Year 9 Term 1 Vocabulary Words

Week 1

**Allocate** (verb) to set apart for a particular purpose

**Ascetic** (adj.) following strict self-discipline.

**Beguile** (verb) to charm someone in order to trick them or get something out of them

**Crass** (adj.) stupid, tasteless, rude or offensive

**Defray** (verb) to provide money to pay for costs

**Enjoin** (verb) to instruct or command

**Interloper** (noun) an intruder; someone who is in a place where they don’t belong or aren’t allowed

**Feasible** (adj.) possible, able to be done

**Envoy** (noun) a messenger or representative; sent to a meeting to speak on behalf of a govt. or country

**Vicarious** (adj.) experienced through watching or reading about others doing something

Week 2

**Admonish** (verb) to warn or scold, kindly but firmly

**Lassitude** (noun) a state of physical or mental tiredness; lack of energy or interest

**Akimbo** (adj.) hands on hips

**Licentious** (adj.) not following any rules or restraints; sexually immoral

**Muse** (verb) to think about something carefully; to say something aloud in a thoughtful way

**Pecuniary** (adj.) relating to money

**Subversive** (adj.) working against a system, trying to destroy or undermine its power from within

**Plight** (noun) an unfortunate, dangerous, or difficult situation

**Vacuous** (adj.) showing no intelligence; stupid or mindless; empty of any thoughts or ideas

**Presumptuous** (adj.) overconfident; taking things for granted

Week 3

**Avocation** (noun) a minor occupation or hobby

**Disparity** (noun) a very noticeable difference

**Efficacy** (noun) effectiveness, usefulness.

**Hospice** (noun) a place where the terminally ill or dying are cared for

**Epistle** (noun) a letter written to a group of people

**Impetus** (noun) a driving force; a thing that makes something happen

**Reticent** (adj.) reserved, keeping thoughts to yourself

**Moribund** (adj.) at the point of death; not progressing or improving

**Vacillate** (verb) to waver between two opinions or choices; to be indecisive

**Capricious** (adj.) not logical or reasonable; based on a sudden whim or mood; likely to change

Week 4

**Corroborate** (verb) to confirm or make stronger; to provide evidence that helps prove

**Insipid** (adj.) boring, bland; no flavour or interest

**Akin** (adj.) similar, alike, related to

**Nefarious** (adj.) evil, wicked, or criminal

**Inexorable** (adj.) impossible to stop or prevent

**Retinue** (noun) a group of people that assist or advise someone famous or important

**Torrid** (adj.) very hot and dry

**Jeopardise** (verb) to put in danger; to threaten

**Cynical** (adj.) doubting the goodness of people; believing that others are always selfish and dishonest

**Supplicant** (noun) a person who humbly and respectfully asks from a powerful person or from God

Week 5

**Blasé** (adj.) bored or unimpressed by something because you’ve seen it many times before

**Affront** (noun) an action or remark that causes outrage or offence; an intentional insult

**Choleric** (adj.) irritable or bad tempered

**Encumber** (verb) to weigh down or burden

**Cajole** (verb) to persuade someone using flattery

**Feckless** (adj.) incompetent or irresponsible; weak in character, not motivated

**Impasse** (noun) a situation where it’s impossible to make any progress or escape; a deadlock, a stalemate

**Ribald** (adj.) inappropriate or suggestive; making crude jokes

**Indolent** (adj.) extremely lazy, avoiding any effort or movement

**Lugubrious** (adj.) looking or sounding sad & mournful

Week 6

**Dissemble** (verb) to hide your true thoughts or feelings; to put on a false appearance

**Protagonist** (noun) the main character

**Censure** (noun) strong criticism or disapproval

**Palpate** (verb) to examine by touch for medical purposes

**Expectorate** (verb) to cough or spit up phlegm

**Peremptory** (adj.) expecting to be obeyed immediately and without question

**Pusillanimous** (adj.) weak and cowardly; lacking courage or determination

**Surfeit** (noun) an excessive amount; too much

**Unanimous** (adj.) in complete agreement; all voting for the same thing

**Droll** (adj.) funny in an odd way

Week 7

**Allay** (verb) to subdue or reduce

**Capacious** (adj.) able to hold a large amount; roomy

**Suffrage** (noun) the right to vote in an election

**Extricate** (verb) to free or remove

**Prostrate** (adj.) lying stretched out facedown, as a sign of respect or worship

**Mitigate** (verb) to make less severe or painful

**Ignominious** (adj.) very embarrassing, disgraceful

**Palpitate** (verb) (of the heart) to beat quickly or unevenly from fear

**Propitious** (adj.) favourable, showing a good chance of success

**Diurnal** (adj.) active during the day

Week 8

**Acquiesce** (verb) to accept something reluctantly but without protest

**Preposterous** (adj.) absurd or ridiculous; without reason or common sense

**Amity** (adj.) peace, harmony; friendship between

**Inundate** (verb) to flood or overwhelm

**Arduous** (adj.) difficult and tiring

**Incongruous** (adj.) out of place; strange or wrong in a particular situation

**Trepidation** (noun) a feeling of fear or anxiety about something that may happen

**Synthesise** (verb) to gather information or ideas from different sources to create a new whole

**Voluble** (adj.) talking a lot, with confidence and enthusiasm

**Pulverise** (verb) to grind into powder; to utterly defeat

Week 9

**Paradigm** (noun) a typical example; a model of how something should be

**Aplomb** (noun) skill and confidence in a difficult situation; keeping your cool

**Austere** (adj.) severe or strict; without comforts

**Barrage** (noun) many things happening at once

**Nebulous** (adj.) not clear; difficult to explain; vague

**Unctuous** (adj.) full of false flattery; too eager to please; smooth or oily

**Cognisant** (adj.) fully aware or conscious; knowledgeable about something through experience

**Collusion** (noun) a secret agreement to do something illegal or treacherous

**Urbane** (adj.) confident & charming in social situations

**Sedentary** (adj.) not active, not doing much physical exercise; spending a lot of time sitting

Week 10

**Ambulatory** (adj.) able to walk or move from place to place

**Brazen** (adj.) bold and shameless

**Din** (noun) a loud, continuous noise

**Ennui** (noun) a feeling of weariness and dissatisfaction with life

**Exonerate** (verb) to clear someone from blame

**Schism** (noun) a split between two groups with different beliefs

**Wizened** (adj.) shrivelled or wrinkled with age

**Inscrutable** (adj.) impossible to understand

**Prognosticate** (verb) to foretell; to predict what might happen in the future

**Sedition** (noun) behaviour or speech intended to stir people up and make them rebel against authority