

- abnegation** **N.** /批判, 自我牺牲/repudiation; self-sacrifice. No act of *abnegation* was more pronounced than his refusal of any rewards for his discovery.
- abolish** **V.** /废除/cancel; put an end to. The president of the college refused to *abolish* the physical education requirement. abolition, **N.**
- abominable** **ADJ.** /可恶的, 非常糟糕/detestable; extremely unpleasant; very bad. Mary liked John until she learned he was dating Susan; then she called him an *abominable* young man, with *abominable* taste in women.
- aboriginal** **ADJ., N.** /原来的, 土著的/being the first of its kind in a region; primitive; native. Her studies of the primitive art forms of the *aboriginal* Indians were widely reported in the scientific journals. aborigines, **N.**
- abortive** **ADJ.** /不成功的, 失败/unsuccessful; fruitless. Attacked by armed troops, the Chinese students had to abandon their *abortive* attempt to democratize Beijing peacefully. abort,**V.**
- abrade** **V.** /磨损, 侵蚀/wear away by friction; scrape; erode. The sharp rocks *abraded* the skin on her legs, so she put iodine on her *abrasions*.
- abrasive** **ADJ.** /摩擦的, 粗糙的, 研磨剂/rubbing away; tending to grind down. Just as *abrasive* cleaning powders can wear away a shiny finish, *abrasive* remarks can wear away a listener's patience. abrade,**V.**
- abridge** **V.** /删节, 节选/condense or shorten. Because the publishers felt the public wanted a shorter version of *War and Peace*, they proceeded to *abridge* the novel.
- abrogate** **ADJ.** /废除/abolish. He intended to *abrogate* the decree issued by his predecessor.
- abscond** **V.** /隐匿, 逃避, 躲债/depart secretly and hide. The teller who *absconded* with the bonds went uncaptured until someone recognized him from his photograph on "America's Most Wanted."
- absolute** **ADJ.** /完全的, 肯定的/complete; totally unlimited; certain. Although the King of Siam was an *absolute* monarch, he did not want to behead his unfaithful wife without absolute evidence of her infidelity.
- absolve** **V.** /谅解/pardon (an offense). The father confessor *absolved* him of his sins. absolution, **N.**
- absorb** **V.** /吸收, 合并/assimilate or incorporate; suck or drink up; wholly engage. During the nineteenth century, America *absorbed* hordes of immigrants, turning them into productive citizens. Can Huggies diapers *absorb* more liquid than Pampers can? This question does not *absorb* me; instead, it bores me. absorption, **N.**
- abstain** **V.** /控制, 限制(自己)/refrain; hold oneself back voluntarily from an action or practice. After considering the effect of alcohol on his athletic performance, he decided to *abstain* from drinking while he trained for the race. abstinence, **N.**

- abstemious** ADJ. /节制(饮食), 调节/sparing in eating and drinking; temperate. Concerned whether her vegetarian son's *abstemious* diet provided him with sufficient protein, the worried mother pressed food on him.
- abstinence** N. /节制(饮食)/restraint from eating or drinking. The doctor recommended total *abstinence* from salted foods. abstain, V.
- abstract** ADJ. /抽象的/theoretical; not concrete; nonrepresentational. To him, hunger was an *abstract* concept; he had never missed a meal.
- abstruse** ADJ. /难以理解的, 复杂的/obscure; profound; difficult to understand. She carries around *abstruse* works of philosophy, not because she understands them but because she wants her friends to think she does.
- abundant** ADJ. /丰富, 富足/plentiful; possessing riches or resources. At his immigration interview, Ivan listed his *abundant* reasons for coming to America: the hope of religious freedom, the prospect of employment, the promise of a more *abundant* life.
- abusive** ADJ. /粗俗的侮辱, 对身体有害的/coarsely insulting; physically harmful. An *abusive* parent damages a child both mentally and physically.
- abut** V. /毗邻/border upon; adjoin. Where our estates *abut*, we must build a fence.
- abysmal** ADJ. /无底的/bottomless. His arrogance is exceeded only by his *abysmal* ignorance.
- abyss** N. /深渊, 深坑, 无底洞/enormous chasm; vast bottomless pit. Darth Vader seized the evil emperor and hurled him down into the abyss,
- academic** ADJ. /学术的/related to a school; not practical or directly useful. The dean's talk about reforming the college admissions system was only an *academic* discussion: we knew little, if anything, would change.
- accede** V. /同意/agree. If I *accede* to this demand for blackmail, I am afraid that I will be the victim of future demands.
- accelerate** V. /加速/move faster. In our science class, we learn how falling bodies accelerate.
- accentuate** V. /强调, 重音/emphasize; stress. If you *accentuate* the positive and eliminate the negative, you may wind up with an overoptimistic view of the world.
- accessible** ADJ. /可得到的/easy to approach; obtainable. We asked our guide whether the ruins were *accessible* on foot.
- accessory** N. /附件/additional object; useful but not essential thing. She bought an attractive handbag as an accessory for her dress. also ADJ.
- acclaim** V. /赞扬, 表扬/applaud; announce with great approval. The NBC sportscasters *acclaimed* every American victory in the Olympics and decried every American defeat. also N.

- acclimate** V. /适应/adjust to climate. One of the difficulties of our present air age is the need of travelers to acclimate themselves to their new and often strange environments.
- acclivity** N. /上山的陡坡/sharp upslope of a hill. The car would not go up the *acclivity* in high gear.
- accolade** N. /出名的大奖/award of merit. In Hollywood, an "Oscar" is the highest *accolade*.
- accommodate** V. /招待, 食宿, 适应/oblige or help someone; adjust or bring into harmony; adapt. Mitch always did everything possible to accommodate his elderly relatives, from driving them to medical appointments to helping them with paperwork. (secondary meaning)
- accomplice** N. /共犯, 同伙/partner in crime. Because he had provided the criminal with the lethal weapon, he was arrested as an accomplice in the murder.
- accord** N. /一致/agreement. She was in complete accord with the verdict.
- accost** V. /搭讪, 邂逅/approach and speak first to a person. When the two young men accosted me, I was frightened because I thought they were going to attack me.
- accoutre** V. /装备/equip. The fisherman was accoutred with the best that the sporting goods store could supply. accoutrements, N.
- accretion** N. /增长/growth; increase. The *accretion* of wealth marked the family's rise in power.
- accrue** V. /附带的/come about by addition. You must pay the interest that has *accrued* on your debt as well as the principal sum. accrual, N.
- acerbity** N. /尖酸的 (语气, 脾气) /bitterness of speech and temper. The meeting of the United Nations General Assembly was marked with such *acerbity* that informed sources held out little hope of reaching any useful settlement of the problem. acerbic, ADJ.
- acetic** ADJ. /酸的/vinegary. The salad had an exceedingly acetic flavor.
- acidulous** ADJ. /酸的; 尖锐, 刻薄/ slightly sour; sharp, caustic. James was unpopular because of his sarcastic and *acidulous* remarks.
- acknowledge** V. /认可, 承认/recognize; admit. Although I *acknowledge* that the Beatles' tunes sound pretty dated today, I still prefer them to the "gangsta rap" songs my brothers play.
- acme** N. /顶点/top; pinnacle. His success in this role marked the acme of his career as an actor.
- acoustics** N. /声学的/science of sound; quality that makes a room easy or hard to hear in. Carnegie Hall is liked by music lovers because of its fine acoustics.
- acquiesce** V. /默许/assent; agree without protesting. Although she appeared to *acquiesce* to her employer's suggestions, I could tell she had reservations