

Chapter 3 Vocabulary

Page 36	zeps (zeppelins)	A type of airship named after its German inventor.
	harpoon	A long spear-like instrument.
	gondola	Seating compartment/ WW2 aircraft.
	airstation	An airfield operated by the Marines or Navy.
Page 37	tottered	To move in an unsteady way
	alighted	1. To descend from a vehicle. 2. to burn or light up.
	scrubby	Undersized or inferior.
	shambling	moving with a slow, shuffling, awkward manner.
Page 38	linger	stay in a place longer than necessary because of a reluctance to leave.
	ingrained	Deeply embedded, firmly fixed or establish, difficult to change.
	pillowy	like a pillow or pillows; in shape, softness, comfort.
	viscous	Thick
Page 39	rivets	a permanent mechanical fastener.
	mutton-chop sideburns	the whiskers on a man's cheek when shaped like a meat chop, narrow at the top and broad and rounded at the bottom

Page 40	lumpen	lumpy and misshapen; ugly and ponderous
	crusher	Victorian slang for a police officer.
	emanated	originates from, comes from.
	perilously	in a way that is full of danger or risk.
Page 41	dawdled	waste time; be slow.
	aimlessly	without purpose or direction.
Page 42	scarce	1. (especially of food, money, or some other resource) insufficient for the demand. 2. to make oneself scarce – to leave a place to avoid something.
	frontage	the front of a building.
	Horologist	somebody who studies time.
	façade	1. the principal front of a building, that faces on to a street or open space. 2. a deceptive outward appearance.
	shrine	a place regarded as holy because of its associations with a divinity or a sacred person.
	pendulum	a weight hung from a fixed point so that it can swing freely, especially a rod with a weight at the end that regulates the mechanism of a clock.
	barometres	an instrument measuring atmospheric pressure, used particularly in forecasting the weather and determining altitude.

Page 43	irrespective	regardless, whether there was or wasn't, it would happen anyway.
	timbres	the character or quality of a musical sound or voice as distinct from its pitch and intensity.
	percussive	relating to or produced by percussion.
	chronometres	an instrument for measuring time accurately in spite of motion or variations in temperature, humidity, and air pressure.
	snuff boxes	a small ornamental box for holding snuff.
Page 44	bumbler	Someone who bumbles, stumbles or blunders.
	nimble	A quick and light in movement or action; agile.
	sheered	To swerve or change course quickly
Page 45	whirred	To make a low, continuous, regular sound.
Page 46	hasp	A type of mechanical latch or fastener that joins two objects.
	gnawed	bite at or nibble something persistently.
	oddments	an item or piece of something, usually from a larger set
	apex	top or highest part of something.
	threadbare	becoming thin and tattered with age.



alighted

VERB: [alight].

VERB [PAST TENSE]: 1. to descend from a train, bus or other form of transport
2. To descend from the air and settle.

SYNONYMS: descend, dismount, disembark, get off.

EXAMPLE: When it reached the green it stopped and swayed, glancing about, and its eyes **alighted** on the line of shops under Robert's window.





alight

ADJECTIVE [AFTER VERB]: to burn, or brightly light up.

SYNONYMS: ablaze, burned out, charred.

EXAMPLE: Her eyes were **alight** with menace.





linger

From Middle English '*long*' or '*prolong*'.



VERB: stay in a place longer than necessary because of a reluctance to leave.

SYNONYMS: stay, remain, loiter, dawdle.

EXAMPLE: The familiar smell of beeswax furniture polish and quiet ticking clocks made him **linger** as he crossed the floor.

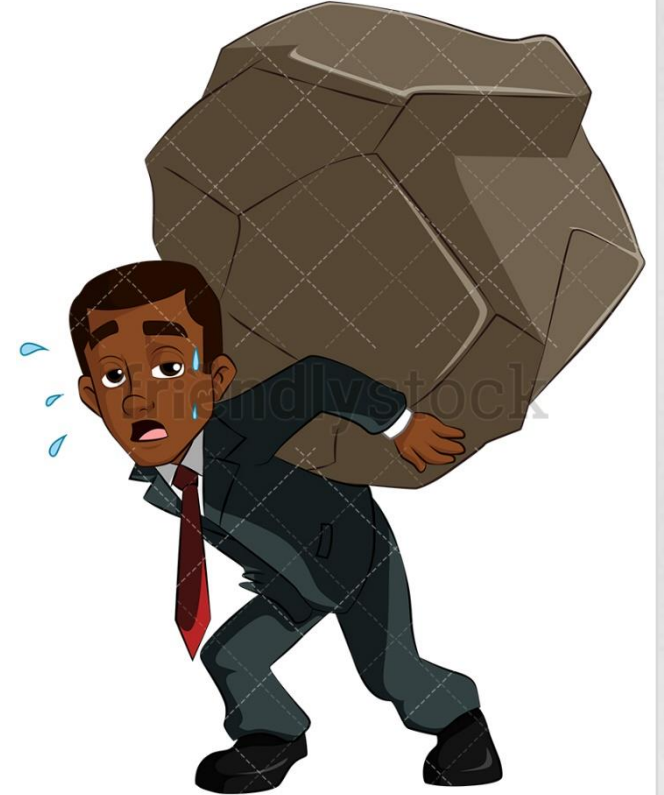


lumpen

ADJECTIVE: 1. lumpy and misshapen.
2. heavy and awkward.

SYNONYMS: heavy, lumpish, sluggish.

EXAMPLE: His body looked lumpen, like a sack of rocks.





emanated

VERB: [emanate].



VERB [PAST TENSE]: originates from, comes from or produced by.

SYNONYMS: emerge, flow, pour, emit, exude.

EXAMPLE: Scars **emanated** from them, criss-crossing his cheeks, and running up under the brim of his hat.



dawdled

VERB [dawdle].

VERB [PAST TENSE]:

1. to waste time.
2. to move slowly and idly.

SYNONYMS: linger, dally, waste time, amble, stroll.

EXAMPLE: Robert **dawdled** on his way home, watching them.





irrespective

ADJECTIVE: regardless, not taking something into account.

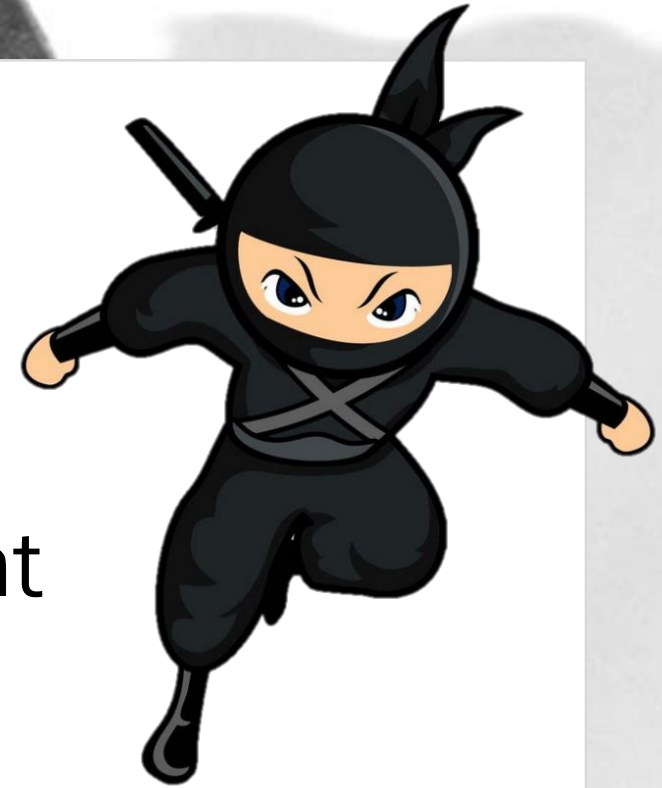
SYNONYMS: regardless, disregarding, ignoring.

EXAMPLE: The sun threw patterns of light around the walls, and every day, **irrespective** of weather, they filled the shop with their ticking, their different timbres giving the place a percussive music all of its own.





nimble



ADJECTIVE: a quick and light in movement or action.

SYNONYMS: agile, sprightly, quick-thinking.

EXAMPLE: As a child he'd been an enthusiastic pupil, **nimble** and quick, always wanting to learn things, but in recent years, he found he'd grown clumsy.



whirred

VERB: [whir] related to 'whirl'.



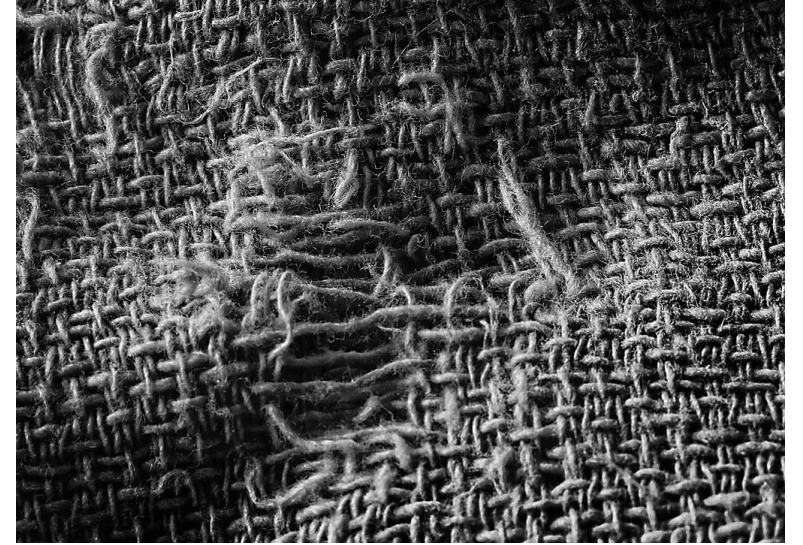
VERB [PAST TENSE]: To make a low, continuous, regular sound.

SYNONYMS: hum, bumble, drone, buzz.

EXAMPLE: The mutton-chopped man with the mirrored eyeballs **whirred** around his mind like clockwork.



threadbare



ADJECTIVE: (of cloth, clothing, or soft furnishings) becoming thin and tattered with age.

SYNONYMS: worn, frayed, ragged, shabby, scruffy.

EXAMPLE: Robert looked around for the fox and saw its **threadbare** tail sticking out from behind a stack of boxes.