

pandemic

Widespread – that is, covering a large geographic area and affecting many people. You'll usually hear this in relation to an illness. An epidemic that spreads beyond the usual range of infection.

virulent

Highly infectious and deadly. Such as the Ebola virus, which kills over half of the people who catch it.

detrimental

**Causing
harm or
damage**

sequester

**To isolate and make
separate from
outside contact.
Putting in seclusion,
or isolation.**

stringent

**Keeping strictly to specific rules
or standards. The underlying
sense of the word is that these
rules are difficult to follow, but
that there would be negative
consequences if you didn't follow
them. Can also mean severe,
rigorous, or rigid.**

foible

**An unusual habit or
mannerism, particularly
one that creates
vulnerability or implies a
weakness, specifically in
a person's character.**

droll

Wry, whimsical, or odd, in a humorous way. It's a quieter, subtle humor.

hyperbole

Exaggeration or overstatement, used in order to emphasize a point. It's often done in order to create a humorous effect.

parody

Imitation of a person, place, or thing, done in order to poke fun at them. Can be humorous, but other times can be sharper, mocking someone's mannerisms in a way intended to be hurtful.

potter

To mess about doing nothing in particular. In parodies, this is a common foible of an older person, or one who's not altogether mentally sound.

fabrication

Making something – often machine parts or tools something that's made up – that is, a lie, a story, a fiction, a falsehood.

erroneous

**Based on
false
information.**

chimera

A creation of the imagination, a foolish fancy, or an imaginary thing.

specious

Something that seems believable and reasonable at first glance, but is easily proven false when examined closely.

verbatim

Word for
word. Exactly
as it was said.

champion

A word used when
you're talking
about a winner,
someone who's
made it to the top.

brook

To tolerate or put
up with, specifically
with something
negative.

pedestrian

Unremarkable
or ordinary

quandary

Uncertainty, or
difficulty in
knowing what
to do.

elucidate

To make
clear.

hiatus

A break or gap
in something
that is otherwise
ongoing.