resentment N. /indignation; bitterness;

displeasure. Not wanting to appear a sore loser, Bill tried to hide his *resentment* of Barry's success.

reserve N. / self-control; formal but distant manner.

Although some girls were attracted by Mark's air of reserve, Judy was put off by it, for she felt his aloofness indicated a lack of openness. reserved, ADJ.

residue N. / /remainder; balance.

In his will, he requested that after payment of debts, taxes, and funeral expenses, the *residue* be given to his wife. residual, ADJ.

resigned ADJ. / /accepting one's fate; unresisting;

patiently submissive. *Resigned* to his downtrodden existence, Bob Cratchit was too meek to protest Scrooge's bullying. resignation, N.

resilient ADJ. /elastic; having the power of springing back. Highly resilient, steel makes excellent

bedsprings. resilience, N.

resolution N. / determination; resolve

. Nothing could shake his resolution that his children would get the best education that money could buy. resolute, ADJ.

resolve N. / /determination; firmness of purpose.

How dare you question my resolve to take up skydiving! Of course I haven't changed my mind!

resolve V. / decide; settle; solve. Holmes resolved to travel to Bohemia to resolve the dispute

between Irene Adler and the king.

resonant ADJ. / /echoing; resounding;

deep and full in sound. The deep, *resonant* voice of the actor James Earl Jones makes him particularly effective when he appears on stage.

respiration N. / /breathing; exhalation.

The doctor found that the patient's years of smoking had adversely affected both his lung capacity and his rate of *respiration*.

respite N. / /interval of relief; time for rest; delay in punishment.

After working nonstop on this project for

three straight months. I need a *respite!* For David, the two weeks vacationing in New Zealand were a

delightful respite from the pressures of his job.

resplendent ADJ. / /dazzling; glorious; brilliant.

While all the adults were commenting how glorious the emperor looked in his *resplendent* new clothes, one little boy was heard to say, "But he's naked!"

responsiveness N. / /state of reacting readily to appeals, orders, etc.

The audience cheered and applauded, delighting the performers by its *responsiveness*.

restitution N. / reparation; indemnification.

He offered to make *restitution* for the window broken by his son.

restive ADJ. / /restlessly impatient; obstinately resisting control.

Waiting impatiently in line to see Santa Claus, even the best-behaved children grow restive and start to fidget.

restraint N. /moderation or self-control; controlling force; restriction

. Control yourself. young lady! Show some restraint!

resumption N. / /taking up again; recommencement.

During summer break, Don had not realized how much he missed university life: at the *resumption* of classes, however, he felt marked excitement and pleasure. resume, V.

resurge V. / /rise again; flow to and fro.

It was startling to see the spirit of nationalism resurge as the Soviet Union disintegrated into a loose federation of ethnic and national groups. resurgence, **N**.

retain V /keep; employ.

Fighting to *retain* his seat in Congress, Senator Foghorn *retained* a new manager to head his reelection campaign.

retaliation N. / /repayment in kind (usually for bad treatment).

Because everyone knew the Princeton Band had stolen Brown's mascot, the whole Princeton student body expected some sort of *retaliation* from Brown. retaliate, **V**.

retentive ADJ. / holding; having a good memory.

The pupil did not need to spend much time studying, for he had a *retentive* mind and remembered all he read.

reticence N. / /reserve; uncommunicativeness;

inclination to silence. Fearing his competitors might get advance word about his plans from talkative staff members, Hughes preferred *reticence* from his employees to loquacity. reticent, **ADJ**.

retinue N. /following; attendants

. The queen's *retinue* followed her down the aisle.

retiring ADJ. / /modest; shy.

Given Susan's *retiring* personality, no one expected her to take up public speaking; surprisingly enough, she became a star of the school debate team,

retort N. / /quick sharp reply.

Even when it was advisable for her to keep her mouth shut, she was always ready with a quick retort. also**V**.

retract V /withdraw; take back.

When I saw how Fred and his fraternity brothers had trashed the frat house, I decided to retract my offer to let them use our summer cottage for the weekend.

retraction, N.

retrench V /cut down; economize.

In order to be able to afford to send their children to college, they would have to *retrench*. retrenchment, **N**.

retribution N /vengeance; compensation

; punishment for offenses. The evangelist maintained that an angry deity would exact *retribution* from the sinners.

retrieve Vrecover; find and bring in.

The dog was intelligent and quickly learned to retrieve the game killed by the hunter.

retroactive ADJ. / of a law that dates back to a period before its

enactment. Because the law was retroactive to the first of the year, we found she was eligible for the pension.

retrograde V. / /go backwards;

degenerate. instead of advancing, our civilization seems to have *retrograded* in ethics and culture. also**ADJ**.

retrospective ADJ. / /looking back on the past.

The Museum of Graphic Arts is holding a retrospective showing of the paintings of Michael Whelan over the past two decades.

revelry N. / /boisterous merrymaking. New Year's Eve is a night of revelry

reverent ADJ. /respectful; worshipful.

Though I bow my head in church and recite the prayers, sometimes I don't feel properly *reverent*. revere, **V**.

reverie Ndaydream; musing.

He was awakened from his reverie by the teacher's question.

revert V. /relapse; backslide; turn back to.

Most of the time Andy seemed sensitive and mature, but occasionally he would revert to his smart-alecky, macho, adolescent self.

revile V. / /attack with abusive language; vilify.

Though most of his contemporaries *reviled* Captain Kidd as a notorious, bloody-handed pirate, some of his fellow merchant-captains believed him innocent of his alleged crimes.

revoke V /cancel; retract.

Repeat offenders who continue to drive under the influence of alcohol face having their driver's licenses permanently *revoked*.

revulsion Nsudden violent change of feeling

; reaction. Many people in this country who admired dictatorships underwent a revulsion when they realized what Hitler and Mussolini were trying to do.

rhapsodize V /to speak or write in an exaggeratedly enthusiastic manner. She

greatly enjoyed her Hawaiian vacation and *rhapsodized* about it for weeks.

rhetoric N. / /art of effective communication; insincere language. All writers, by

necessity, must be skilled in *rhetoric*.

rhetorical ADJ. /pertaining to effective communication;

insincere in language. To win his audience; the speaker used every *rhetorical* trick in the book.

ribald ADJ. /wanton; profane. He sang a *ribald* song that offended many of the more prudish listeners.

riddle V. pierce with holes;

permeate or spread throughout. With his machine gun, Tracy *riddled* the car with bullets till it looked

like a slice of Swiss cheese. During the proofreaders' strike, the newspaper was *riddled* with typos.

rider N. / /amendment or clause added to a legislative bill. Senator

Foghorn said he would support Senator Filibuster's tax reform bill only if Filibuster agreed to add an antipollution *riderto* the bill.

rife ADJ /abundant; current. In the face of the many rumors of scandal, which are rife at the

moment, it is best to remain silent.

rift N. /opening; break. The plane was lost in the stormy sky until the pilot saw the city through a

rift in the clouds.

rig V /fix or manipulate. The ward boss was able to rig the election by bribing people to stuff

the ballot boxes with ballots marked in his candidate's favor.

rigid ADJ /stiff and unyielding; strict

; hard and unbending. By living with a man to whom she was not married, George Eliot broke Victorian society's most rigid rule of respectable behavior.

rigor N. /severity. Many settlers could not stand the rigors of the New England winters.

rigorous ADJ. //severe; harsh; demanding;

exact. Disliked by his superiors, the officer

candidate in An Officer and a Gentleman endured an extremely rigorous training program.

rile V. / /vex; irritate; muddy.

Red had a hair-trigger temper: he was an easy man to rile.

riveting ADJ. absorbing; engrossing.

The reviewer described Byatt's novel *Possession* as a riveting tale, one so absorbing that he had finished it in a single night.

rivulet N. / small stream. As the rains continued

, the small trickle of water running down the hillside grew into a rivulet that threatened to wash away a portion of the slope.

robust ADJ. / /vigorous; strong.

After pumping iron and taking karate for six months, the little old lady was so robust that she could break a plank with her fist.

roil Vo make liquids murky by stirring up sediment

. Be careful when you pour not to roil the wine; if you stir up the sediment you'll destroy the flavor.

roster N. / /list.

They print the roster of players in the season's program.

rostrum N /platform for speech-making;

pulpit. The crowd murmured angrily and indicated that they did not care to listen to the speaker who was approaching the rostrum.

rote N. /repetition.

He recited the passage by rote and gave no indication he understood what he was saying.

rotundity Nroundness;

sonorousness of speech. Washington Irving emphasized the *rotundity* of the governor by describing his height and circumference.

rousing ADJ. / /lively; stirring

. "And now, let's have a rousing welcome for TV's own Roseanne Barr, who'll lead us in a rousing rendition of 'The Star-Spangled Banner."

rout V. / /stampede; drive out.

The reinforcements were able to rout the enemy. also N.

rubble N. / /broken fragments

• Ten years after World War II, some of the *rubble* left by enemy bombings could still be seen.

ruddy ADJ. / /reddish; healthy-looking

. Santa Claus's ruddy cheeks nicely

complement Rudolph the Reindeer's bright red nose.

rudimentary ADJ. / /not developed; elementary

; crude. Although my grandmother's English vocabulary was limited to a few *rudimentary* phrases, she always could make herself understood.

rue V. / /regret; lament; mourn.

Tina rued the night she met Tony and wondered how she ever fell for such a jerk. rueful,**ADJ**.

ruffian N. /bully;

scoundrel. The ruffians threw stones at the police.

ruminate V /chew over and over (mentally, or, like cows, physically); mull over; ponder.

Unable to digest quickly the baffling events of the day, Reuben *ruminated* about them till four in the morning

morning.

rummage V. /ransack;

thoroughly search. When we rum*maged* through the trunks in the attic, we found many souvenirs of our childhood days. also **N**.

ruse N /trick; stratagem.

You will not be able to fool your friends with such an obvious ruse.

rustic ADJ. /pertaining to country people; uncouth

. The backwoodsman looked out of place in his rustic attire.

ruthless ADJ. pitiless; cruel.

Captain Hook was a dangerous, *ruthless* villain who would stop at nothing to destroy Peter Pan.

saboteur N. one who commits sabotage; destroyer of property

. Members of the Resistance acted as *saboteurs*, blowing up train lines to prevent supplies from reaching the Nazi army.

saccharine ADJ. / cloyingly sweet

. She tried to ingratiate herself, speaking sweetly and smiling a *saccharine* smile.

sacrilegiousADJ /desecrating

; profane. His stealing of the altar cloth was a very sacrilegious act.

sacrosanct ADJ. / /most sacred; inviolable

. The brash insurance salesman invaded the sacrosanct privacy of the office of the president of the company.