**Avert**: *(verb)* to turn away or aside (the eyes, one's gaze, etc.) in avoidance

-Henry found the sight so grotesque that he **averted** his gaze and studied his shoes instead.

**Boon:** *(noun)* benefit or favor, especially one made in a timely manner

- After he had been unemployed for almost a year, the steady paycheck was a **boon** for John’s family.

**Deign:** *(verb)* to condescend reluctantly and with a strong sense of the affront to one's superiority that is

involved; to stoop

-Josie, a world-renowned singer, would not **deign** to talk to the general public about musical art.

**Lassitude:** *(noun)* a condition of weariness or debility; fatigue; a condition characterized by lack of

interest, energy, or spirit

- After an average of five years in the profession, over fifty percent of teachers report experiencing

intense **lassitude**.

**Scorn:** *(noun)* open dislike and disrespect or derision often mixed with indignation

-Reporter Brian Williams faced **scorn** from his peers and the public after he falsely reported being

involved in a helicopter crash while covering a news story from inside a war zone.

**Solidarity:** *(noun)* unity (as of a group or class) that produces or is based on community of interests,

objectives, and standards

-The unanimous vote was a demonstration of **solidarity** amongst the congressmen.

**Tarry**: *(verb)* to delay or be tardy in acting or doing; to linger in expectation; wait; to abide or stay in or

at a place

-Ted and Wanda warned their children not to **tarry** too long at the bookstore.

**Taut:** *(adjective)* tightly drawn; high-strung, tense; kept in proper order or condition

-The ship’s sails were drawn **taut** as the mast strained against the wind.

**Torrent:** *(noun)* a tumultuous outpouring; rush; a violent stream of a liquid (such as water or lava)

-After days of waiting patiently, Anna released a **torrent** of emotions when she finally received the

results of her exam.

**Quest:** *(noun)* investigation; an act or instance of seeking; pursuit, search; a chivalrous enterprise usually

involving an adventurous journey

-Jasie and Antoine set out on a **quest** to learn about their ancestors who had lived in medieval Spain.