

Even as native speakers of the English language, it is still crucial for us to continue learning new words. You may wonder what is the point of learning so much new vocabulary if we can communicate with one another effectively using simple words. However, understanding new phrases, especially that of foreign origins, help us understand our language better. It also unlocks new frontiers in literature and our daily lives.

If you have missed the January 2022 article, click <u>here</u> before reading this article. Do take your time to learn these words – spending five minutes each day isn't a lot to ask for.

1 February - Quid pro quo

Type: Noun

Origin: Latin

Definition: A favour or advantage granted with an expected reciprocation

2 February - Dignitary

Type: Noun

Origin: English

Definition: Someone thought to be important based on his or her rank or office

3 February - Thanatophobia

Type: Noun

Origin: Greek

Definition: A fear of death

4 February - Decrepit

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: Worn out or damaged due to age or neglect



5 February - Ephemeral

Type: Adjective

Origin: Greek

Definition: Lasting for a short period

6 February - Jejune

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: Naïve, simplistic, superficial; a dry or uninteresting idea or writing

7 February - Jocular

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: Humorous or playful

8 February - Ebullience

Type: Noun

Origin: Latin

Definition: Being cheerful and full of energy

9 February - Consternation

Type: Noun

Origin: Latin

Definition: Being anxious or dismal due to something unexpected



10 February - Vicissitude

Type: Noun

Origin: Latin

Definition: A change in situation or fortune that is usually unwelcomed or unpleasant

11 February - Bedraggled

Type: Adjective

Origin: English

Definition: Dishevelled

12 February - Ostentation

Type: Noun

Origin: Latin

Definition: The pretentious or showy display of wealth and luxury meant to impress

13 February - Propensity

Type: Noun

Origin: Latin

Definition: The tendency to behave in a certain manner

14 February - Corpulent

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: A fat person



15 February - Reprobate

Type: Noun, Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: An unprincipled person; unprincipled

16 February - Incongruous

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: Not in harmony with the surroundings or other aspects of something

17 February - Downtrodden

Type: Adjective

Origin: English

Definition: Oppressed or mistreated by people in power

18 February - Cognizant

Type: Adjective

Origin: English

Definition: To know or to be aware

19 February - Vexatious

Type: Adjective

Origin: French

Definition: To tend to cause annoyance, frustration, or worry



20 February - Machiavellian

Type: Adjective

Origin: Italian

Definition: Cunning, scheming, and unscrupulous in politics

21 February - Deplorable

Type: Adjective

Origin: French

Definition: Absolutely unacceptable and should be condemned

22 February - Vouchsafe

Type: Noun

Origin: English

Definition: Granting someone something graciously or condescendingly; revealing or

disclosing information

23 February - Irascible

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: Easily angered

24 February - Conciliatory

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: Tend to pacify



25 February - Banal

Type: Adjective

Origin: French

Definition: To be so unoriginal to the point that it is obvious or boring

26 February - Caustic

Type: Adjective

Origin: Greek

Definition: Sarcastic in a scathing and bitter manner

27 February - Tawdry

Type: Adjective

Origin: English

Definition: Something that is showy but of cheap and poor quality

28 February - Clandestine

Type: Adjective

Origin: Latin

Definition: Done in secret, mostly due to it being illegal