

alderman (n.) an elected member of a municipal council

apoplectic (adj.) very angry and excited

**apparition** (n.) a ghost or other human-like spirit

apprehensive (adj.) hesitant or fearful

**artifice** (n.) a clever device to trick someone

**aspirations** (n.) hope or ambition of achieving something

**assign** (n.) one to whom a thing is assigned

avarice (n.) extreme greed

**balustrades** (n.) a railing supported by short pillars or columns

beguile (v.) charm or enchant (someone), sometimes in a deceptive way

benevolence (n.) well-meaning and kind

**bereft** (adj.) not having something or feeling great loss

**bigotry** (n.) intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from

oneself

bilious (adj.) affected by or associated with nausea or vomiting

**boisterous** (adj.) noisy, energetic, and cheerful

**brazier** (n.) a portable heater that uses lighted coals

**capacious** (adj.) having a lot of space inside

**caustic** (adj.) sarcastic in a bitter way

**cesspools** (n.) a storage unit for liquid waste

**chaise** (n.) horse-drawn carriage for one or two people

**comely** (adj.) pleasant to look at, attractive

**condescension** (n.) attitude of disdainful superiority

**conducive** (adj.) tending to promote or assist, helpful

**congenial** (adj.) having a pleasant or friendly personality

**consolation** (n.) comfort after a disappointment

conspicuous (adj.) to stand out

**convey** (v.) make (an idea, impression, or feeling) known or understandable

to someone

cordially (adj.) in a warm and friendly way

**corroborate** (v.) confirm or give support

covetous (adj.) showing a great desire to possess something

**cupola** (n.) a small dome

**demeanour** (n.) a way of looking and behaving

**demurely** (adv.) to do with modesty

**despondent** (adj.) in low spirits from loss of hope or courage

**deuce** (n.) (old English) bad luck – used as a mild oath

**dirge** (n.) a funeral song

**dowerless** (adj.) lacking a dowry (the property and wealth a woman brought to a

marriage)

**encompass** (v.) surround and have or hold within

**endeavor** (v.) try hard to do or achieve something

**ensue** (v.) happen or occur afterward or as a result

**entreaty** (n.) a sincere request

excrescence (n.) an unusual growth on an animal or one of its organs or on a plant

**extravagance** (n.) a lack of restraint in spending wealth

**facetious** (adj.) meant to be humorous or funny, not serious

**factious** (adj.) likely to argue or disagree

**fain** (adj.) willing under the circumstances

fictitious (adj.) not real or true, being imaginary or having been fabricated

**forbearance** (n.) patient self-control; restraint and tolerance

**forfeit** (n.) a fine or penalty for wrongdoing

garret (n.) a room (usu. very small) just under the roof of a house

**gladsome** (adj.) having a cheerful disposition

haggard (adj.) looking exhausted

**heresy** (n.) a belief that goes against the teachings of the Christian church

**homage** (n.) pay public respect or honor something

**humbug** (n.) something designed to deceive and mislead

illustrious (adj.) famous, well respected, and admired

**impenetrable** (adj.) impossible to pass through or enter

**impropriety** (n.) something improper or inappropriate

inexorable (adj.) continuing without any possibility of being stopped

infamous (adj.) well-known for some bad quality or deed

**intervention** (n.) the act or fact of becoming involved intentionally in

a difficult situation

**intimation** (n.) a suggestion

**ironmongery** (n.) a store that sells iron works

**irresolution** (n.) be uncertain

**jocund** (adj.) cheerful and lighthearted

**jovial** (adj.) happy and friendly

**kith and kin** (n.) one's friends, acquaintances, and relations

**latent** (adj.) hidden or concealed

**latent** (adj.) hidden or dormant

**liberality** (n.) the quality of giving or spending freely

**livery** (n.) special uniform worn by a servant or official

**loth** (adj.) unwilling, reluctant

manslaughter (n.) the crime of killing a person when the killer did not intend to do it

or cannot be responsible for his or her actions

melancholy (adj.) a feeling of pensive sadness

**melancholy** (n.) a feeling of pensive sadness

mirth (n.) laughter, humour, or happiness

misanthropic (adj.) disliking people in general and having an anti-social bad attitude

morose (adj.) having a bleak outlook or attitude

munifi- (munificence) (n.) great generosity

**notwithstanding** (adv.) nevertheless; in spite of this

**ominous** (adj.) give an impression of doom or imply bad things will happen

**opaque** (adj.) something that is unclear, not transparent

**opulence** (n.) great wealth or luxuriousness

palpable (adj.) able to be touched or felt

**parapet** (n.) a low protective wall

pendulous (adj.) loosely hanging down

**penitence** (n.) showing sorrow or regret

**petrification** (n.) a conversion into stone or a stony substance

**phantom** (n.) spirit or illusion

**phenomenon** (n.) a fact or situation which is unexplained

**pinion** (v.) tie or hold the arms or legs of (someone)

**pitch-and-toss** (n.) a gambling game in which the player who manages to throw a

coin closest to a mark gets to toss all the coins, winning those that

land with the head up

**plume oneself** (v.) congratulate oneself, boast

**predicament** (n.) a difficult situation

**preposterous** (adj.) absurd or ridiculous

**prodigious** (adj.) remarkably or impressively great in extent, size, or degree

rampart (n.) anything that acts as a barricade

rebuke (n.) sharp disapproval

**reclamation** (n.) the process of claiming something back

recumbent (adj.) laying down, reclining

relinquish (v.) voluntarily cease to keep or claim; give up

**remorse** (n.) deeply regret something

**repentance** (n.) sincere regret or remorse

reproach (n.) the expression of disapproval or disappointment

**residuary** (n.) the person entitled to the remainder of an estate

resolute (adj.) having a determined outlook

**resolution** (n.) a firm choice not to do something

retentive (adj.) having the ability to remember facts and impressions easily

reveler (n.) a person who is enjoying themselves in a lively and noisy way

reverently (adv.) with deep and solemn respect

ruddy (adj.) having a healthy red color

**scabbard** (n.) a sheath for a weapon

**sepulcher** (n.) a small room or monument, cut in rock or built of stone, in which

a dead person is laid or buried

**shroud** (n.) a burial wrapping

slipshod (adj.) careless

**smoking bishop** (n.) type of mulled wine

**solemnize** (v.) observe or honour with formal ceremony

**solitude** (n.) the state of being alone

sordid (adj.) immoral or unethical (from the Latin 'sordes' – dirty)

**specter** (n.) ghost or vision

spontaneous combustion (n.)

a situation in which something suddenly starts to burn without

any obvious cause

**squab** (n.) a fledgling pigeon about four weeks old

**strait-waistcoat** (n.) a type of jacket with long sleeves tied behind to hold back the

arms of e.g. a violent and insane person

**supplication** (n.) the action of earnestly asking or begging for something

**supposition** (n.) a belief held without proof or certain knowledge

**surmount** (v.) overcome (a difficulty or obstacle)

**swarthy** (adj.) dark-skinned

**transparent** (adj.) something that is seen through or fully explained

trifle (n.) something of little value

**twice turned gown** (n.) A twice turned gown was a practice from around the Victorian

Era when women still made most of their own clothes. They would make a dress, probably of a solid color were the material looked practically the same on both sides. When the dress got too stained or soiled, they would carefully completely unstitch the entire dress then sew it back together using the other side of the

material.

**ubiquitous** (adj.) seeming to be everywhere

**unanimity** (n.) agreement by all people involved; consensus

unhallowed (adj.) unholy, not blessed, wicked

**uproarious** (adj.) provoking a loud sound or laughter

**veneration** (n.) great respect; reverence

**vestige** (n.) a small trace of something that is no longer here

**vigor** (n.) physical strength and good health

waggish (adj.) playful or mischievous humor

**walk-ER** The boy from whom Scrooge orders the prize turkey responds

with suitable incredulity, for "Walker" was a nineteenth-century

colloquialism equivalent in meaning to "humbug"

withal (adv.) in addition