**January 2020**

06/01/2020 **brusque**

* abrupt or offhand in speech or manner
* impatient

eg: Joan’s **brusque** manner sometimes offends her colleagues.

07/01/2020 **cajole**

* to urge, coax
* persuade (someone) to do something by sustained flattery

eg: Magda's friends tried to **cajole**her into doing the bungee jump.

08/01/2020 **callous**

* harsh, cold, unfeeling
* showing or having an insensitive and cruel disregard for others

eg: The murderer’s **callous** lack of remorse shocked the jury.

09/01/2020 **candour**

* honesty, frankness
* the quality of being open and honest

eg: We were surprised by the **candour**of the politician’s speech because she is usually rather evasive.

10/01/2020 **debase**

* to lower the quality or esteem of something
* lower the moral character of (someone)

eg: The large raise that he gave himself was certain to **debase** his motives for running the charity.

13/01/2020 **decry**

* to criticise openly
* to publicly denounce

eg: Having waited several hours in A&E, she felt the need to **decry** the appalling state of Irish hospitals.

14/01/2020 **deferential**

* showing respect for another’s authority

eg: He is always excessively **deferential** to any kind of authority figure.

15/01/2020 **embezzle**

* to steal money by falsifying records

eg: The accountant was fired for trying to **embezzle**€10,000 of the company’s funds.

16/01/2020 **empathy**

* sensitivity to another’s feelings as if they were one’s own

eg: I feel such **empathy** for my dog; when she’s upset so am I!

17/01/2020 **enmity**

* ill will or hatred
* a state or feeling of active opposition or hostility

eg: John and Scott have clearly not forgiven each other, because the **enmity** between them is obvious to anyone in their presence.

20/01/2020 **erudite**

* having or showing great knowledge or learning

eg: My English teacher is such an **erudite** scholar that he has translated some of the most difficult and abstruse Old English poetry.

21/01/2020 **modicum**

* a small amount of something

eg: Refusing to display even a **modicum** of sensitivity, she announced her boss’s financial difficulty to the entire office.

22/01/2020 **morose**

* gloomy or sullen
* ill-tempered

eg: David’s **morose** nature made him very unpleasant to talk to.

23/01/2020 **pronunciation**

* the way in which a word or [letter](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/letter) is said, or said [correctly](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/correctly), or the way in which a [language](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/language) is [spoken](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/spoken)

eg: The pronunciation of the word either is open to debate.

24/01/2020 **nadir**

* the lowest or least successful point of something

eg: My day was already terrible, but the **nadir** came when my new car was stolen.

27/01/2020 **infamy**

* notoriety, extreme ill repute
* the state of being well known for some bad quality or deed

eg: The **infamy**of his crime will not lessen as time passes.

28/01/2020 **inhibit**

* to prevent, restrain, stop or hinder
* make (someone) self-conscious and unable to act in a relaxed and natural way

eg: When I told you I needed the car last night, I certainly never meant to **inhibit** you from going out.

29/01/2020 **underrate**

* under-estimate the extent, value, or importance of (someone or something).

eg: It would have been easy to **underrate** his achievement had they not witnessed his success.

30/01/2020 **perceive**

* become aware or conscious of (something)
* come to realise or understand
* interpret or regard (someone or something) in a particular way

eg: If John does not **perceive** himself as disabled, then nobody else should.

31/01/2020 **perseverance**

* persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success

eg: Her **perseverance** with the training illustrates her single-mindedness.