

# Keanu Reeves Film Vocabulary

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1985

*One Step Away*

**Recognizance:** formal agreement made by somebody before a judge or magistrate to do something, e.g. to appear in court at a set date

**Do:** to rob a person or place

**Dare:** to challenge somebody to do something, usually something dangerous or frightening

**Dare:** a challenge to somebody to do something dangerous or frightening, or a response to such a challenge

**Lamebrain:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's intelligence

**Pull in:** to arrest somebody, or take somebody into a police station for questioning

**Take the heat:** accept blame or withstand disapproval

**Hoodlum:** 1. a criminal or gangster, especially one prone to violence 2. a young person who is violent or prone to committing crimes

**Turn in:** to hand over somebody or something to the police or other authorities

**Boost:** to steal something, especially from a store

**Piece:** a gun, especially a handgun

1986

### *Flying*

**Drool:** to let saliva dribble from the mouth

**Sweep (one) off (one's) feet:** to charm one in such a way that they form an instant and strong romantic attraction, usually unexpectedly

**Lesbo:** used as a disparaging term for a lesbian

**Schmuck:** a highly offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's personal worth

**Have a good head on (one's) shoulders:** to be capable of making sound, responsible decisions

**Tight:** difficult or dangerous to handle

**Happening:** an improvised or informal performance or demonstration, often dramatic in form and using audience participation

**Moneybags:** a conspicuously rich person

**Charge account:** an account that allows a customer to buy goods or services and pay at a later date

**Pizzazz:** an attractive and exciting vitality, especially when combined with style and glamor

**Guilt trip:** exaggerated feeling or display of shame and regret, usually lasting some time

**Rolling in dough:** exceptionally wealthy; having large amounts of money to spend

**Out of the hole:** no longer in debt or having outstanding bills

**Drool:** to show excessive appreciation of somebody or something

**Crasher:** one who attends an event without an invitation

**Swing:** to achieve a desired change or result by using influence, persuasion, or other means

**Worn-out:** very tired

### *River's Edge*

**Card:** to ask somebody to show identification, usually to check that the person is of legal age to drink alcohol or be admitted somewhere

**Lighten up:** to become less gloomy, serious, or angry

**Fry:** to execute somebody in an electric chair, or be executed in this way

**Hooked:** in love with, compulsively attracted to, or obsessed with somebody or something

**Truant:** somebody who is absent without permission or good reason, especially from school

**Loose end:** a small part of something such as a project or a story that has not been completed or fully explained

**Arcade:** an enclosed area where people can play on coin-operated game machines such as pinball machines or video games

**Ingrate:** somebody who shows or feels no gratitude

**Nark=narc:** to act as an informer, especially for the police

**Waste:** to kill or murder somebody

**Nun-chucks=nunchaku:** a martial arts weapon consisting of two thick sticks joined at their ends by a rawhide band, rope, or chain

**Twisted:** badly affected by unpleasant experiences or constant disappointment

**Hyped-up:** highly stimulated or excited, especially by drugs

**Sixer:** a six-pack beverage container

**Puff out:** to cause something to swell out or expand outward

**Have the hots for someone:** to be sexually aroused by someone

**Big talk:** boastful, arrogant, or grandiose talk or statements, usually that which is without merit, veracity, or substance

**Indignation:** anger because something seems unfair or unreasonable

**Point up:** to emphasize or draw particular attention to something

**Split:** to go away from a place

**Mellow out:** 1. to become more relaxed and friendly, or make somebody more relaxed and friendly 2. to become calm, or make somebody calm

### *Youngblood*

**Tryout:** a trial to test somebody's suitability, especially to play on a sports team or play a role as an actor

**Scout=talent scout:** somebody whose job is to search for people who have exceptional abilities in some field such as entertainment or sports and recruit them for professional work

**Pick up the slack:** to do an extra amount of work that someone else is unable or unwilling to do

**Canuck:** 1. somebody from Canada 2. an offensive term for a French-Canadian person

**Wetback:** a highly offensive term for a Mexican person recently arrived in the United States, especially somebody who has entered the country illegally to work as a laborer

**Tier:** a row placed one above and behind another row, e.g. a set of seats in a theater

**Hot dog:** a performer of difficult, dangerous, or acrobatic stunts in skiing, surfing, and other sports

**Puck:** a small disk of hard rubber that the players hit in hockey

**Pup:** an inexperienced or arrogant young person, especially a boy or young man

**Needlepoint:** embroidery done with thick colored threads on canvas or plain cloth, usually in uniform diagonal stitches

**Pipsqueak:** somebody or something that is small or insignificant, but nevertheless often annoying or troublesome

**Sucker:** to take advantage of somebody's ignorance, innocence, or foolishness to trick him or her

**Hook:** in boxing, a short blow to an opponent delivered with a swing and a bent arm

**Bottoms up:** an informal drinking toast

**Stick boy:** a boy who is in charge of preparing and supplying the players' sticks during an ice hockey game

**Prima donna:** 1. principal woman soloist in an opera production 2. somebody who is regarded as demanding and difficult to please

**Slumber party:** a party at which a group of girls, wearing nightgowns or pajamas, talk, eat, and stay overnight at one of the girls' homes

**Croon:** to sing or murmur something in a soft low voice, especially to yourself or to a sleepy child

**Glutton:** somebody who habitually eats or drinks too much

**Lineup:** a list of players in a team together with the positions they play

**Squaw:** 1. an offensive term for a Native North American woman or wife 2. an offensive term for a woman or wife

**Slash:** to cut or attack somebody with the sharp sweeping strokes of a sword, knife, stick, or whip

**Blindside:** 1. to attack somebody suddenly and physically by hitting the person on a side where his or her peripheral vision is obstructed 2. to take somebody unawares suddenly, with detrimental results to that person

**Rock bottom:** the lowest level or price possible

**Candy-ass:** an offensive term for somebody regarded as weak or cowardly, especially a man

**Rough-and-tumble:** 1. a situation characterized by aggressive tactics and a disregard for rules and conventions 2. a bout of rough physical horseplay or free-for-all fighting

**Check:** in sports such as ice hockey, to move directly into the path of an opponent, usually making physical contact, in order to block his or her progress

**Jab:** 1. to make a short punching movement, or push something with a short punching movement 2. to make a short fast punch at an opponent, e.g. in boxing

**Lardass:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's body weight

**Regulation time:** the normal prescribed duration of a game

1988

### *Dangerous Liaisons*

**Chateau:** a castle or large house in France, often one that has a vineyard attached and gives its name to wine produced there

**Convent:** a community of women who live a life devoted largely to religious worship

**Officious:** characteristic of somebody who is eager to give unwanted help or advice

**Own up:** to admit to having done something

**Footman:** a man employed as a servant, especially a servant in uniform in a mansion or palace

**Dissolute:** overindulging in physical pleasures in a way that is considered immoral or harmful

**Impertinent:** showing a bold or rude lack of respect, especially to a superior

**Tepid:** showing little enthusiasm or warmth

**Snivel:** to behave in a whining, tearful, or self-pitying way

**Bungle:** to cause something to fail through carelessness or incompetence

**Candor:** honesty or directness, whether refreshing or distasteful

**Stickler:** somebody who insists that every detail must be correct

**Marquise:** in various European countries, a noblewoman ranking above a countess, or the wife or widow of a marquis

**Limp:** without strength, power, or firmness

**Mawkish:** sentimental, especially in a contrived or off-putting way

**Vociferous:** shouting in a noisy and determined way

**Purgatorial:** relating to or similar to purgatory

### *Night Before, The*

**Quiche:** a pie filled with an egg-and-cream mixture and various meat or vegetable ingredients

**Joe:** coffee

**Sinker:** doughnut

**Swell:** 1. very good 2. grand, stylish or fashionable

**Wrap around one's little finger:** to have easy and complete control or influence over

**Cracker:** an offensive term for a white person living on a relatively small income in a rural area, especially in the South

**Carnation:** a perennial plant of the pink family. Flowers: fragrant white, pink, or red with fringed petals, often smelling of cloves

**Snatch:** a highly offensive term for the outer sexual organs of a woman

**Ale:** an alcoholic drink made from rapidly fermented malt to which hops have been added

**Honky:** a highly offensive term for a white person

**Jive-ass:** 1. deceitful; undependable 2. ridiculous, stupid

**Porky:** regarded as overweight

**Jaywalk:** to cross a street anywhere other than at a designated crossing place. It is a violation of the law in some places, though prosecutions are rarely brought.

**Out:** to put or throw out

**Blimp:** somebody who is stubborn, pompous, or unreasonably conservative

### *Permanent Record*

**Joint:** a building or dwelling of any kind

**Saucy:** cheerfully pert (small, well-shaped, and pretty)

**Buttercup:** a plant that grows in grassland. Flowers: yellow, cup-shaped. Native to: cold or temperate regions.

**Aria:** a melody sung solo or as a duet in an opera, oratorio, or cantata

**Recitative:** a style of singing that is close to the rhythm of natural speech, used in opera for dialogue and narration

**Blow a gasket:** to become very angry or upset

**Smart aleck:** somebody who makes an annoying show of knowing something or of being cleverer than others

**Shoot for:** to try to achieve something difficult

**Make out:** to kiss and caress somebody as an expression of sexual desire

**On sight:** immediately something has come to one's attention

**Bonehead:** an offensive term for somebody regarded as unintelligent

**Whatchamacallit:** something whose name is forgotten or is not known

**Microcosm:** a miniature copy of something, especially when it represents or stands for a larger whole

**On the sly:** without the knowledge or permission of others

**Eat up:** to consume food completely or with great appetite

**Needle:** to tease or provoke somebody, especially repeatedly in an indirect way

**Knock off:** to finish work at the end of the day, or stop working or doing something in order to take a break

**Chart:** the score of a musical composition

**Stretch:** to cause somebody to make full use of his or her abilities or intellect, e.g. with challenging or demanding work

**Involution:** the algebraic operation of raising a number, variable, or expression to a specified positive integral power,  $x^n$ .

**Evolution:** an algebraic operation in which the root, e.g. the square root or cube root, of a number is found

**Rat's ass:** a minimum amount or degree of care or interest

**Hoof:** to walk a particular distance

**Clear:** to authorize somebody to do something or go somewhere

**Canonize:** to idolize somebody or glorify something

**Get through:** to make somebody understand something that is being communicated

**Peaches and cream:** very enjoyable experience. Usually used to describe something being unrealistically idyllic

**Sell somebody or something short:** to make an estimate of the quality and worth of somebody or something that is too low

**Toe the line:** to comply with what is expected

**Lay down:** to record

**Condemn:** to issue an official order saying that something such as a building is unfit to be used

**Gaily:** in a happy, cheerful, or carefree manner

**Skip:** to move along by hopping from one foot to the other

**Fill:** a sufficient or excessive quantity of something

**Set off:** to provide a contrast to something in a way that makes it look more attractive

**Hand:** to furl a sail

**Reef:** 1. to reduce the area of a sail by gathering part of it in 2. to shorten or bring in one of the pieces that support the rigging on a ship

**Quail:** to tremble with or feel fear or apprehension

**Gale:** a very strong wind

**Tattered:** 1. ragged or torn to shreds 2. dressed in ragged clothes 3. shabby and rundown

*Prince of Pennsylvania, The*

**Jinx:** an unseen force, a person, or something such as a curse that is thought to bring bad luck

**Halfway:** to only some extent, degree, or distance

**Skate on thin ice:** to be (or to place oneself) in a risky, potentially dangerous or delicate situation

**Not take shit from someone:** to not let someone behave in an unpleasant or unfair way towards you

**Come into:** to inherit money or property

**Drive-in:** a commercial establishment, e.g. a movie theater, that provides services or products to customers while they remain in their cars in a parking lot

**Outfit:** a team or group of people who work closely together, e.g. a military unit

**Tackle:** the equipment used for a specialized activity such as fishing, angling or rock climbing

**Mumps:** acute contagious disease, usually affecting children, that causes a fever with swelling of the salivary glands and sometimes also affects the pancreas and ovaries or testes. It is caused by a virus and can be prevented through vaccination. It may cause sterility if contracted by a man.

**Drag:** to take part in a drag race

**Hemlock:** a poison obtained from the fruit of the poison hemlock plant. Hemlock was used in ancient Greece to execute people, and Socrates was forced to drink it when he was condemned to death.

**Dork:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's intelligence, physical appearance or social skills

**Trooper=state trooper:** a member of the highway patrol police of a state

**Wimp:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody regarded as weak, timid, unassertive, or ineffectual

**Cajun:** somebody from Louisiana who is descended from French colonists exiled in the 18th century from Acadia in present-day Canada

**Quiche:** a pie filled with an egg-and-cream mixture and various meat or vegetable ingredients

**Buckaroo:** 1. a cowhand in the southwestern United States 2. a cowhand who breaks wild horses

**Flip out:** to become very angry or upset

**Butthead:** an annoying person or someone who is difficult to get along with

**Hotshot:** a successful, important, or highly skilled person, especially one who is showily confident

**Clean out:** to use up or steal all of somebody's money or belongings

1989

*Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*

**Flunk:** to fail an exam or course

**Heinous:** shockingly evil or wicked

**Bodacious:** 1. outrageously arrogant or uninhibited 2. remarkable or excellent

**Amigo:** a friend, or somebody thought likely to be friendly

**Bogus:** not good, pleasant, or acceptable

**Scope:** to look at or examine something

**Oedipus complex:** according to the psychoanalytic theory of Sigmund Freud, feelings or desires originating when a child, especially a son, unconsciously seeks sexual fulfillment with the parent of the opposite sex

**Roust:** to make somebody get up, make a move, or take action, especially abruptly or roughly

**Savory:** having an appetizing taste or smell

*Parenthood*

**Amalgam:** a combination of two or more characteristics

**Pennant:** 1. a small narrow triangular flag displayed on boats and ships for identification and signaling 2. a flag that has a shape similar to a ship's pennant

**Hydroponics:** the cultivation of plants in a nutrient liquid with or without gravel or another supporting medium

**Grass:** marijuana

**Throw off:** to confuse or unsettle somebody by doing something unexpected

**Point spread:** the difference in points between the winner's score and the loser's score. Bets are frequently made on the point spread in particular games.

**Beating:** a severe defeat or setback, e.g. in a competition or in business

**Pro:** on the side that favors one side of an issue

**Jocular:** cheerfulness

**Cavort:** to behave in a physically lively and uninhibited way

**Schmooze:** 1. to chat socially and agreeably 2. to talk persuasively to somebody, often to gain personal advantage

**Left field:** a position that is so different from mainstream beliefs that it is not generally taken seriously

**Drag race:** a race between cars with specially modified bodies and engines on a straight track to discover which has the fastest acceleration

**Fudge:** a soft variously flavored sweet made from sugar, butter, cream, etc

**Sundae:** ice cream topped with a sweet sauce, nuts, whipped cream, etc

**Split:** a dessert of fruit with ice cream and a topping of flavored syrup, nuts, and whipped cream

**Rag:** 1. to subject somebody to persistent teasing or taunting 2. to scold somebody persistently or vehemently

**Shortstop:** 1. in baseball, the position of the infielder playing closest to second base on the side toward third base 2. the baseball player playing at shortstop

**Sibs:** members of an extended family considered as a group

**Make a thing of:** to make a fuss about; exaggerate the importance of

**Blot:** 1. a stain or spot caused by a drop of liquid 2. something ugly that spoils the appearance of something 3. something that spoils somebody or something's good name or reputation

**Bonbon:** a candy confection

**Take somebody or something in hand:** to begin to bring somebody or something under control

**Varmint:** a person or an animal regarded as troublesome, unpleasant, or despicable

**Lily-livered:** lacking courage

**Mosey:** to walk somewhere at a leisurely unhurried pace

**Giddyup:** used to make a horse go faster

**No holds barred:** all limitations removed

**Retainer:** a device for holding a tooth or teeth in position after orthodontic treatment

**High-strung:** tending to be very anxious and easily agitated

**Spin:** a brief journey taken for pleasure in a motor vehicle

**Bookie:** bookmaker

**Lock:** firm possession or control of something

**Butt out:** to keep out of other people's business or conversation

**On the spur of the moment:** on impulse and without forethought

**Eunuch:** 1. a man or boy whose testicles have been removed or do not function. Formerly, eunuchs were sometimes employed to guard the women of a harem or as court officials. 2. a man who is regarded as lacking power or effectiveness

**Crimp:** a hindrance, obstruction, or interference, or somebody who causes it

**Spike:** to leap high close to the net and hit a volleyball straight down into an opponent's court

**Wrinkle:** an ingenious trick, method of doing something, or feature of something

**Toddle off:** to depart; to walk away

**Shrimp:** somebody or something very small or considered insignificant

**Pop-up=pop fly:** in baseball, a high fly ball that travels a relatively short distance from home plate



1990

### *I love You to Death*

**Plumbing:** the digestive, urinary, and reproductive tracts and organs of the body

**Run around:** to behave promiscuously

**Fast break:** in team sports, a swift counterattack made in an attempt to score before the opposing players have the chance to recover their defensive positions

**Nudge:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody for being annoying in a persistent and pestering way

**Discotheque:** disco

**Move in on:** to attempt to take control of somebody or something, or take over from somebody

**Have your eye on somebody or something:** to desire or hope to acquire something or attract somebody

**Board:** daily meals provided at the place where somebody lives, usually for money or in return for work

**Oregano:** 1. the fresh or dried leaves of an aromatic herb, used as a flavoring 2. a variety of wild marjoram that produces oregano. Native to: Mediterranean.

**Splash:** a very small quantity of one liquid added to another

**Bedspread:** decorative covering placed on top of bedding

**Amber:** a yellow to brown color

### *Tune in Tomorrow*

**Exercise:** to be a cause for serious thought, worry, or anxiety

**Cream puff:** a sweet pastry made of a flaky shell filled with whipped cream and dusted with powdered sugar

**Colic:** a sudden attack of abdominal pain, often caused by spasm, inflammation, or obstruction

**Eligible:** considered a good candidate for marriage

**Greaseball:** somebody who is habitually dirty or unkempt

**Lout:** an offensive term that deliberately insults the behavior and attitude of somebody, especially a young man

**Sultry:** oppressively hot and damp

**Pop down:** to come or go to someone's home that is downstairs or in a place on a lower level

**A trifle:** slightly or somewhat

**Get up:** to rouse your energy, strength, courage, or similar qualities

**Tone up:** to make muscles, or the body in general, firmer and stronger

**Synapse:** a junction between two nerve cells, where the club-shaped tip of a nerve fiber almost touches another cell in order to transmit signals

**Flounder:** an edible flatfish of shallow coastal waters

**Proposition:** to invite somebody to have sexual intercourse

**Tightfisted:** disinclined to spend money

**Milkmaid:** a woman or girl who milks cows or does other jobs in a dairy

**Vice squad:** a police division in charge of enforcing laws relating to prostitution, gambling, and drugs

**Streetcar:** a public passenger vehicle that runs through city streets on metal rails built into the road surface

**Loony bin:** an offensive term for a hospital for people who have psychiatric disorders

**Go belly up:** to die, fail, or come to an end

**Sinew:** 1. tendon 2. strength, power, or resilience 3. a source of strength or power

**Incandescent:** 1. emitting light as a consequence of being heated to a high temperature 2. shining or glowing brightly 3. feeling or displaying intense emotion such as anger or romantic passion

**Palpitate:** to beat in an irregular or unusually rapid way, either because of a medical condition or because of exertion, fear, or anxiety

**Droll:** amusing in a wry or odd way

**Bestial:** sexual in a depraved or purely physical manner

**Cot:** a narrow collapsible bed for occasional or camping use, usually consisting of a lightweight metal or wood frame and a canvas surface or thin mattress

**Aperitif:** an alcoholic beverage drunk before a meal

**Aniseed:** the licorice-flavored seeds of anise, used whole or in ground spice mixtures as a flavoring in foods and drinks

**Buttinsky:** somebody who intrudes on other people's affairs or conversations

**Burg:** a city or town

**Dust:** to remove small particles of dirt and lint from something, usually by wiping with a cloth

**Navarin:** a stew of mutton or lamb with root vegetables

**Vichyssoise:** a creamy soup made from leeks, potatoes, and onions, often served chilled

**Precocious:** 1. developed or mature, especially mentally, at an unusually early age, or showing such advanced development 2. describes a plant or tree that blossoms before its leaves appear or that produces fruits only a few years after planting

**Hard-boiled:** tough, realistic, and unsentimental

**Compliment:** something done to show respect or honor

**Run in:** to take somebody into police custody

**Book:** to charge somebody with a criminal offense, pending legal proceedings

**Fish or cut bait:** stop vacillating and decide to act on or disengage from something

**Hot flash:** a sudden hot feeling, sometimes accompanied by sweating and redness of the face, experienced by some women during menopause and caused by an endocrine imbalance

**Cornhole:** to have anal intercourse with; to penetrate anally

**Dingbat:** somebody who is considered silly or lacking in intelligence

**Finger man:** a person who points out someone to be murdered, robbed, etc

**Hangdog:** having an expression that indicates guilt or sadness

**Red-assed:** very angry; livid; pissed off

**Townhouse:** 1. a two- or three-story house, semidetached or in a row of similar houses and with limited yard space, usually in a fashionable neighborhood 2. a house in a town or city, especially one that belongs to somebody who also has a house in the country

**Induce:** to make the process of labor or the birth of a baby start by a medical intervention, usually by administering a drug, before it happens naturally

**Crate:** 1. a large open sturdy box used to carry or store objects or built to fit and protect something during shipping 2. an old rickety airplane or automobile

**Hovel:** a small, dirty, or poorly built house

**Gallant:** 1. courteous and thoughtful, especially toward women 2. brave, spirited, and honorable 3. grand and majestic

**Hatchet:** a short axe used for chopping wood, etc

**Squidgy:** soft, moist, and squashy

**Sapsucker:** either of two North American woodpeckers, *Sphyrapicus varius* or *S. thyroideus*, that have white wing patches and feed on the sap from trees

1991

*Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey*

**Barnacle:** a small invertebrate animal with a shell that clings to rocks and ships and draws food to itself by using slender hairs cirri

**Insipid:** 1. dull because lacking in character and lively qualities 2. bland and without flavor

**Full-on:** taken to the limits

**Loogie:** mucus

**Bag:** to take, catch, seize, or steal something, usually in an opportunistic way

**Grim Reaper:** a personification of death, shown as a cloaked man or skeleton holding a scythe

**Put out:** to agree to have sex

**Netherworld:** in the belief system of some cultures, hell or the place where evil spirits live

**Rap:** a harsh criticism or rebuke

**Candlestick:** a tall thin holder for a single candle

**Charades:** a game in which somebody provides a visual or acted clue for a word or phrase, often the title of a book, play, or movie, for others to guess

**Sit-up:** an exercise in which you lie flat on your back with your legs bent and then raise the upper part of your body to a sitting position

**Conga=conga drum:** a tall tapering drum, played with both hands and used in Latin American and African music

**Bongo=bongo drums:** a set of two small deep-bodied drums that are held between the knees and beaten with the fingers

*My Own Private Idaho*

**Bawl:** 1. to shout something in a loud and usually aggressive voice 2. to cry very loudly and energetically

**Spot:** to give or lend money to somebody, or pay for something for somebody

**Come about:** to take place or occur

**Hustler:** 1. a small-time operator who engages in illegal activities such as petty theft or illegal gambling 2. a prostitute, especially a streetwalker or one who solicits in bars 3. somebody who works aggressively and determinedly, especially to advance his or her career

**Gall:** 1. impudent boldness 2. a feeling of bitterness or resentment

**Slug:** a soft smooth larva of some insects such as the sawfly

**Acid:** LCD

**Chiseler:** a cheat or swindler

**Crash out:** to fall asleep suddenly

**Hatchet man:** 1. somebody who is hired to do something unpopular, especially to make cuts in staff or funding 2. a hired killer

**Sully:** a stain

**Tavern:** a café, bar, or inn

**Sanguine:** cheerfully optimistic

**Set upon:** to attack somebody violently

**Not hold a candle to somebody:** to be not nearly as good at something as somebody

**Turn over:** to start an engine or motor, or be started

**Institution:** a place where people who are, e.g. mentally or physically challenged are cared for

**Picket fence:** a fence made of pointed stakes or posts driven into the ground and connected by one or more horizontal bars

**Stir-fry:** to fry small pieces of food rapidly in a small amount of oil over high heat, stirring continuously. This method is used extensively in Chinese cooking.

**Trusty:** able to be relied on

**Rotgut:** cheap and rough alcoholic drink

**Wino:** an offensive term for somebody who is addicted to alcohol, especially wine, and is usually also homeless

**Connoisseur:** an expert in an area of the fine or domestic arts, or somebody with discriminating taste in such a specialty

*Point Break*

**Hard-on:** a highly offensive term for an erect penis

**Burnout:** somebody affected by psychological exhaustion

**Scuff:** 1. to scrape, rub, or wear away the surface of something, or become scraped, rubbed, or worn with use 2. to scrape the feet on the ground while standing or walking, or walk in a manner that makes the feet scrape

**Carnauba:** wax obtained from the young leaves of the carnauba tree. Use: polish, candles.

**Break your neck:** to try very hard to achieve something

**Hut:** used to mark time while marching

**Selenium:** a nonmetallic element that occurs in several forms ranging from a red powder to gray black crystals and is an essential trace element, although toxic in excess. Source: copper refining. Use: photocells, photocopiers.

**Drop in:** to visit somebody casually or without having agreed on a time

**Ding:** to make a dent or cause other surface damage in something

**Kook:** 1. an offensive term for somebody whose behavior is regarded as unpleasantly eccentric 2. a snowboarder who is a beginner or inexperienced

**Yuppie:** a young educated city-dwelling professional, especially when regarded as materialistic and snobbish

**Pit bull terrier:** a large bull terrier similar to the Staffordshire bull terrier but more muscular and powerful. The breed was first developed in the United States in dogfighting circles and remains unrecognized by the Kennel Clubs.

**Juvie:** juvenile

**Flake:** an offensive term for somebody regarded as eccentric or irrational

**Banzai:** reckless and utterly ferocious in a military attack

**Scowl:** an expression of anger, displeasure, or menace made by drawing the eyebrows together toward the middle of the forehead

**Cockapoo:** a small dog that is a cross between a cocker spaniel and a poodle

**Jack:** anything or nothing at all

**Roadkill:** an animal that has been killed by a motor vehicle on a road

**Jab:** to make a short punching movement, or push something with a short punching movement

**Blast:** an enjoyable occasion of fun and laughter

**Rigging:** the ropes, wires, and pulleys that support the masts and control the sails of a boat

**Compadre:** a godfather or close male friend

1992

*Bram Stoker's Dracula*

**Schoolmistress:** a woman who teaches school, especially in a private school

**Parlor:** a living room that is set aside for entertaining guests

**Measure up:** to be good enough to meet a standard

**Hag:** 1. an offensive term that deliberately insults a woman's appearance, temperament, and age 2. a witch, especially an elderly one

**Kiss something better:** used, especially to a child, to say that you will take away the pain of something by kissing them

**Hors d'oeuvre:** a small portion of food served cold or hot before a meal to stimulate the appetite

**Canapé:** a bite-sized base of bread, cracker, or pastry with a topping, served as an appetizer or to accompany drinks

**Bauble:** something that is small and decorative but of little real value

**Trinket:** 1. a small object of little value, e.g. an ornament or piece of jewelry 2. something trivial or unimportant

**(Near) at hand:** very near or close, especially in time

**Pampas:** treeless grassy plains in temperate South America, especially Argentina

**Trituration:** a mixture of powdered drugs prepared pharmaceutically

**Dread:** causing fear and extreme anxiety

**Absinthe:** a highly alcoholic liqueur tasting of aniseed and made from wormwood and herbs. Absinthe is now banned in many countries because of its toxicity.

**Inconstant:** 1. unfaithful in relationships 2. likely to change frequently and unpredictably

**Wanton:** lacking restraint or inhibition, especially in sexual behavior

1993

*Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*

**Yoni:** in Hinduism, a representation of the female genitals regarded as a manifestation of the feminine principle

**Bum around:** be lazy or idle

**Dew:** a fresh and pure or refreshing quality in something

**Squaw:** an offensive term for a Native North American woman or wife

**Tootsy:** a foot or toe

**Sherry:** a wine, especially one made near Jerez de la Frontera, Spain, that has a higher alcohol content as a result of adding brandy, and ranges from very sweet to very dry

**Punch:** a drink made with a mixture of fruit juice and often spices and wine or liquor

**Full-blooded:** of unmixed breed

**Push:** to promote the sale or use of something, or the acceptance of an idea

**Twit:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's commonsense or consideration for others

**Whooping crane:** a large white crane with black wing tips that makes a loud whooping cry in flight. It is now an endangered species.

**Uppity:** behaving in a way that is considered presumptuous and more suited to somebody belonging to a higher social class or position

**Chink:** a highly offensive term for a Chinese person

**Kumquat:** a small oval orange fruit, related to citrus fruits, with sweet skin and tart flesh, eaten whole or preserved

**Peyote:** a spineless globe-shaped cactus that has small rounded nodules containing mescaline. Native to: Mexico, southwestern United States.

**Doe:** a mature female of several animals, including the deer, kangaroo, rabbit, hare, and goat

**Twirl:** to turn lightly and rapidly around in a circle, or make something do this

**Bum out:** to annoy or depress somebody

**Pecker:** penis

**Fanny:** the buttocks

**Flab:** excess or unwanted fat on somebody's body

**Melba toast:** very thin slices of bread toasted on both sides, sliced horizontally to expose two untoasted sides of bread that are then toasted too, so that the bread curls

**Directly:** at once

**Trick:** an individual engagement between a prostitute and a client

**Ball:** a highly offensive term meaning to have sexual intercourse

**Shrill:** making a high-pitched penetrating sound

**Zonk out:** to fall asleep, especially from physical exhaustion or the effects of alcohol or drug

**Crosstown:** situated in or relating to the other side of a town

**Scrapper:** an enthusiastic, determined fighter, especially a boxer

**Snit:** a state of mild irritation or bad temper

**Cutesy:** too obviously attempting to be charming

**Token:** something that represents, expresses, or is a symbol of something else

**Bunkhouse:** a building providing simple sleeping facilities

**Lardass:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's body weight

**Scuzz:** something dirty, disgusting, or disreputable

**Billy goat:** a male goat

**Tubercle:** a small raised area on a plant or animal part

**Potto:** a small primate that has small ears, large eyes, and a short bushy tail and lives in the lower branches of trees. Native to: rain forests of West and Central Africa.

**Buckshot:** a large size of lead shot used in shotgun shells, especially for hunting game

**Qualm:** a sudden feeling of uncertainty or apprehension, especially a misgiving about an action or conduct

**Come down:** return to a normal state of consciousness after being affected by drugs

**Flinch:** to make an involuntary small backward movement in response to pain or something frightening or shocking

**Rustler:** a cattle or horse thief

**Ta-ta:** used as a childish or familiar way of saying goodbye

**Deed:** to sign over or transfer something, especially real estate, to another person

**Choo-choo:** a railroad train or locomotive

**Dryad:** in Greek mythology, a spiritual being believed to live in trees and forests

**Kraft:** tough, usually brown paper made from chemically treated wood pulp. Use: bags, wrapping paper.

**Filly:** 1. a female horse under four years of age 2. an offensive term for a young woman or girl

*Freaked*

**Gimp:** somebody regarded as clumsy or ineffectual

**Crackpot:** somebody regarded as eccentric or wildly imaginative

**Troll:** in Scandinavian legend, a supernatural being depicted as either a dwarf or giant and living in caves or under bridges

**Pork:** an offensive term meaning to have sexual intercourse with somebody

**Savant:** a wise or scholarly person

**Feast:** to derive great or prolonged pleasure from something

**Tail:** 1. a highly offensive term meaning a woman's genitals 2. a highly offensive term meaning sexual intercourse with a woman 3. a highly offensive term meaning a woman perceived as a potential partner for sexual intercourse

**Shitter:** a toilet

**Tag team:** a team of two or more wrestlers, only one of whom may wrestle at a time. Wrestlers can change places only after touching hands.

**Top dog:** the most important or powerful person, often somebody who has beaten all other competitors

**Pinhead:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's intelligence

**Spurn:** to reject a person, offer, gift, or advances with scorn and contempt

**Soliloquy:** the act of speaking while alone, especially when used as a theatrical device that allows a character's thoughts and ideas to be conveyed to the audience

**Spitting image:** an exact likeness

**Fiddle-faddle:** nonsense or trifling matters

**Go off the deep end:** to act rashly

**Send away for:** to order something by mail or through a mail order catalog

**Make a break for it:** to attempt to escape; to flee; to run away

**Crab:** a parasitic louse resembling a tiny crab that infests the pubic hair of humans, causing inflammation and itching of the skin

**PMS:** premenstrual syndrome, a group of symptoms such as nervous tension, irritability, tenderness of the breasts, and headache, experienced by some women in the days preceding menstruation and caused by hormonal changes

**Styrofoam:** a trademark for a light plastic material used to make disposable items, insulation, and packing materials

**Ointment:** a smooth greasy substance used on the skin to soothe soreness or itchiness, help wounds heal, or make the skin softer

**Macaroon:** a cookie made from sugar and egg whites, with ground almonds or pieces of dried coconut folded in

**In bed with:** engaging in a close mutually beneficial relationship, especially secretly and illicitly

**Ghoul:** a supposed evil and terrifying spirit

**Yokel:** an offensive term that deliberately insults a country dweller by suggesting that he or she lacks the sophistication, education, or other qualities thought characteristic of city dwellers

**Greaseball:** 1. somebody who is habitually dirty or unkempt 2. a highly offensive term for somebody of Mediterranean or Latin American, especially Mexican, origin

**Skimp:** to use or provide hardly enough of something

**Goop:** a semiliquid sticky or messy substance

#### *Little Buddha*

**Do in:** to make somebody feel exhausted

**Immaculate Conception:** in the Roman Catholic Church, the doctrine that the Virgin Mary's soul was free from the stain of original sin from the moment of her soul's conception. The term does not, contrary to popular belief, refer to the conception of Jesus Christ.

**Abbot:** the monk in charge of a monastery

**Vroom:** the loud noise of an engine when it is being revved up or is running at high speed

**Court:** the ministers, courtiers, and officials of the royal household who attend a king or queen

**Broth:** 1. a liquid made by cooking vegetables, meat, seafood, or poultry in water for a long time, used as a base for soups and sauces 2. a clear soup made by cooking meat, poultry, fish, seafood, or vegetables in water and then removing them

**Abbess:** the nun in charge of a convent

**Mara:** in Buddhism, a force of evil, sometimes conceived of as a being

**Bodhisattva:** in Buddhism, a deity or being who has attained enlightenment worthy of nirvana but who remains in the human world to help others

**Delude:** to persuade somebody to believe something that is untrue or unreal

#### *Much Ado About Nothing*

**Blithe:** 1. happy, cheerful, and carefree 2. casually indifferent

**Bonny:** 1. pleasing to look at 2. fairly large 3. extremely good

**Ditty:** a short simple popular song

**Presently:** 1. not at this exact moment but in a short while 2. now, or during the current period, especially if not at some other time

**Ere:** before or earlier in time than

**Pernicious:** 1. causing great harm, destruction, or death 2. wicked or meaning to cause harm

**Humor:** somebody's character or usual attitude

'twere: it were

**Jade:** 1. an old horse, especially one that is worn out through overwork 2. an offensive term for a woman that deliberately insults her temperament or morality

**Threescore:** thirty

**Troth:** a solemn pledge, especially the promise to remain faithful exchanged by a bride and groom or an engaged couple

**Bugle:** a brass instrument like a short trumpet without valves, used for military signals

**Baldric:** a sash or belt worn from one shoulder to the opposite hip, used to support a sword

**Repair:** to go to a particular place

**Throng:** to crowd into or fill a place

**Jest:** something done or said in a playful joking manner

**Tend:** to give your attention to a particular person or task

**Canker:** a disease that creates open wounds on the trunks and branches of woody plants. Cankers can be caused by bacteria, fungi, or pests.

**Thither:** to or in the direction of that place

**Tattle:** to gossip about the personal secrets or plans of others

**Gentlewoman:** a woman acting as a personal attendant to a lady of high social rank

**Cuckold:** a husband whose wife has been unfaithful to him

**Curtsy:** to bend the knees, with one foot behind the other, as a gesture of respect. Women curtsy in formal situations where men bow, e.g. when acknowledging the applause of an audience after performing on stage, or when meeting royalty.

**At a word:** at once

**Jester:** an entertainer employed at a medieval court to amuse the monarch and guests

**Woo:** to seek the affection or love of a woman in order to marry her

**Whither:** to what place

**Lodge:** in Britain, a small house in the grounds of a large country house or park, usually near the main gate, traditionally occupied by a gatekeeper, gardener, or estate worker

**Poniard:** a small dagger with a slim blade that is triangular or square in its cross section

**Pygmy:** an offensive term for somebody who is of shorter than average height

**Harpy:** an offensive term for a woman regarded as bad-tempered or nagging

**Wherefore:** for what reason or purpose

**Blazon:** to announce something widely or ostentatiously

**Beseech:** to ask earnestly or beg somebody to do something

**Mirth:** happiness or enjoyment, especially accompanied by laughter

**Hence:** later than the present time

**Fain:** with gladness or eagerness

**Tabor:** a small drum played with one hand while the other hand plays a pipe. Tabors were used especially in the Middle Ages.

**Doublet:** a man's close-fitting jacket, with or without sleeves, popular in Europe between the 15th and 17th centuries

**Wont:** accustomed or likely to do something

**Ravish:** to overwhelm somebody with deep and pleasurable feelings or emotions

**Hale:** to compel somebody to go somewhere, especially to court

**Afear(e)d:** an archaic or dialect word for afraid

**Reprove:** to speak to somebody in a way that shows disapproval of something he or she has done

**Entreat:** to beg somebody for something, often repeatedly

**Misprize:** to fail to appreciate the true worth of something or somebody

**Lime:** to smear twigs or branches with birdlime in order to catch small birds

**Adieu:** used to say goodbye

**Charge:** the responsibility or duty of looking after somebody or something

**Athwart:** so as to be across or positioned crosswise over something

**Hobbyhorse:** 1. rocking horse 2. a favorite subject about which somebody will talk given the slightest opportunity

**Lechery:** lewd and lustful behavior, especially by a man, that is regarded as distasteful

**Arrant:** used to emphasize that somebody or something is an extreme example of something disapproved of

**Knave:** a man who is considered dishonest and deceitful

**Auspicious:** marked by lucky signs or good omens, and therefore by the promise of success or happiness

**Counterpoise:** to counteract or compensate for something by providing an equal force, influence, or weight

**Render:** to give something back

**Vanquish:** to prove convincingly superior to somebody in a contest, competition, or argument

**Comely:** describes a woman who is good-looking

**Intemperate:** having or showing a lack of self-control, especially in expressing feelings or satisfying physical desires

**Pamper:** to indulge or gratify a desire or need

**Yesternight:** yesterday at night

**Bedfellow:** somebody who shares a bed with somebody else

**Misprision:** the failure of somebody who knows of but is not involved in a felony or treason to report it to the authorities

**Publish:** to announce something publicly

**Habit:** a long loose gown, usually black, brown, gray, or white, traditionally worn by nuns, friars, and monks

**Protest:** to state or affirm something in strong or formal terms

**Kinswoman:** a woman or girl who is somebody's relative

**Rancor:** a bitter, deeply held, and long-lasting ill will or resentment

**Undone:** ruined, destroyed, or brought to the brink of collapse

**Valiant:** brave and steadfast

**Malefactor:** a wrongdoer, especially a criminal

**Watch:** a person or group that guards or observes something, especially at night

**Ducat:** a gold or silver coin formerly used in some European countries, e.g. Italy and the Netherlands

**Steal:** to pass or move without being noticed

**Coxcomb:** a conceited man with an excessive interest in clothes and fashion

**Sexton:** the caretaker of a church and its graveyard whose duties often include ringing the bell and digging graves

**Varlet:** a rogue or rascal

**Beshrew:** to wish evil on; curse (used in mild oaths such as **beshrew me**)

**Tush:** an expression of mild disapproval or disdain

**Fleer:** to smile or laugh with contempt

**Daff:** to frolic; play the fool

**Foin:** to thrust with a weapon

**Outface:** to win a confrontation with somebody, especially by staring or not looking away

**Smart:** to be punished severely

**Fray:** an argument, quarrel, or rowdy fight

**Court:** to try to win somebody's love

**Penance:** self-punishment or an act of religious devotion performed to show sorrow for having committed a sin

**Aught:** anything whatever

**Wring:** to force liquid out of something by twisting and compressing it

**Dispose:** to arrange or position something for use or for a particular purpose

**Guerdon:** a reward or recompense

**Leander:** in Greek mythology, Hero's lover, who drowned in the Hellespont while swimming to visit her

**Troilus:** in Greek mythology, the son of the Trojan king Priam. He was killed during the Trojan War by the Greek warrior Achilles. In medieval legend he is depicted as the betrayed lover of Cressida.

**Pander(er):** a go-between in an illicit or secret romantic or sexual relationship

**Quondam:** of an earlier time

**Noisome:** 1. so offensive, especially to the senses, as to arouse feelings of disgust or repulsion 2. extremely harmful

**Politic:** possessing or displaying shrewdness, tact, or cunning

**Spite:** to harm, hinder, or humiliate somebody out of small-mindedness



**Hither:** to this place

**Countenance:** composure or self-control

**Morrow:** the early part of the day

**Whiles:** while

**Halting:** hesitant or done with frequent irregular pauses

**Consumption:** any condition that causes progressive wasting of the tissues, especially tuberculosis of the lungs

**Epigram:** 1. a concise, witty, and often paradoxical remark or saying 2. a short poem, often expressing a single idea, that is usually satirical and has a witty ending 3. a witty or concise mode of expression, either written or spoken

**Giddy:** not level-headed and sensible, but likely to act impulsively or behave foolishly

**Strike up:** to begin something, or cause something to begin

1994

*Speed*

**Pop quiz:** a quiz given to students without advance notice

**Wad:** a large amount of money

**Effect:** to succeed in making or doing something

**Mazeltov:** used to express good wishes or congratulations

**Nest egg:** a sum of money put aside for future expenses or emergencies

**Wad:** a large number or amount of people or things

**Bone:** an offensive term meaning to have sexual intercourse with somebody

**Interchange:** a major road junction where vehicles can, by means of access roads, bridges, and underpasses, change from one road to another without stopping or crossing other traffic

**Webbing:** a strong coarse fabric. Use: belts, harnesses, upholstery support

**Floor:** to depress a motor vehicle's accelerator as far as it will go in order to increase speed to the maximum

**Pink slip:** a termination of employment notice that an employer gives to an employee

**Tripwire:** a wire that activates a device such as a trap, alarm, or camera when it is pulled or disturbed

**Hammy:** overacted or exaggerated

**Mushy:** excessively sentimental or emotional

1995

*A Walk in the Clouds*

**Hand over fist:** steadily and quickly; with rapid progress

**Mouthful:** a word or phrase that is hard to pronounce because of its unfamiliar sound combinations

**Hooky:** absence, especially from school, without permission

**Gringo:** in Spain and Latin America, an offensive term for an English-speaking foreigner, especially a man

**Pull (one's) punches:** to restrain the force of one's criticisms or actions

**Come around:** to change your opinion to that of somebody else

**Hitched:** married

*Johnny Mnemonic*

**Page:** to summon somebody by calling out his or her name, e.g. over a loudspeaker system

**Anchovy:** a small silvery ocean fish that travels in large schools.

**Gig:** 1. a temporary or short-term job 2. a military demerit 3. gigabyte

**Mace:** a medieval weapon in the form of a heavy club with a round spiked metal head

**Scam:** to obtain money or other goods from somebody by dishonest means

**Shoehorn:** to squeeze somebody or something into a space that is barely large enough

**Buffer:** a temporary storage area for data being transmitted between two devices that function at different speeds. A buffer enables a faster device such as a computer to complete sending the data and begin another task without waiting for a slower device such as a printer.

**Everybody and his mother:** a large assortment of people

**Spawn:** 1. a mass of eggs of a fish, amphibian, or other water animal 2. progeny or offspring, especially if numerous 3. a mass of microscopic fungal threads mycelium, especially when prepared on a growth medium for starting a new culture of the fungus 4. a seed, germ, or the source of something

1996

*Chain Reaction*

**Spectrometer:** an instrument used to disperse radiant energy or particles into a spectrum and measure properties such as wavelength, mass, energy, or index of refraction

**Sonoluminescence:** luminescence produced by ultrasound

**None too:** not very

**Split-level:** describes a house or room built on two levels with steps between them

*Feeling Minnesota*

**Tux:** a tuxedo

**Wick:** a penis

**Knockout:** somebody or something extremely attractive, good-looking, or enjoyable

**Bum:** to get something by asking or begging

**Knock off:** to rob a bank, store, or other business

**Start up:** to begin to operate, or make something begin to operate

**Stick up:** to carry out an armed robbery on somebody

**Spring:** to pay for something, usually on behalf of another person

**Daiquiri:** an iced cocktail made from rum, lemon or lime juice, and sugar or syrup

**Downy:** 1. soft and fluffy 2. covered with soft fine hairs 3. filled with feathers

**Wired:** full of nervous energy or excitement

**Eggplant:** a very dark purple color

**Ecru:** of a pale brown color, like unbleached linen

**Given to understand:** made to believe something

**Burn the midnight oil:** to work or study late into the night

**Fix:** a predicament or difficult situation

**Ravine:** a deep narrow valley, especially one formed by running water

**Red cent:** the smallest amount of money

**Go through with:** to carry on with something until it has been completed or resolved, especially when this requires determination

1997

*Devil's Advocate, The*

**Close out:** to terminate business operations by selling the business to somebody else

**Contempt (of court):** the crime of deliberately failing to obey or respect the authority of a court of law or legislative body

**Shoptalk:** conversation about work or another specialized activity at a time when more lighthearted chat is the norm, especially outside working hours

**Retain:** to pay a preliminary fee to reserve the services of an attorney, accountant, or other professional whenever needed

**Betide:** to happen, or happen to somebody (*usually used in the subjunctive*)

**Rub off:** to be passed to somebody, or be an influence on somebody who is exposed to it

**Scrounge:** 1. to acquire something from somebody by begging or borrowing without intending to make repayment or return 2. to seek and acquire something from any available source, e.g. by foraging

**Pro hac vice:** for or on this occasion only

**Damask:** a reversible cotton, linen, or silk fabric with a pattern woven into it. Use: table linen.

**Undulate:** 1. to move in waves or in a movement resembling waves, or cause something to move in this way 2. to rise and fall gracefully in volume or pitch

**Acanthus:** a spiny-leaved bush or perennial plant. Flowers: white, purple. Native to: Mediterranean.

**Arbor:** a shaded place formed by the leaves and branches of trees and plants that interweave naturally or are trained to grow around a trellis

**Kashruth:** the body of Jewish laws that relate to the preparation and fitness of foods and to items such as textiles and ritual scrolls to be used by Jewish people

**Pro bono:** done or undertaken for the public good without any payment or compensation

**Innocuous:** 1. not intended to cause offense or provoke a strong reaction and unlikely to do so 2. harmless in effect

**Tic-tac-toe=tick=tack=toe:** a game played by two players who alternately mark squares in a grid with O's or X's, the winner being the first to get three marks in a row

**Permanent=perm:** a hair treatment that uses chemicals to give hair long-lasting curliness or waviness

**Mystique:** a special quality or air that makes somebody or something appear mysterious, powerful, or desirable

**Whiz kid:** a young and exceptionally talented and successful person in a field of activity

**Chardonnay:** a dry white wine made from a variety of white grape originally grown in east central France

**On the beam:** correct, relevant, or appropriate

**Excelsior:** 1. excellent: used as a motto and as a trademark for various products, especially in the US for fine wood shavings used for packing breakable objects 2) upwards

**Backdoor:** carried out in secrecy or in a surreptitious way

**Congress:** sexual intercourse

**Get one's knob polished:** to copulate or otherwise have sex

**Marshal:** to arrange things in an appropriate order so that they can be used effectively

**Fig leaf:** 1. a stylized representation of a leaf of the fig tree, formerly used as a covering for the genitals in painting or sculpture 2. an unconvincing or inadequate attempt to conceal something considered shameful or wrong

**Rest:** to conclude the presentation of evidence in a case

**Tightass:** an inhibited or excessively self-controlled person

**Give over to:** to abandon yourself to an emotion or experience

*Last Time I Committed Suicide, The*

**Specter:** a ghostly presence or apparition

**Wan:** lacking brightness

**Brush:** a brief unpleasant encounter

**What with:** owing to; because of; as a result of

**Put something in:** to formally offer a particular thing to be considered

**Rack up:** to accumulate something such as points

**Lacerate:** to distress somebody deeply or agonizingly

**Have one's wits about one:** to remain calm, composed, focused, or aware

**Afore:** before

**Corrugated:** folded into parallel ridges and troughs

**Awning:** a plastic, canvas, or metal porch or shade supported by a frame and often foldable, placed over a storefront, doorway, window, or the side of a recreational vehicle

**Sustenance:** something, especially food, that supports life

**Manna:** something very welcome or of great benefit that comes unexpectedly

**Line up:** to organize, provide, or make something available to somebody

**Resign oneself to:** to come to terms with something and acquiesce in it reluctantly

**Swear off:** to make a solemn promise to give something up, especially a bad habit

**Top=spinning top:** a toy that spins around on a rounded or pointed base, traditionally a conical wooden toy that is set spinning by pulling a string wrapped around it

**Spin out:** to skid out of control

**Higher-up:** somebody in a position of authority or at a higher level in a hierarchy

**Dole:** the giving of clothes, money, or food to somebody who is in need

**Solace:** comfort at a time of sadness, grief, or disappointment

**Like clockwork:** with unvarying regularity and predictability

**Hike:** to snap (in football, to put the ball into play by passing it back to the quarterback behind the line of scrimmage)

**Epiphany:** a sudden intuitive leap of understanding, especially through an ordinary but striking occurrence

**Vanquish:** to overcome, suppress, or subdue an emotion, feeling, or idea

**Go long:** to run down the field away from the quarterback to receive a long or Hail Mary pass

**Fence in:** to enclose somebody or something inside a fence

**Drawbridge:** a bridge that is hinged at one end or in the middle and can be lifted up to cut off access to a place or allow something to pass beneath it

**Reformatory:** a penal institution for young offenders

**Truck:** to walk or move along at an easy, relaxed pace

**Spy:** to catch sight of somebody or something, often by chance

**Stoop:** a small porch at the entrance to a house

**Do up:** to fasten a piece of clothing, or be fastened

**Offhand:** taken or made casually or without planning, usually on the spur of the moment

**Monsignor:** a title used when speaking or referring to some clerics of the Roman Catholic Church, especially bishops or officials of the papal court

**Spew:** to utter something in an angry, forceful, or relentless way

**News flash:** a brief item of urgent news, often broadcast at short notice interrupting a scheduled program

**Engross:** to take up somebody's whole attention

**Mouthpiece:** a person or publication that expresses the views of an organization

**Draft:** beer that is stored in and served from barrels or casks rather than bottles

**Pounce:** to jump or swoop suddenly toward or onto somebody or something, especially onto prey

**Graveyard shift:** a shift of work running through the early hours of the morning, especially one running from midnight till eight o'clock the following morning, or the workers on such a shift

**Crack of dawn:** a time very early in the morning; daybreak

**Hack:** a taxi

**Crummy:** miserable or unwell

**Switch:** a quick or sudden change

**Duds:** articles of clothing and accessories

**Run out on:** to leave somebody or something in a helpless state or at a time when support is needed

**Mercurial:** lively, witty, fast-talking, and likely to do the unexpected

**Eggnog=nog:** a drink made of milk or cream, eggs, sugar, spice, and sometimes an alcoholic beverage such as brandy, bourbon, rye, or rum, traditionally served in the winter, especially at Christmas

**Warm the cockles of your heart:** to give you a feeling of well-being or sentimental contentment

**Pad:** somebody's apartment or house

**Stigmata:** marks on the hands and feet resembling the wounds from Jesus Christ's crucifixion

**Wintry:** relating to or typical of winter, especially in being cold

Symbiotic:

**Nurse:** to consume something, especially a drink, very slowly in order to make it last

**Libation:** an alcoholic drink (humorous)

**Around the bend:** in close proximity to another location

**Pine:** to long for somebody or something, especially somebody or something unattainable

**Dig:** like or appreciate somebody or something

**Pop:** a carbonated drink, usually sweet and flavored with

**Strut:** to walk in a stiff or proud way that suggests arrogance or pomposity

**Goon:** a professional gangster whose work is beating up or terrorizing people

**Jump:** to carry out orders immediately

**Hangout:** a place frequented by a particular person or group of people, especially for relaxation

**Brainpan=braincase:** the part of the skull enclosing the brain

1999

*Matrix, The*

**Mescaline:** a hallucinogenic drug that is extracted from the button-shaped nodules on the stem of the peyote

**(As) right as rain:** perfectly all right

**Goop:** a semiliquid sticky or messy substance

**Loco:** wildly irrational

*Me and Will*

**Orderly:** a hospital worker with no medical training who is employed to do various jobs such as transporting patients

**Score:** to succeed in getting something

**Patch:** a drug-impregnated adhesive pad worn on the skin to allow gradual absorption of the drug

**Drop a dime on:** inform on (someone)

**Wrap:** the completion of filming or videotaping something

**Ciggy:** a cigarette

**Jones:** an addiction, especially a heroin addiction

**Vice:** an immoral or wicked habit or characteristic

**Loaded:** under the influence of drugs

**Shake on something:** confirm an agreement by shaking hands

**Like nobody's business:** in an extreme manner; excessively; like crazy

**Fire marshal:** a state or local official whose job is to investigate suspicious fires and work in the areas of fire prevention and building inspection

**Coil:** a device that supplies a high voltage to the spark plugs in an internal-combustion engine

**Juice:** electric power

**Look out for:** to take particular care of somebody or something

**Scrape:** a minor fight or disagreement

**Neck of the woods:** a particular area or part of the country

**Trippy:** accompanied by or producing distorted visual or sound effects similar to those associated with psychedelic drugs, especially LSD

**Pack rat:** a hoarder of objects

**Crack of dawn:** a time very early in the morning; daybreak

**Fix:** to inject an illegal drug

2000

*Gift, The*

**Read:** to have an understanding of something by experience or intuitive means

**Mope:** to move in a listless or aimless way, especially one that is self-consciously sad or unhappy

**Rouge:** red or pink makeup in powder or cream form used to add color to the cheeks or lips or to accentuate the shape of the cheekbones

**Carry on:** to behave or talk in a way that is socially awkward or improper

**Honky-tonk:** a cheap, noisy, and often disreputable bar or nightclub

**Mishmash:** a disorderly collection or confused mixture of things

**Éclair:** a long thin cream puff filled with whipped cream or custard and topped with chocolate frosting

*Replacements, The*

**Bond:** a solemn agreement promising to do something

**Walk-on:** a student athlete that wants to try out for a college sports/athletic team without the benefit of a scholarship or having been recruited

**Piss away:** an offensive term meaning to waste something such as money or time

**Scab:** somebody who continues to work or replaces a worker during a strike

**Bust a cap:** to fire a gun

**Audible:** in football, a new play called out in coded form by the quarterback at the line of scrimmage

**Wiry:** slim but muscular and strong

**Huddle:** in football, to gather together behind the line of scrimmage in order to plan the next play

**Sparerib:** a rib of pork from which most of the meat has been removed, usually cooked in a barbecue or Chinese sauce

**Mick:** a highly offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's Irish origin

**Whup:** to beat somebody

**Pocket:** in football, a defended area behind the offensive line in which a quarterback can stand to throw the ball

**Chow:** food

**Blitz:** in football, a direct attack on the passer, by one or more players who usually stay behind the line of scrimmage, to try to prevent a pass

**Pooch:** dog

**Yam:** a vine root that resembles a large white floury potato and is eaten cooked as a vegetable

**Quicksand:** a hidden trap from which escape is difficult or impossible

**Fumble:** in sports, to drop or fail to catch a ball

**Suit up:** to put on a uniform or a special costume in preparation for an activity, especially a sports event

**Neck:** to kiss and embrace sexually, usually sitting or lying with clothes on

**Melee:** a noisy confused fight

**Punt:** in football or rugby, a kick in which somebody drops a ball and kicks it before it hits the ground

**Ticker-tape parade:** a parade honoring a visiting celebrity who is showered with shredded paper or confetti, formerly ticker tape, from buildings while being driven through the streets

*Watcher, The*

**Boost:** to steal something, especially from a store

**Acebutolol:** a drug that reduces the heart rate and the force of heart muscle contraction. Use: treatment of high blood pressure and irregular heart rhythms.

**Upsy-daisy:** used to reassure a child who is being lifted or who has fallen or stumbled



## 2001

### *Hardball*

**Hardball:** baseball

**Summons:** a written order to somebody to appear in court to answer a complaint

**Hawk:** to engage in selling merchandise on the street or from door to door

**Dresser:** a chest of drawers used in a bedroom for storing clothes, sometimes with a mirror on top

**Tank:** to suffer a serious defeat or failure

**Up against:** in a difficult situation

**Reefer:** a marijuana cigarette

**Housing project:** a group of houses or apartment buildings built with public money for low-income families

**Whack:** to hit somebody or something with a swift sharp blow that produces a loud noise

**Whip:** a car

**Pimp:** to make something look fashionable or impressive, usually by adding things to it

**Field:** to select a person, group, or team to participate in an event, especially a competitive event

**Cool it:** used to tell somebody to calm down

**Cut up:** to injure somebody, especially enough to draw blood

**Take up with:** to raise a matter for discussion with somebody

**Pick up:** to make the acquaintance of a stranger, often in a public place, usually for sexual purposes

**Slugger:** 1. a fighter who delivers hard blows 2. a baseball player who hits many extra-base hits

**Cabbage:** money, especially in the form of banknotes

**Rack:** to cause somebody great pain or stress

**Call in:** to ask somebody to come and give advice or help

**Carry:** to continue to keep somebody as a debtor in the financial accounts

**Goombah:** a close friend or associate, especially an older person acting as somebody's mentor

**Wheels:** a car, especially for personal use

**Cover:** to match the amount of money bet by another gambler

**Booty:** somebody's buttocks

**Trip:** a blunder, error, or mistake

**Double play:** in baseball, a play in which two players are put out

**Safe:** in baseball, having reached a base or home plate without being put out

**Cut:** a swing of a baseball bat

**Loge:** 1. the area in a theater at the front of the upper level 2. a small private enclosure or box in a theater

**Expense account:** 1. a benefit given by an employer that entitles an employee to be repaid for some or all of the expenses incurred in the course of his or her employment 2. the amount of an employee's expenses during a particular period, or a record of this

**Pad:** to add extra charges to a bill or expense account to make it higher than it should be

**Have:** to tolerate or put up with something

**Handle:** 1. the total sum of money bet on a race, series of races, or other event 2. somebody's name

**Dugout:** either of two shelters, one for each team, on opposite sides of a baseball field where team members wait while not playing

**Ride out:** to manage to deal with a difficult situation successfully and survive without too much harm

**Out of the woods:** out of danger or difficulty

**Large:** a thousand dollars

**Dribble:** in basketball, to propel the ball in any direction on the court by bouncing it with the hands

**Lick:** a punch or blow

**Lead off:** 1. to begin doing something 2. to be the first batter in a baseball or softball lineup or inning

**Cap:** to shoot someone with a firearm

### *Sweet November*

**Deadpan:** deliberately expressing no emotion

**Finesse:** to use subtle tricks or deception to manipulate something or somebody

**Schlep:** to lug or haul something from one place to another

**Gluttony:** the act or practice of eating and drinking to excess. Gluttony is one of the seven deadly sins in Christian tradition.

**Sack:** a bed as a place to sleep

**Mocha:** a dark brown strong-tasting coffee from Yemen and some other countries on the Arabian peninsula

**Planter:** a large decorative container for houseplants or small trees

**Valerian:** an herbaceous perennial plant. Flowers: small, sweet-smelling, white or pinkish. Native to: Europe, Asia.

**Melatonin:** a hormone derived from serotonin and secreted by the pineal gland that produces changes in the skin color of vertebrates, reptiles, and amphibians and is important in regulating biorhythms

**Yip(p)ee:** used to express joy and excitement

**Rainmaker:** an achiever of outstanding results in a profession or politics

**Dinghy:** 1. a small boat, especially a small sailboat or one that is towed behind or carried on a larger boat 2. an inflatable life raft

**Pec=pectoral muscle:** any of four flat muscles, two on each side of the front of the chest, that help to move the upper arm and shoulder

**Sequin:** a small round flat piece of shiny metal or plastic that is sewn onto clothing as a decoration, usually in large numbers

**Couscous:** 1. a food resembling tiny grains, made from semolina and cooked by steaming or soaking in boiling water 2. a North African dish consisting of a spicy stew of meat and vegetables served with couscous

**Tartan:** a Scottish wool or worsted fabric woven in a wide range of checked or plaid patterns, many of which are associated with specific Scottish clans. The association between clans and tartan has no historical basis and arose in the 19th century.

**Powwow:** a meeting or gathering to discuss something

**Lymphoma:** any form of cancer of the lymph nodes

**Codeine:** an opiate drug. Use: to relieve pain and coughing

**Coiffeur:** a man who is a hairdresser

**Swoon:** 1. to be overwhelmed by happiness, excitement, adoration, or infatuation 2. to experience a sudden and usually brief loss of consciousness

2003

*Animatrix, The*

**Jabberwocky:** speech or writing that is meaningless or intended as humorous nonsense

**Brook:** a small freshwater stream

**Jam:** a difficult, awkward, or embarrassing situation

**Substantiate:** to give something an actual physical existence

*Matrix Reloaded, The*

**Osiris:** in Egyptian mythology, the god of the underworld and the dead, husband of Isis and father of Horus

**Stand-down:** a return to normal status after being on alert, or the withdrawal of a military presence

**Contravene:** to break a rule or law

**Discretion:** the good judgment and sensitivity needed to avoid embarrassing or upsetting others

**Pickle:** a difficult or problematic situation

**Leave:** permission to do something

**Contrivance:** a plan intended to deceive

**Poised:** calm, self-assured, and dignified

**Aggravate:** to irritate or anger somebody, especially with a continuing or trivial annoyance

**Fail-safe:** a fail-safe device or procedure

**Concordant:** showing harmony, unity, or agreement

**Inexorable:** impossible to stop

**Grotesquery:** something grotesque, especially a piece of art in the grotesque style

**Apropos:** on the subject of

*Matrix Revolutions, The*

**Calamari:** squid served as food, especially in Mediterranean cuisine

**Bupkes:** absolutely nothing; nothing of value, significance, or substance

**Jittery:** feeling nervous or agitated

**Asinine:** utterly ridiculous or lacking sense

**Vagary:** an unpredictable or eccentric change, action, or idea

*Something's Gotta Give*

**S(e)hmatte:** a rag or worthless thing

**Spinster:** an offensive term for a woman who has remained unmarried beyond the usual age

**Nitro=nitroglycerin:** a colorless thick oily flammable and explosive liquid. Use: manufacture of explosives, treatment of angina.

**Walk-in:** a customer, patient, or interviewee who is served or seen without an appointment, e.g. at a barber shop or doctor's office

**Le(t)ch=lecher:** a man who behaves lewdly and lustfully in a way regarded as distasteful

**Mai tai:** a cocktail based on light rum, curaçao, and fruit juices

**Uptight:** tense as a result of anger, fear, or annoyance in a way that is difficult to control

**Perky:** lively, cheerful, and energetic

**Workout:** a tough practical test of the capability or performance of a person, animal, or device

**Ringside:** a place or location offering a clear and close view of something

**Coq au vin:** a dish of chicken cooked in red wine with other ingredients

**Flinty:** hard, inflexible, and showing no emotion

**Drain:** to disappear gradually, or become less strong or intense

**Unglued:** emotionally upset and lacking composure

**Rigatoni:** short rounded tubes of pasta with narrow ridges running along them

**Free-range:** 1. free to move about and feed at will, and not confined in a battery or pen 2. produced by free-range poultry or livestock

**Teriyaki:** a Japanese dish consisting of broiled shellfish or meat brushed with a marinade of soy sauce, sugar, and rice wine

**Find or get your bearings:** 1. to learn exactly where you are and in which direction you should proceed 2. to become familiar with a new environment

**Gallivant:** 1. to travel around with no purpose except enjoyment 2. to flirt or play romantically

**Out and about:** regularly going out of the house to work, take part in social activity, etc, especially after an illness

**Go figure:** an expression of surprise, astonishment, wonder, etc

**Decompress:** to relax or unwind, especially after being busy or stressed

**On the up and up:** trustworthy or honest

**Stick it out:** to persist with something to the end, even when doing so is difficult

2005

*Constantine*

**Ether:** the sky, or the upper reaches of the atmosphere

**Lode:** an abundant supply of something

**On the house:** (usually of drinks) paid for by the management of the hotel, bar, etc

**Détente:** a relaxation of tension or hostility between nations

**Smack:** directly or precisely

**Ouija:** a trademark for a board with letters and a pointer or planchette by which answers to questions are spelled out, supposedly by spiritual forces

**Mammon:** in the Bible, the personification of wealth portrayed as a false god

**Soever:** in any way or to any degree possible

**Remit:** to pardon or forgive something such as a sin or other transgression

**Absolution:** forgiveness for somebody's sins, especially when formally given in a Christian church

**Eon:** a length of time that is too long to measure

**Ordain:** to appoint somebody officially as a priest, minister, or rabbi

**Peach:** somebody or something that is particularly good or pleasing

**Chip off the old block:** a person who resembles one of his or her parents in behavior

**Perdition:** 1. in some religions, the state of everlasting punishment in hell that sinners endure after death 2. hell itself as a location

*Ellie Parker*

**Bayou:** in the southern United States, an area of slow-moving water, often overgrown with reeds, leading from a river or lake

**Redemption:** the improved state of somebody or something saved from apparently irreversible decline

**Lift:** a layer of material that is put inside a shoe or added to the heel of a shoe to make the wearer appear taller

**Dickwad:** a contemptible person

**Twat:** a highly offensive term for a woman's vagina or genital area

**Dope up:** to make somebody drowsy or semiconscious by administering a drug such as an anesthetic or an illegal narcotic

**Wanker:** 1. a highly offensive term for somebody who masturbates 2. a highly offensive term for somebody considered unpleasant, self-indulgent, pretentious, or arrogant

**Homeopathy:** a complementary disease-treatment system in which a patient is given minute doses of natural substances that in larger doses would produce symptoms of the disease itself

**Headshot:** a photograph or cinematic shot of a head, especially a person's head

**Dengue:** a tropical disease caused by a virus that is transmitted by mosquitoes and marked by high fever and severe muscle and joint pains

**Hypoglycemia:** the medical condition of having an unusually low level of sugar in the blood

**Inform:** to give structure or substance to something

**Bummed:** unhappy as a result of an unpleasant experience

**Birdbath:** a small shallow basin containing water that is placed outside a house for birds to bathe in

**Wank:** 1. a highly offensive term for an act of masturbation 2. a highly offensive term for self-indulgent, pretentious, or arrogant behavior

**Crocodile tears:** false tears or an insincere show of grief

**Callback:** a telephone call made back to somebody who has recently phoned

**Look what the cat's dragged in:** used as ironic acknowledgement of someone's arrival, especially to imply that they are unwelcome or disagreeable in some way

**Outshoot:** to shoot a weapon better than somebody else

**Air:** to express something such as an opinion or complaint

**Chaperon:** somebody, especially an older or married woman, who accompanies and supervises a young single woman at social events

*Thumbsucker*

**Prozac:** a trademark for the antidepressant drug fluoxetine

**Echinacea:** an herbal remedy prepared from the pulverized leaves and stems of purple coneflowers, thought to bolster the immune system

**Clonidine:** a drug that relaxes and widens the arteries. Use: treatment of hypertension, migraine headaches, and heart failure.

**Orthopedics:** the branch of medicine concerned with the nature and correction of disorders of the bones, joints, ligaments, or muscles

**Meet:** an occasion at which numbers of competitors and spectators come together

**Psychobabble:** psychological jargon used inaccurately to talk about personal problems

**Cold turkey:** without a period of gradual withdrawal

**Prude:** somebody who is easily offended by matters relating to sex or nudity

**Commit:** to confine somebody legally to an institution, e.g. a prison or mental health facility

**Trip:** an intense, emotional, or stimulating experience

**Patchouli:** an aromatic oil obtained from a tropical mint. Use: perfumes, aromatherapy.

2006

*A Scanner Darkly*

**Aphid:** an insect that has specially adapted mouthparts for piercing and sucking the sap from plants. Many aphids transfer viruses from plant to plant as they feed.

**Lurch:** 1. to lean or pitch suddenly to one side 2. to move along unsteadily, swaying from side to side

**Pharmacopoeia:** 1. an official compendium of quality standards for pharmacologically active substances and drug products 2. a stock or collection of drugs

**Hurdle:** to overcome a difficulty or obstacle

**Vasoconstriction:** narrowing of the blood vessels with consequent reduction in blood flow or increased blood pressure

**Throw in:** to add something as an extra, especially another item at no extra cost when selling something

**Hoist:** to raise or lift somebody or something up, especially using a mechanical device such as a winch

**Neighborly:** friendly, helpful, and kind, especially to a neighbor

**Hot:** obtained illegally, especially by stealing

**Grifter:** a person who swindles another out of money

**Bait and switch:** a tactic used in sales in which buyers are tempted by an advertised bargain but are then persuaded to buy a more expensive item instead

**Soda pop:** a flavored and carbonated drink, served cold

**Slushed (up):** intoxicated

**Dry out:** to purge alcohol or other drugs from the body, or put somebody through such a process

**Make out:** 1. to see or hear somebody or something, but usually with difficulty or not clearly 2. to identify or understand something 3. to write necessary information such as the date and the recipient's name on a bill or similar document 4. to suggest or imply something that may not be true 5. to try to prove something is true or valid by giving good reasons 6. to perform in a situation 7. to kiss and caress somebody as an expression of sexual desire 8. to have sexual intercourse

**Nursery:** a place where plants are grown commercially, either for sale direct to the public or to other retailers

**Ipsilateral:** being on or affecting the same side of the body

**Cobwebs:** mental sluggishness and tiredness

**Medfly:** Mediterranean fruit fly

**Mammary:** relating or belonging to the milk-secreting organ of a female mammal, e.g. the breast or udder

**Ten-four:** used to express affirmation or confirmation

**Hootenanny:** an object or gadget for which the name is not known

**Scrupulous:** rigorously precise or thorough

**Roach:** the end of a marijuana cigarette after the rest of it has been smoked

**Slip up:** to make a mistake

**Doodad:** a thing whose name you cannot remember or do not know

**Tract house:** any of many similar houses built on a tract of land

**Crash:** to sleep, especially somewhere other than usual when exhausted, or stay temporarily somewhere other than at home

**Ringer:** somebody or something fraudulently substituted in a competition

**Make (something) stick:** to cause something to be permanent, established, or able to persist

**Tach:** tachometer

**Fishtail:** to swing from side to side, especially uncontrollably, while moving forward in a motor vehicle

**Cleat:** a small piece of metal or hard plastic attached to the sole of a shoe to improve its grip

**Tweak:** a teasing remark or action

**Interloper:** an intruder into a place, gathering, or situation

**Go-go dancer:** an energetic, usually scantily dressed dancer, who entertains in a nightclub

**Slap:** to put something down sharply or noisily on something else

**Bolus:** 1. a rapidly absorbed intravenous injection of a drug 2. a very large pill 3. a soft rounded ball, especially of chewed food

**Downer:** a drug, especially a barbiturate, that induces calmness or sleepiness

**Merlot:** a red wine made from a variety of black grape originally grown in France

**Drop:** take an illegal drug by mouth, especially in pill form

**Drippy:** an offensive term meaning socially inept, inadequate, or uninteresting

**Shoot up:** to inject an illegal drug

**Rattle on:** to talk rapidly and at length about something of little interest or importance to the listener

**Watershed:** the land area that drains into a particular lake, river, or ocean

**Cornucopia:** a great abundance of something

**On hand:** near and available

**Way:** the state or condition of somebody or something, especially with regard to health or finances

**Husk:** an empty outer shell or covering that no longer serves any useful purpose

*Lake House, The*

**Stat:** used in prescriptions to indicate that a drug is to be given immediately

**Scutwork:** routine and monotonous or menial work

**Stilt:** a tall post or column that supports a structure above land or water

**Crapshoot:** something that is a matter of chance or is risky

**Fugue:** a disordered state of mind in which somebody typically wanders from home and experiences a loss of memory relating only to the previous, rejected, environment

**Flabby:** 1. having excess body fat or sagging flesh 2. done without vitality or force

**Internal medicine:** the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and nonsurgical treatment of diseases affecting the internal organs, and with preventive medicine

**Snap up:** to quickly buy or take up something offered or available

**Vanguard:** the leading position of a movement, field, or cultural trend, or the people who are foremost in a movement, field, or cultural trend

**Attending:** a physician who serves on the staff of a teaching hospital

**Gander:** a look or glance at somebody or something

**Almshouse:** a poorhouse

**Louver:** a frame on a door or window supporting spaced horizontal slats angled to admit air and light but not rain

**Skylight:** an opening in a roof or ceiling that is fitted with glass to let in daylight

**Atrium:** a central hall usually with a glass roof or skylight and extending the full height or several stories of a building

2008

*Day the Earth Stood Still, The*

**Blubber:** a thick insulating layer of fatty tissue below the skin of aquatic mammals such as the whale: used by man as a source of oil

**Aback:** to surprise somebody and make him or her unsure how to react

**Rapture:** a mystical experience in which somebody believes he or she is transported into the spiritual realm, sometimes applied to the second coming of Jesus Christ, when true believers are expected to rise up to join him in heaven

**Intercede:** to plead with somebody in authority on behalf of somebody else, especially somebody who is to be punished for something

**Cephalopod:** an invertebrate ocean animal with a large head and tentacles, e.g. an octopus, squid, or cuttlefish

**Precipice:** 1. a high, vertical, or very steep rock face 2. a very dangerous situation

**Salvo:** a concentrated burst of firing or bombing from several different sources during a battle

*Street Kings*

**Dawg:** 1. a male friend or acquaintance; a fellow 2. used to address a man or boy

**Tweaker=tweaker:** an individual who uses stimulants, most commonly methamphetamine and amphetamine

**Mow down:** to kill people quickly and in large numbers

**San:** used in Japanese after somebody's first name, last name, or title, as a polite form of address

**Zipperhead:** an IBM term for a person with a closed mind

**Chicken hawk:** an offensive term for an older man who seeks young men as sexual partners

**Would give your right arm for something:** would be willing to do or give almost anything to get something that you want

**Simplex:** allowing transmission of signals or communication in only one direction at a time

**Caper:** 1. a lighthearted adventurous act or prank 2. a dangerous or illegal activity, especially one involving robbery

**Snitch:** to tell somebody in authority about another person's wrongdoing

**Shitcan:** to throw something in the garbage can

**Hold the line:** to be firm under pressure in maintaining an existing condition or situation

**Roll in:** to arrive or attend in large numbers or quantities

**Hot:** in an eager, intense, or angry way

**Whack:** to murder

**Port:** to carry a weapon positioned diagonally across the body with the muzzle or blade in front of the left shoulder

**Peace officer:** somebody whose main duty is to preserve public order, e.g. a police officer or sheriff

**Lay out:** to prepare a body for burial

**Out there:** unconventional or eccentric

**Sign out:** to sign your name as an acknowledgment of having received something, especially as being temporarily in possession of it

**Hood:** neighborhood

**Shuttlecock:** a small rounded piece of cork or rubber attached to a cone of feathers that is hit back and forth in badminton and in the old game of battledore

**Jones:** 1. an addiction, especially a heroin addiction 2. drug withdrawal symptoms, especially from heroin

**Rung:** a step of a ladder

**Bitty:** extremely small in size or physical stature

**Salty:** lively, amusing, and sometimes mildly indecent

**Square:** completely fair, honest, and direct

**Cat:** a man

**Pop:** to take a drug orally

**In or out of the loop:** being *or* not being among the people who are decision-makers or are fully informed

**A dime a dozen:** very numerous or common, and therefore of little value

2009

*Private Lives of Pippa Lee, The*

**Decrepitude:** the condition of being old, worn out, or in poor working order

**Butterfly:** to split a piece of food such as meat or fish along its length, separating it into halves that remain joined

**Caddy=caddie:** a golfer's assistant who carries a bag of clubs and performs other duties

**Vacherin:** a soft cheese from France or Switzerland

**Smithereens:** very small broken pieces

**Highbrow:** dealing with serious subjects, especially cultural subjects, in an intellectual way

**Lowbrow:** unsophisticated or trivial and not requiring intellectual effort to be understood or appreciated

**Unflagging:** remaining strong and unchanging

**Half-baked:** 1. not well thought out and likely to fail 2. lacking the ability to act with reason and common sense

**Halfwit:** an offensive term for somebody who is regarded as behaving in a thoughtless or unintelligent way

**Dexedrine:** a trademark for the sulfate of dextroamphetamine

**Cold turkey:** a method of stopping drug addiction by not taking any further drugs and not having any other treatment to protect the addict from the withdrawal symptoms

**Duck out:** to avoid or dodge doing something

**Get in someone's hair:** to annoy someone persistently

**Oxygen tent:** a structure enclosing a patient in bed and resembling a transparent plastic tent, into which oxygen can be pumped to assist breathing

**Playpen:** a portable structure that forms a small enclosure for a baby to play in safely

**Set:** to arrange hair by using styling products or clips

**Vocation:** a strong feeling of being destined or called to undertake a specific type of work, especially a sense of being chosen by God for religious work or a religious life

**Fix:** an injection of an illegal drug

**Staccato:** rapid, brief, and clipped in sound

**Mausoleum:** a large gloomy oppressive room or building

**Dispiriting:** discouraging or disheartening

**Ingénue:** a girl or young woman who is naive and lacks experience or understanding of life

**Avuncular:** resembling an uncle, especially one who is friendly, helpful, or good-humored

**Show-off:** a flamboyant person who seeks attention

**Penitent:** a sinner or wrongdoer who feels regret or sorrow for misdeeds

**Beeswax:** a matter of concern or business that pertains to someone

**Turn the corner:** to get past the worst part of a difficult or dangerous situation

**Goodwill:** a shop that sells donated goods in order to raise money for charity



2010

*Henry's Crime*

**Baby shower:** a party given by the women friends of somebody who is pregnant, at which she is given presents for the baby

**In a bind:** in a difficult or unpleasant situation, especially a situation in which every option leads to difficulties

**Whole-wheat:** not having had the bran and wheat germ taken out

**Ethereal:** belonging to the sky or the celestial sphere

**Upstart:** somebody who is newly wealthy, powerful, or famous, but is regarded as not deserving to be so

**Grub:** to obtain something by scrounging or begging

**Pissoir:** a public urinal, especially one on the streets of some European cities, with a circular screen around it

**Stomach:** 1. the ability to withstand disgust, nausea, or fear 2. an appetite or willingness to do something or tolerate something

**Sanctum:** 1. a sacred place inside a church, temple, or mosque 2. a quiet private place where somebody is free from interference or interruption

**Speakeasy:** a place where alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed illegally, especially formerly during Prohibition

**Scoundrel:** a dishonorable or unprincipled person

**Nursery:** a child's bedroom or playroom in a house

2012

*Generation Um...*

**Do:** to have sexual intercourse with somebody

**Stealthy:** secretive, furtive, or cunning

**Don't shoot the messenger:** don't get angry at or punish someone who is simply delivering bad or undesirable news as they are not responsible for it

**Crib:** a bed for a baby or small child that has high, usually vertically barred, sides to keep the child from falling out

**Score:** to succeed in having sex with somebody, especially a new sexual partner

**The whole nine yards:** the entirety of what's possible or available; all the related elements of something

**Nonoxynol-9:** a type of spermicide used in contraceptive preparations

**Stick:** a marijuana cigarette

2013

*47 Ronin*

**Shogun:** a hereditary military commander in feudal Japan who ruled the country under the nominal rule of an emperor between the years 1192 and 1867

**Changeling:** in folklore, a child who is secretly substituted for another one by fairies

**Rise:** a hill or piece of raised or rising ground

**See to:** to do what is required in order to deal with something or take care of somebody successfully

**August:** full of solemn splendor and dignity

**Steel:** something made of steel, e.g. a weapon

**Seppuku:** hara-kiri

**Loose-tongued:** liable to gossip or reveal information that should be kept secret

*Man of Tai Chi*

**Tai chi:** a Chinese form of physical exercise characterized by a series of very slow and deliberate balletic body movements

2014

*John Wick*

**Kibble:** meal that has been ground into small pieces and then formed into pellets, especially for pet food

**Nick:** to steal something from its owner

**Have a pair:** to be manly

**Leave be:** let be

**Contract:** a hiring of an assassin to kill somebody

**Fold:** a group to which something or somebody naturally belongs because of shared interests or traits

**Break the mold:** to make a change that breaks an established habit, pattern, etc

**In for a penny, in for a pound:** having started something, one must see it through to its end, rather than stopping short; one must “go the whole hog”

2015

*Knock Knock*

**Magenta:** a brilliant purplish pink color that is one of the three subtractive colors

**Ripped:** denoting or having highly developed muscles, especially abdominal muscles

**Crunch:** a form of sit-up in which the body is only partially raised, intended to strengthen the abdominal muscles

**Entrée:** a dish served as the main part of a meal

**Tristate:** relating to or involving three adjacent states of the United States

**Hairy:** filled with dangers or difficulties

**Home stretch:** the last part of a trip, task, or operation

**Statutory rape:** under U.S. law, the offense of having sexual relations with somebody who has not reached the legal age of consent

2016

*Bad Batch, The*

**Illegal:** somebody who has entered a country illegally

**Make up:** to get something ready, especially by putting a number of items together

**Nacho:** a tortilla chip, usually eaten in quantity covered with melted cheese, salsa, or sliced pickled jalapeño peppers

**Gringa:** an offensive term for a woman who is an English-speaking foreigner

*Exposed*

**Crew:** a group of youths who operate as a city gang

**Maid of honor:** a young unmarried woman who is the bride's chief attendant at a wedding

**Ruckus:** a noisy and unpleasant disturbance

**Slouch:** somebody who will not or cannot do something well

**Re-up:** to renew something such as an employment contract, membership in an organization, or subscription

**Beat someone to something:** to arrive or finish something sooner than somebody else or before a time limit

*Keanu*

**Swing by:** to visit a person or place briefly on the way to another location

**What's crack-a-lacking:** what's up?

**Gritty:** having a stark realism

**Bundle:** a large sum of money

**Nook:** 1. a quiet private place 2. a corner or small recess in a room

**Psyched:** extremely excited about and psychologically prepared for something

**Jack up:** to inject a drug, especially heroin, intravenously

**Got it on lock:** to be in control of a particular situation

**Sativa:** a type of marijuana/plant that will typically produce a euphoric, energetic, cerebral high and is very hard to grow indoors

**Shiftless:** 1. unwilling to make the effort to be successful or do something properly 2. lacking the abilities or knowledge required to do something successfully or properly

**Strapped:** in need of money

**Willy-nilly:** whether or not somebody wants it to happen

**Sling:** to prepare or serve food or drink in a bar or diner

**Docket:** a list of things to do

**Thang:** non-standard spelling of thing representing Southern US pronunciation, typically used to denote a feeling or tendency

**Girth:** the distance around something thick and cylindrical such as a tree trunk or somebody's waist

**Heft:** weight

**Lickety-split:** very quickly

**Hold up:** to rob a person or place using violence or threats, usually at gunpoint

**Cake:** a highly offensive term for a woman's genitals

**Rugged:** requiring strength, skill, or endurance

**Holla:** used to call attention to something

**Pimping:** of little significance

*Neon Demon, The*

**Bionic:** in science fiction, used to describe a human being who has had some human organs or functions replaced or enhanced by electronically powered parts that give superhuman capabilities

**Food court:** the part of a shopping mall where snacks and light meals can be bought from a number of different outlets, often with a communal eating area

**Teensy:** teeny

**Voided:** having been deprived of legal force

**Halibut:** a large flatfish

**Runway:** a narrow ramp or platform that is part of a stage and extends into the auditorium, especially as used in fashion shows

**Fitting:** the trying on of a piece of clothing to see if it requires alteration

**House-sit:** to live in temporarily and take care of somebody else's house and property while that person is away

*Whole Truth, The*

**Waive:** to put off something for a time

**Timeshare:** a property, usually an apartment in a resort area, that is jointly owned by people who use it at different times

**Manifest:** a list of cargo or passengers on a plane or train

**Proffer:** something offered for consideration

**Give someone the stink eye:** to make a facial expression of unreserved disgust, contempt, disapproval, distrust, or general ill will toward someone

**Second chair:** a lawyer who helps the lead attorney in court

**Grind:** something that is routine, dull, and tedious

**Regroup:** to regain your composure, e.g. after a shock or a period of stress

**On the fly:** without preparation, in the present moment

**Study:** somebody who is learning something, especially a role in a play, described in relation to how fast he or she learns

**Rope-a-dope:** describes a strategy in which somebody feigns weakness until an opponent becomes exhausted in an effort to win, then defeats the opponent decisively

**Open-and-shut:** simple and easily resolved

**Stew:** to be deeply troubled or agitated

**Redirect:** an examination of a witness again after cross-examination is completed

**In spades:** to a very great degree

**Lay into:** to attack somebody forcefully with words

**Alcove:** 1. a recess in the wall of a room 2. a recess in an exterior wall, usually with a roof or other covering structure 3. a shady or secluded place in a garden

**Sulk:** to refuse to talk to or associate with others as a show of resentment for a real or imagined grievance

2017

### *A Happening of Monumental Proportions*

**Huevos rancheros:** a Mexican dish of fried or poached eggs covered with chili, salsa, or tomato sauce and cheese, often served on a corn tortilla and accompanied by refried beans and sour cream

**Monosyllabic:** 1. saying very little, often in a way that gives an impression of unfriendliness or lack of intelligence 2. consisting of one syllable only

**Rich:** hard to believe because ridiculous

**Teeter:** 1. to walk or move unsteadily and as if about to fall 2. to be in a precarious position in which things could imminently go badly wrong 3. to vacillate or fluctuate between different attitudes or positions

**Shape up:** to improve or develop in the way that is wanted

**Foody=foodie:** an enthusiast of cooking, eating, or shopping for good food

**Hunky-dory:** absolutely fine or satisfactory

**Amiss:** incorrect, inappropriate, or not as it should be

**Carafe:** a glass pot with a lip for pouring and a handle, used especially with a drip coffeemaker to brew and serve coffee

**Hip:** aware of and influenced by the latest fashions in clothes, music, or ideas

**Coroner:** a public official formerly responsible for investigating deaths that appear not to have natural causes. Coroners are now largely replaced by medical examiners.

**Come out of one's ears:** occurring or present in a great amount or abundance

**Tikka masala:** of a style of Indian dish in which the main ingredient (such as chicken) is marinated, cooked in a tandoor and served in a masala sauce

**Have one's wits about one:** to remain calm, composed, focused, or aware

**Full-on:** 1. taken to the limits 2. possessing a particular quality to the fullest extent

**Nosh:** to eat something, especially a snack between meals

**Bear claw:** a large, sweet pastry filled with raisins and spices

**Rub it in:** to add insult to injury; to emphasize one's strengths or another's weaknesses in a manner that degrades another

**Infraction:** failure to obey or fulfill a law, contract, or agreement, or an instance of this

**Unemployment=unemployment compensation:** regular payments made to somebody who is out of work from a government insurance fund contributed to by employers

**Get on:** to dress in (clothes as specified)

**Hospice:** 1. a usually small residential institution for terminally ill patients where treatment focuses on the patient's well-being rather than a cure and includes drugs for pain management and often spiritual counseling 2. a program of hospice care for the terminally ill that includes home visits by professionals such as nurses and clergy to provide for the person's physical and emotional needs

**Spill one's guts:** to confess, or to divulge secrets, typically speaking freely and at length after a change of motive or an incentive

**Nip in the bud:** to put an end to (an idea, movement, etc) in its initial stages

**Tread lightly:** to proceed with delicacy or tact

**Tank top:** a sleeveless garment with a scoop- or V-neck

**Antidisestablishmentarianism:** a political philosophy opposed to the separation of a religious group (church) and a government (state), especially

the belief held by those in the 19th century England opposed to separating the Anglican church from the civil government or to refer to separation of church and state

**Indian burn/sunburn:** the prank of grabbing a victim's forearm in two hands and twisting the skin in opposite directions

**Apache:** a member of a Native North American people who formerly lived throughout the present-day southwestern United States and northern Mexico, but now live in Arizona, New Mexico, and Oklahoma

### *John Wick: Chapter Two*

**Camorra:** a secret society formed in Italy in the early 1800s that was involved in criminal and terrorist activities. The Camorra allied itself with Garibaldi and helped to eject the ruling Bourbons, then declined in the early 20th century and was suppressed in 1922 by Mussolini's Fascist government.

**Sommelier:** a wine steward in a restaurant, hotel, or other establishment, who supervises the ordering, storing, and serving of wine

**Varietal:** a wine that is made entirely or principally from a single variety of grape, and is usually known by the name of the grape variety

**Flare:** to widen or spread outward, or cause something to widen or spread outward

**Bolt:** in a breech-loading firearm, a sliding rod, bar, or plate that ejects a used cartridge and closes the breech

**Carbide:** a compound containing carbon and one other element, especially a metal

**Laminate:** a product composed of layers or sheets bonded together

**Ward:** somebody, especially a child or young person, who is under the care of a guardian or a court

**Upright:** behaving in a moral or honorable manner

**Hereafter:** the life that is thought by some to exist after death

**Forfeit:** taken away or given up as a punishment for a mistake or wrongdoing

### *SPF-18*

**Sagittarius:** the ninth sign of the zodiac, represented by an archer and lasting from approximately November 22 to December 21. Sagittarius is classified as a fire sign and its ruling planet is Jupiter.

**Gap year:** a period of time taken off by a student after the completion of secondary education and before starting higher or further education

**Tune in on:** to pay attention to someone or something

**Momentous:** extremely important or crucial, especially in its effect on the future course of events

**Bang:** a drug made from the Indian hemp or cannabis plant

**Slow jam:** an umbrella term for music with rhythm and blues and soul influences

**Smoothie=smoothy:** a drink made from puréed fruit, sometimes with milk, yogurt, or ice cream

**Botox:** a trademark for a preparation of botulinum toxin, a protein that relaxes muscle contractions. It is sometimes injected under the skin to erase facial wrinkles.

**Guacamole:** avocado mashed or puréed with tomato and lightly spiced with chili, served as a dip or as an accompaniment to some Mexican-style dishes

**Write up:** to report somebody in writing for violating a law or rule

**Poseidon:** in Greek mythology, the god of the sea, water, earthquakes, and horses, who was the son of Cronus and brother of Zeus. Roman equivalent: Neptune.

**Put/set on a pedestal:** admire somebody to the point of reverence or deification

**Gutted:** desperately disappointed or upset

**Spout:** to talk about something tediously and at great length, usually with no regard for the listener's interest

**Sea legs:** the ability to maintain balance and not experience motion sickness from the rolling and pitching of a boat

**Caftan:** a full-length tunic or robe for men, usually made of rich fabric, worn chiefly in eastern Mediterranean countries

**Chalk up:** to credit or ascribe something to something or somebody

**Two cents:** one's opinion or thoughts

**Wet suit=wetsuit:** a tight-fitting garment worn by a diver, made of foam neoprene rubber or a similar material. It traps a thin insulating layer of water near the skin.

**Power nap:** a short sleep taken by a businessperson in the office in order to feel revitalized

**Mellow:** good-humored, tolerant, and approachable, especially as a result of maturity or a feeling of security

**Home wrecker=homewrecker:** a person who gains the affections of someone already married or engaged, and is blamed for a dissolution of the marriage or engagement

**Face up to:** 1. to accept having to deal with something unpleasant 2. to confront somebody or something bravely

**Live wire:** an enthusiastic and energetic person

**Pilates:** a system of gentle exercise performed lying down that stretches and lengthens the muscles, designed to improve posture, flexibility, etc

**Rockabye:** used to encourage a baby or child to go to sleep

**Down:** ready and willing to do something

#### *To the Bone*

**Eat out:** to consume a meal away from home, usually in a restaurant or similar establishment

**Booger:** a lump of mucus in or from somebody's nose

**Lanugo:** a covering of soft downy hairs, especially those on a developing human fetus or newborn infant

**Bulimia:** a condition in which bouts of overeating are followed by undereating, use of laxatives, or self-induced vomiting. It is associated with depression and anxiety about putting on weight.

**Skirt:** an offensive term for a girl or woman, or women in general

**Hardscrabble:** yielding or earning very little in return for hard effort

**Pop in:** enter briefly

**Rope:** freedom or latitude to do something

**Wazoo:** an offensive term for the anus or buttocks

**Barf:** to vomit the contents of the stomach

**Jinx:** to make somebody or something likely to be unsuccessful or ineffective as a result of bad luck

**Den mother:** a woman who has responsibility for a group of people

**Batshit:** unreasonably or uncontrollably wild, irrational, or insane

**Spaz:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody's coordination or competence

**Flop around:** (for a fish out of water) to squirm and flap

**Chihuahua:** a very small dog belonging to a breed originally from Mexico that has pointed ears, protruding eyes, and a disproportionately large head

**Sassy:** stylish or fashionable

**Bob:** to make a quick movement, especially a curtsy, bow, or nod

**Pout:** to show disappointment, anger, or resentment, usually in silence

**Bedpan:** a shallow container into which a sick or frail person can urinate or defecate while lying in bed

**Postpartum depression:** a psychiatric disorder consisting of severe depression that can affect a woman soon after giving birth to a baby



2018

### *Destination Wedding*

**Implicit:** not affected by any doubt or uncertainty

**Effusive:** giving or involving an extravagant and sometimes excessive expression of feelings in speech or writing

**Dojo:** a school or room for practicing judo

**Chivalrous:** describes men, or men's behavior, characterized by consideration and courtesy, especially toward women

**Injurious:** 1. causing harm, hurt, damage, or distress 2. damaging somebody's reputation, career, or chances of success

**Panhandle:** to beg for money on the street by approaching and talking to passers-by

**Strike:** to have a particular effect on or make a particular impression on somebody

**Brownnose:** to be unnaturally subservient or obsequious to somebody in authority

**Lucite:** a solid transparent plastic made of polymethyl methacrylate (the same material as Perspex or Plexiglas)

**Parse:** to analyze and describe the grammatical structure of a sentence, or undergo this process

**Fix up:** to arrange a business or social contact, or a romantic or sexual partner, for somebody

**Stick:** to place or put something in a location or position

**Welp:** non-standard spelling of well, representing an informal pronunciation (typically used to convey resignation or disappointment)

**From here on in/out: from this point forward**

**Perverse:** 1. contrary to what is regarded as normal or reasonable, often for reasons that seem unaccountable or self-defeating 2. deliberately and doggedly behaving in a way that seems contrary to good sense or your own best interests 3. perverted 4. cranky or peevish

**Orbit:** the round cavity in which an eye is located in the skull of a vertebrate

**Ossify:** 1. to change soft tissue such as cartilage into bone as a result of impregnation with calcium salts, or be changed in this way 2. to become rigidly set in a conventional pattern of behavior, beliefs, and attitudes, or make somebody become so

**Off-the-clock:** overtime without extra compensation

**Chit:** a note, bill, or any small slip of paper with writing on it, especially a statement of money owed for food or drink

**Gray area:** 1. a situation, subject, or category of something that is unclear or hard to define or classify 2. a part of something that does not belong to any specific category but contains features of more than one

**Grubby:** 1. slightly dirty 2. infested with grubs

**Moon:** to be stricken with longing for an absent loved one, and rendered dreamy or listless as a result

**Imposition:** a request or task, especially a time-consuming one, that is unreasonably expected of somebody

**Cashew:** a kidney-shaped nut that is edible when roasted

**Shuffle off this mortal coil: to die; to divest oneself of one's mortal body**

**Avoirdupois:** the amount that somebody weighs

**Seersucker:** a lightweight cotton, linen, or synthetic fabric with a pattern of alternate puckered and smooth stripes

**Vanilla:** lacking outstanding or interesting characteristics

**Hermaphrodite:** somebody who has both male and female sexual characteristics

**Officiate:** to preside in an official capacity, especially at a religious ceremony

**Mantle:** a role or position, especially one that can be passed from one person to another

**Comport oneself:** to behave in a particular way

**Mythic(al):** having an extraordinary reputation

**Optic:** an eye

**Vogue:** the state of being widely popular and fashionable at a particular time

**Soma:** the body considered separately from the mind or soul

**Mountain lion=puma:** a large wild cat with a light tan coat. Native to mountains of the western hemisphere.

**Ocelot:** a small wildcat with dark spots on a light brownish coat. Native to southern United States, Central and South America.

**Bearcat=red panda:** a reddish brown animal that resembles a raccoon in appearance. Native to: Himalayan forests and nearby areas of East Asia.

**Hemophilia:** a disorder linked to a recessive gene on the X-chromosome and occurring almost exclusively in men and boys, in which the blood clots much more slowly than normally, resulting in extensive bleeding from even minor injuries

**Cervix:** the neck

**Crab:** a parasitic louse resembling a tiny crab that infests the pubic hair of humans, causing inflammation and itching of the skin

**Wind sock:** fabric tube or cone attached at one end to the top of a pole, so that it blows like a flag to show which way the wind is blowing

**Astraddle=astride:** with one leg or part on each side of something

**Rec room=recreation room:** a room used by the occupants of a house for relaxation and recreational activities

**Incredulity:** a state or feeling of disbelief

**Diurnal:** happening every day

**Kelp:** a brown seaweed with thick broad fronds

**Gullet:** the esophagus or throat

**Gratuity:** a small gift, usually of money, given to somebody such as a waiter as thanks for service given

**Cover charge:** a fixed charge that is added per head to the cost of drinks and food in a nightclub or restaurant, e.g. for bread or entertainment

**Cut across:** to affect a widely differing group of people or things equally

**Prepossessing:** creating a pleasing impression

**Bespeak:** to be a sign or indication of something

**Sapphic:** lesbian

**Aver:** 1. to assert something confidently 2. to state or allege that something is true

**Flagrant:** very obvious and contrary to standards of conduct or morality

**Ethos:** the fundamental and distinctive character of a group, social context, or period of time, typically expressed in attitudes, habits, and beliefs

**Sinuous:** lithe and graceful, especially making graceful winding or curving movements

**Wiry:** slim but muscular and strong

**Sartorially:** relating to tailoring or clothing in general

**Balletic:** with the grace of somebody dancing in a ballet

**High-minded:** having or showing high moral principles

**Transcendent:** 1. superior in quality or achievement 2. in Kant's philosophical system, exceeding the limits of experience and therefore unknowable except hypothetically 3. above or outside all known categories 4. existing outside the material universe and so not limited by it

**Nephrectomy:** the surgical removal of a kidney

**None the:** in no degree

**Locomotion:** movement or the power to move from one place to another

**Fallout:** consequences, especially undesirable ones, that result incidentally from a situation or event

**Receptacle:** a container that holds, contains, or receives a liquid or solid

**Preponderance:** a large number or the majority

**Dalliance:** 1. a flirtation or flirtatious episode, or an affair 2. the frivolous or idle wasting of time

**Removed:** separate or distant in space, time, or character from something or somebody else

**Nephrology:** the branch of medicine concerned with the study and treatment of diseases of the kidneys

**Reprise:** a repetition or recurrence of something

**Kristallnacht:** the night of November 9, 1938, during which Nazis and Nazi sympathizers in Germany and Austria engaged in attacks on Jews and their property

**Screw top:** a lid or cap that screws onto a container

**Chintzy:** 1. unwilling to spend or share money 2. cheap and gaudy

**Espadrille:** a light shoe with a fabric upper and a sole made of twisted cord

**Élan:** vigor and enthusiasm, often combined with self-confidence and style

**Remiss:** careless or negligent about doing something that is expected

**Sidebar:** a conversation between a judge and lawyers at a trial that those on the jury cannot hear

### *Replicas*

**Report:** to let somebody know you have arrived

**Operating theater:** an operating room

**Protoplasm:** the colorless liquid or colloidal contents of a living cell, composed of proteins, fats, and other organic substances in water, and including the nucleus and cytoplasm

**Cortex:** 1. the outer layer of a solid organ or part of the body, e.g. the outer covering of the kidney or brain 2. the tissue in plant stems and roots between the outer layer epidermis and the central core stele

**The ball is in somebody's court:** used to say that it is somebody's turn to take action

**Lacrimonal:** relating to the glands that produce tears, or the ducts through which they drain

**Temporal:** relating to or located in the region of the temples on the head

**Axon:** an extension of a nerve cell, similar in shape to a thread, that transmits impulses outward from the cell body

**Stasis:** 1. a state in which there is neither motion nor development, often resulting from opposing forces balancing each other 2. a condition in which body fluids such as blood or the contents of the bowel are prevented from flowing normally through their channels 3. a state in which there is little or no apparent change in a species of organism over a long period of time. It is most evident in so-called living fossils such as the coelacanth, which have remained unchanged for many millions of years.

**Nugget:** 1. a small item or piece, especially of something abstract such as knowledge or information, regarded as very precious 2. a small piece of food, usually coated with breadcrumbs and fried or baked in an oven

**Flatline:** to show none of the electrical currents associated with heart or brain activity on a monitor

**Hussy:** 1. an offensive term that deliberately insults a woman's manner or behavior 2. an offensive term for a young woman that deliberately insults her tact and self-restraint

**Mainsail:** the largest and most important sail on a sailing ship or sailboat

**Primordial:** 1. existing at the beginning of time or of the development of something 2. essential or basic to something 3. relating to cells, tissues, organs, or organisms at the earliest stage of development

**In over (one's) head:** too deeply involved in or with a difficult situation, beyond the point of being able to control or cope any longer

**Beta amyloid:** a protein that accumulates in clumps in the brain as a result of a gene variation, leading to the memory loss and dementia that are features of Alzheimer's syndrome

**Neurofibrillary tangle:** a localized area of characteristically twisted fibers seen on microscopic examination of the brain of somebody who has died from Alzheimer's disease

**Nefarious:** utterly immoral or wicked

**Parietal:** relating to the walls of any hollow part of a plant or animal such as a plant's ovary or an animal's skull

**Limbic:** 1. belonging to a limb, or situated in or near a limb (the edge of various organs or body parts, e.g. the area in the eyeball where the cornea and sclera meet) 2. belonging to or situated in the limbic system (an interconnected system of brain nuclei associated with basic needs and emotions such as hunger, pain, pleasure, satisfaction, sex, and instinctive motivation. The most primitive part of the brain, it is situated close to the inner wall of each cerebral hemisphere and includes the brain system concerned with the sense of smell.)

**Cytokine:** any protein secreted by lymph cells that affects cellular activity and controls inflammation

**Color:** to characterize; to label

**Play ball (with somebody):** to cooperate together or with somebody

### *Siberia*

**Top off:** to fill to fill or refill the final portion of something that is not empty, until it is completely full

**Exert:** to make a strenuous physical or mental effort

**Draw on:** to make use of a resource for personal benefit

**French toast:** sliced bread dipped in egg beaten with milk, lightly fried or grilled, and served with maple syrup

**Flint:** a very hard grayish black fine-grained form of quartz that produces a spark when struck with steel. It occurs as nodules and bands in chalk. Flint was used in prehistoric times to make tools.

**Cut it close:** to judge or finish something close to its limit

**Jasmine:** 1. a climbing plant often grown as a house or garden plant. Flowers: fragrant white, yellow, or red. Use: perfumes. Native to: tropics, subtropics. 2. a perfume made from the oil of a variety of jasmine

**In kind:** with something of the same sort that was given

**Take it into one's head:** to be seized with a sudden (often ill-advised) notion

**Spectrometer:** an instrument used to disperse radiant energy or particles into a spectrum and measure properties such as wavelength, mass, energy, or index of refraction

**Kick the tires:** to inspect something to ensure it meets expected standards or has favored characteristics, typically before committing to purchasing or otherwise selecting it

2019

*Always Be My Maybe*

**Bunk:** talk or writing dismissed as nonsensical or inaccurate

**Kimchi:** a pickle made with vegetables such as cabbage and white radish seasoned with chili, garlic, and ginger, regarded as the national dish of Korea

**Parmesan:** a pale yellow hard Italian cheese, often served grated as a garnish on pasta dishes

**Lemongrass:** a tropical grass cultivated for a lemon-scented oil distilled from its leaves, and for use as a flavoring in cooking. Native to: southern India.

**Laundromat:** a service mark for a self-service coin-operated commercial laundry

**Saffron:** 1. the deep orange-colored stigmas of a type of crocus, sometimes ground to a powder. Use: food colorant, flavoring. 2. a crocus thought to have originated from the Greek island of Crete whose flowers produce saffron. Native to: Europe, South and Southwest Asia. Flowers: showy, purple or white.

**Onesie:** one-piece adult loungewear jumpsuit

**Capoeira:** a martial art and dance form, originally from Brazil, that is used to promote physical fitness and grace of movement

**Transcendent:** superior in quality or achievement

**Coveralls:** a one-piece outer garment that covers and protects the clothes

**Polyamory:** any of various practices involving romantic or sexual relationships with multiple partners with the knowledge and consent of all involved

**Heteronormative:** of or pertaining to the practices and institutions that privilege or value heterosexuality, heterosexual relationships, and traditional gender roles as fundamental and “natural” within society

**Crochet:** a form of needlework used to make clothes or decorative items from wool or thick stiff thread by looping the wool or thread through itself with a hooked needle, a crochet hook

**Chiropractic:** a medical system based on the theory that disease and disorders are caused by a misalignment of the bones, especially in the spine, that obstructs proper nerve functions

**Classy:** very stylish and elegant

**Gazebo:** a small, usually open-sided and slightly elevated building, situated in a spot that commands a pleasant view

**Maca:** the Andean medicinal herb *Lepidium meyenii*, or an extract of the root of this plant

**Chi:** in Chinese medicine and philosophy, the energy or life force of the universe, believed to flow round the body and to be present in all living things. The manipulation of chi is the basis of acupuncture and Chinese martial arts.

**Eat up:** to receive something with enthusiasm or pleasure

**Flatware:** 1. knives, forks, and spoons used for eating 2. dishes used for eating that are flat or relatively shallow, e.g. plates and saucers, as opposed to deeper pieces (hollowware)

**There, there:** conveys comfort; used to calm somebody or urge somebody to relax, especially when the person is crying

**Shumai:** a traditional steamed Chinese pork dumpling served in dim sum

**Poetry slam:** a competition at which poets recite their poems before an audience and are given scores by judges

**Hickey:** a mark on the skin caused especially by kissing, biting, or sucking and associated with physical intimacy

**Sous vide:** any method of cooking and packaging food in a vacuum

**Asparagus:** spear-shaped young plant shoots, eaten cooked as a vegetable

**Nightcap:** 1. a drink, often alcoholic, taken before going to bed 2. the last event of a day of sports, especially the second game of a baseball double-header

**Chariot:** a four-wheeled horse-drawn carriage with rear seats only, used especially on ceremonial occasions

**Carpaccio:** a dish of raw beef or tuna sliced thinly, moistened with olive oil and lemon juice, and seasoned

**Shot glass:** a small glass used to hold or measure a small quantity of liquor

**Sellout:** a betrayer of a principle or cause for money or something else

**Walk-in:** a customer, patient, or interviewee who is served or seen without an appointment, e.g. at a barber shop or doctor's office

**Shiitake:** a dark-colored mushroom with an edible fleshy cap. Native to: East Asia.

**Parfait:** 1. a sweet dish composed of various layers, including ice cream, fruit, syrup, and whipped cream 2. a rich dessert consisting of frozen whipped cream or rich ice cream flavored with fruit

**Duck:** to bend or move the head down quickly, especially to avoid being hit by something

**Oculus:** an architectural feature that is round or eye-shaped, e.g. a round window, a round opening at the top of a dome, or the central boss of a volute

**Pugilism:** the practice, sport, or profession of boxing

**Peon:** somebody who does boring menial tasks

**Eon:** a length of time that is too long to measure

**Measure up:** to be good enough to meet a standard

**Coldcock:** to knock somebody unconscious, especially with a blunt instrument

**Denture:** a partial or complete set of artificial teeth for the upper or lower jaw, usually attached to a plate

*Between Two Ferns: The Movie*

**Fern:** a plant that has roots, stems, and fronds, but no flowers, and reproduces by means of spores

**Bozo:** an offensive term for somebody who says or does something unwise

**Jet Ski:** a trademark for a jet-propelled personal watercraft

**Boa:** a long fluffy scarf of feathers or fur worn by women around the neck

**Pantyliner:** a light thin sanitary napkin

**Commode:** toilet

**Plenty:** used to emphasize the degree to which something is the case

**Harry:** the smallest or weakest piglet in a litter

**Smoosh:** to squash or mash

**EGOT:** the achievement of having won all four of the major American entertainment awards (an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony)

**Gusher:** an oil well from which oil flows freely and in large amounts, without having to be pumped

**Jitters:** feelings of nervousness or agitation

**Mace:** a spice made from the covering of the nutmeg seed, used in the form of dried pieces or as a yellow-orange powder

**Queef:** (of a woman) to release air audibly from the vagina

**Unmoor:** to free a ship or boat from its moorings, or be freed from moorings

**Ding-dong:** somebody considered as odd, irrational, silly, or lacking in intelligence

**Clam:** an invertebrate animal with a shell in two parts and a muscular foot used to burrow into sand

**Bankroll:** to provide the money needed to finance a project on a continuing basis

**Disheveled:** 1. with messed-up hair or clothes 2. disordered and untidy

**Blazer:** a plain jacket not forming part of a suit but considered appropriate for formal wear

**Toot:** a high-pitched hooting sound such as that made by a vehicle's horn or a trumpet or flute

**Steal:** something that does not cost very much or that costs a lot less than would be expected

**Washed-up:** no longer likely to continue or succeed

**Fudge:** nonsensical talk

*John Wick: Chapter 3 – Parabellum*

**Dilly-dally:** to waste time by being too slow, doing nothing, or being unable to decide what to do

**Concierge:** somebody who is employed at a hotel or apartment building to help the guests or residents, e.g. by dealing with luggage, making travel arrangements, or delivering messages

**Pirouette:** a spin of the body, especially one performed in ballet on tiptoe or on the ball of one foot

**Lifeboat:** a boat used for rescuing people from ships in trouble at sea

**Adjudicate:** to make an official decision about a problem or dispute

**Adjudge:** to judge somebody or something in a particular way

**Flyway:** a traditional route taken by migrating birds

**Deign:** to do something in a way that shows that it is considered a great favor

**Blowfish:** a tropical ocean fish, poisonous in some species, that can inflate its body with water to appear larger to predators. Although poisonous, some varieties can be eaten as food after special preparation.

**Deconsecrate:** to convert a sacred place, building, or object to secular use

**Fumigate:** to treat something with fumes, or be treated with fumes, especially to kill microorganisms or pests

**Grain:** the smallest unit of weight in the avoirdupois (1/7000 pound) and apothecaries' systems (1/5760 pound), equal to approximately 0.065 grams

**Slug:** a metal projectile that is fired from a gun or rifle

**Parley:** a round of talks or negotiations, especially between opposing military forces

**Amuse-bouche=amuse-gueule:** a small appetizer that is served before a main meal begins

**To the quick:** 1. to the exposed flesh, especially that which is tender 2. to the deepest, most fragile part of oneself. Typically used to describe emotional wounds.

*Toy Story 4*

**Spork:** a spoon-shaped eating utensil with short tines at the tip

**Handful:** somebody or something that is difficult to cope with or control

**Rad:** very good, desirable, admirable, or fashionable

**Hut:** used to mark time while marching

**Cut your losses:** to withdraw from a situation in which there is no possibility of winning

**Corn dog:** a hot dog on a stick, coated in cornmeal batter and deep-fried, typically sold at fairs and carnivals

**Moat:** a water-filled ditch dug to prevent access or escape, e.g. to confine animals in a zoo

**Accessory:** somebody who aids somebody else in committing a crime or avoiding arrest but who does not participate in the crime itself

**Topside:** up on or to the deck of a ship

**Show-and-tell:** a classroom activity for children in which each child brings an object to school and tells the other children about it

2020

*Bill & Ted Face the Music*

**Doozy:** a remarkable or excellent thing

**Luminous:** enlightened and inspiring

**Buga khoomei:** a style of Tuvan throat singing

**Indubitable:** obvious or definitely true, and not to be doubted

**Sui generis:** unique or occupying a class of its own

**Doohickey:** an object or gadget whose name you cannot remember or do not know

**Rub off:** to be passed to somebody, or be an influence on somebody who is exposed to it

**Chuffed:** very pleased or satisfied

**Boyo:** used as a form of address for a boy or man, chiefly among Irish-Americans

**Tallyho:** used by a participant in a fox hunt to let others know that a fox has been sighted

**Poppycock:** absurd speech or writing

**Expiate:** to make amends, show remorse, or suffer punishment for wrongdoing

**Hopscotch:** a children's game in which players hop along squares marked in a pattern on the ground to pick up a small object thrown into one of the squares

**Take a hike:** to leave abruptly, or, more often, used to tell somebody who is unwelcome to leave

**Fudge:** to fiddle with or otherwise alter something in order to deceive or remain noncommittal

*The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge on the Run*

**Fecundity:** 1. the ability to produce offspring, especially in large numbers 2. the ability to produce many different and original ideas

**The wrong end of the stick:** a misunderstanding, miscommunication, or distortion of the fact

**Finicky:** difficult to please, and tending to concentrate on small or unimportant details

**Patty:** 1. a small pie or pastry 2. a patty shell (a decorative edible shell of baked puff pastry that is filled with other food such as meat, fish, vegetables, or fruit)

**Order up!** Food is ready! An expression often used in restaurants when an order of food is ready to be served.

**Shipshape:** neat and in good order

**Boon:** a gift or favor from somebody

**Tartar sauce:** a mayonnaise mixed with capers and chopped pickles that is served as an accompaniment to fish

**Fortitude:** strength and endurance in a difficult or painful situation

**Wherewithal:** the money or resources required for a purpose

**Grit:** determination or strength of character

**Gallantry:** bravery, especially in war or in a situation of great danger

**Moxie:** courage combined with inventiveness

**Wingman:** a pilot who flies in a position behind, and to the side of, the leader of a flying formation

**Drill down:** to access data or information organized in hierarchical form by starting from general information and moving through increasingly detailed data

**Hyperbole:** deliberate and obvious exaggeration used for effect, e.g. "I could eat a million of these."

**Tumbleweed:** a densely branched plant such as the Russian thistle that grows in dry regions and in late summer withers and breaks from its roots to be blown about by the wind

**Set out:** to begin something, especially a journey

**Lollygag:** to waste time in a pleasant idle way

**Toodle-oo:** goodbye

**Digress:** to move away from the central topic or line of argument in speaking or writing, usually temporarily

**Harpoon:** to catch a whale or other large sea animal using a harpoon

**Fickle:** likely to change, especially in affections, intentions, loyalties, or preferences

**Churro:** a thick fritter made from a coil of dough

**Sea urchin:** a small marine invertebrate animal with a soft body enclosed in a spherical shell that is covered in spines when the animal is alive.

**Jangle:** to make a harsh metallic noise, or cause something made of metal to make such a noise

**Rube:** an offensive term for somebody who is regarded as naive or unsophisticated, especially somebody from a rural area who is not used to city ways

**Halibut:** a large flatfish. Native to: northern Atlantic, Pacific oceans.

**Billow:** 1. to fill with air, or cause something made of fabric to fill with air, and swell outward 2. to move upward or along in a curling or rolling mass

**Cephalopod:** an invertebrate ocean animal with a large head and tentacles, e.g. an octopus, squid, or cuttlefish

**Teensy-weensy:** teeny-weeny

**Buck up:** to become more cheerful, confident, or encouraged, or make somebody do this

**Crappie:** a freshwater sunfish with equal-sized anal and dorsal fins. Native to: lakes and ponds in North America.

**Goner:** somebody or something beyond hope of recovery, especially somebody who is dead or about to die

**Hoot:** a highly amusing person, object, or situation

**Revile:** 1. to make a fierce or abusive verbal attack on somebody or something 2. to use insulting or abusive language

**Nabob:** a rich or powerful person

**Natter:** to talk about not very serious matters, often rapidly and at length and sometimes in an irritating way

**Luncheonette:** a small fairly simple restaurant serving full lunch menus and snacks, and often breakfast

**Parry:** to block or deflect the damaging effect of a blow or weapon

**Pirouette:** a spin of the body, especially one performed in ballet on tiptoe or on the ball of one foot

**Tsk tsk:** used in writing to represent a sucking or clicking sound made to express disappointment, disgust, or sympathy

**Toe-tapping:** (of music) making one want to tap one's feet; lively

**Shilly-shally:** a failure or inability to make a choice or decision

**Home slice:** a fellow, particularly a male acquaintance, from one's home town

**Palsy-walsy:** very friendly, often in an insincere or unpleasant way

**Let your hair down:** to behave in a more relaxed way than usual

2021

*The Matrix Resurrections*

**See out:** to accompany somebody who is leaving a room, building, or other place

**Blow smoke up someone's ass:** to praise in a way that is not sincere

**Shook:** shaken up; rattled; shocked or surprised

**Ball:** a highly offensive term meaning to have sexual intercourse

**Synaptic:** relating to or involving a junction between nerve cells

**Cortado:** a cup of espresso served with warm milk

**Swat:** to strike or slap somebody or something sharply

**Sublimate:** to channel impulses or energies regarded as unacceptable, especially sexual desires, toward an activity that is more socially acceptable, often a creative activity

**Coppertop:** a person with ginger hair

**Do one's head in:** to frustrate, infuriate, irritate or disturb someone

**Codex:** a collection of ancient manuscript texts, especially of the Biblical Scriptures, in book form

**Sim:** simulation

**Incautious:** careless, rash, or lacking in caution

**Knuckle up:** to clench one's fist(s) as though in preparation for a fight

**Corpuscle:** a small independent body, especially a cell in blood or lymph

**Macerator:** to soften something by soaking it in liquid, or become soft by soaking in liquid



2022

*DC League of Super-Pets*

**Get in on:** become involved in a profitable or exciting activity

**Snoot:** a nose or snout

**Shook:** shaken up; rattled; shocked or surprised

**Pound out:** produce a text or play a piece of music with heavy strokes on a keyboard or instrument

**Pepper:** somebody's eye

**Stitch:** a cramp in the side of the abdomen caused e.g. by exercising or laughing

**Dookie:** excrement

**Sandalwood:** a fragrant close-grained pale yellow wood. Use: furniture-making, carving, incense.

**Mutt:** a dog that is of mixed or unknown breed

**Jabroni:** a foolish or contemptible person

**Unhand:** to let somebody go by releasing a grasp

**Wench:** an offensive term for a young woman

**Bide one's time:** wait quietly for a good opportunity to do something

**Hovel:** a small, dirty, or poorly built house

**Kink:** a slight difficulty or holdup in the progress of something

**Spiffy:** stylish or modern and attractive

**Soggy:** soaked through with moisture

**Plucky:** showing courage and determination, especially in the face of danger, difficulty, or superior odds

**Hunk:** a large piece of something such as bread or cheese that is cut or torn off a larger portion

**Hacky:** lacking originality; hackneyed

**Wack:** an offensive term that deliberately insults somebody who is regarded as unconventional or unpredictable

**Stegosaur(us):** a plant-eating dinosaur that lived in the Jurassic and Early Cretaceous periods and had tough bony dorsal plates and spikes

**Swole:** extremely muscular (used especially of a man)

**Hitched:** married

**Spill:** to reveal or divulge something, often unintentionally

**Rope off:** to isolate something with a rope barrier

**Chump:** somebody who is unwise or easily deceived

**Gerbil:** a small rodent resembling a mouse with long back legs. Native to: hot dry parts of Africa, Asia.

**Prenup:** a prenuptial agreement

2023

*John Wick: Chapter 4*

**Aggrieve:** to inflict an actionable injury on somebody

**Crest:** small animal, bird, or other heraldic symbol of a family or office, placed above the shield in a coat of arms or used alone on a helmet

**Flush:** in poker and other games, a hand consisting of cards all in the same suit

**Forfeiture:** something that has been taken away or has had to be given up as a penalty for breaking a law or contract

**Bopper:** a jazz musician who plays bebop

**Make a beeline for:** to go quickly and directly at or to (something or someone)

**Ambidextrous:** able to use the right and the left hand with equal skill

**A mag(azine) well:** the area of a firearm into which magazines are inserted