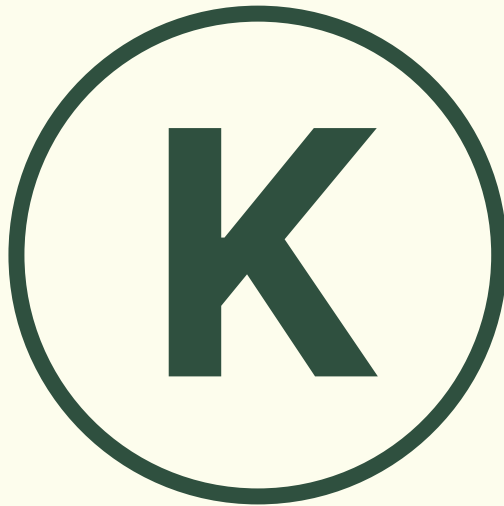


PTE Preparation Series

Vocabulary Mastery

Essential Words for PTE Academic Success



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1. Keen (adjective)

- Definition: Having or showing eagerness or enthusiasm; sharp or highly developed.
- Synonyms: eager, enthusiastic, sharp, acute
- Antonyms: apathetic, dull, uninterested, blunt
- Example: She has a keen interest in environmental conservation, actively participating in various projects.

2. Kindle (verb)

- Definition: To light or set on fire; to arouse or inspire (an emotion or feeling).
- Synonyms: ignite, excite, arouse, stimulate
- Antonyms: extinguish, dampen, quell, discourage
- Example: The speaker's passionate words helped to kindle a sense of hope among the audience.

3. Kinetic (adjective)

- Definition: Relating to or resulting from motion.
- Synonyms: moving, dynamic, active, energetic
- Antonyms: static, motionless, inert, stagnant
- Example: The artist created a kinetic sculpture that moved with the air currents in the room.

4. Kudos (noun)

- Definition: Praise and honor received for an achievement.
- Synonyms: praise, glory, acclaim, tribute
- Antonyms: criticism, blame, disgrace, censure
- Example: The team received kudos from the management for successfully completing the challenging project ahead of schedule.

5. Kernel (noun)

- Definition: The central or most important part of something; the edible seed within a hard shell.
- Synonyms: essence, core, gist, pith
- Antonyms: exterior, periphery, surface, superficiality
- Example: The kernel of his argument was that economic growth depends on innovation.

6. Knotty (adjective)

- Definition: Full of knots; extremely difficult or complex to solve.
- Synonyms: intricate, complex, perplexing, puzzling
- Antonyms: simple, straightforward, easy, uncomplicated
- Example: Solving the knotty problem required extensive research and collaboration among experts.

7. Knack (noun)

- Definition: An acquired or natural skill or talent for doing something.
- Synonyms: talent, aptitude, flair, gift



- **Antonyms:** inability, clumsiness, awkwardness, ineptitude
- Example: She has a knack for baking delicious pastries without following a precise recipe.

8. Keystone (noun)

- Definition: A central stone at the summit of an arch, locking the whole together; the central or most important part of a policy or system.
- **Synonyms:** linchpin, mainstay, foundation, core
- **Antonyms:** superfluity, irrelevance, minor part, adjunct
- Example: The new environmental policy is considered the keystone of the government's sustainability plan.

9. Kith (noun)

- Definition: One's friends, acquaintances, and relations (often used in the phrase 'kith and kin').
- **Synonyms:** friends, acquaintances, associates, companions
- **Antonyms:** strangers, foes, adversaries, enemies
- Example: During the festive season, people often gather with their kith and kin to celebrate.

10. Knell (noun)

- Definition: The sound of a bell, especially when rung solemnly for a death or funeral; an indication of the end or failure of something.
- **Synonyms:** toll, chime, signal, omen
- **Antonyms:** beginning, resurrection, revival, genesis
- Example: The announcement of the factory closure sounded like a death knell for the local economy.

11. Kowtow (verb)

- Definition: To act in an excessively subservient manner; to bow deeply as a sign of respect or submission.
- **Synonyms:** fawn, grovel, cringe, toady
- **Antonyms:** defy, resist, disobey, stand up to
- Example: Some employees felt they had to kowtow to the demanding boss to keep their jobs.

12. Kitsch (noun)

- Definition: Art, objects, or design considered to be in poor taste because of excessive garishness or sentimentality, but sometimes appreciated in an ironic or knowing way.
- **Synonyms:** tackiness, gaudiness, vulgarity, camp
- **Antonyms:** elegance, sophistication, tastefulness, refinement
- Example: The tourist shop was full of kitsch souvenirs, like miniature Eiffel Towers and brightly colored statues.

13. Kaleidoscopic (adjective)

- Definition: Having complex, colorful, and shifting patterns; continually changing.
- **Synonyms:** multicolored, varied, diverse, shifting



- **Antonyms:** monochromatic, uniform, unchanging, static
- Example: The city's vibrant nightlife offers a kaleidoscopic array of entertainment options.

14. Kinship (noun)

- Definition: The state of being related by blood or marriage; a strong feeling of connection or affinity.
- Synonyms: relationship, affinity, bond, connection
- **Antonyms:** estrangement, disconnection, alienation, dissociation
- Example: Despite their different backgrounds, they felt an immediate kinship due to their shared passion for music.

15. Know-how (noun)

- Definition: Practical knowledge or skill, especially in a specific field.
- Synonyms: expertise, skill, proficiency, competence
- **Antonyms:** ignorance, inexperience, incompetence, unfamiliarity
- Example: His extensive know-how in software development made him an invaluable asset to the tech startup.

16. Kempt (adjective)

- Definition: Neatly or tidily kept; well-maintained.
- Synonyms: tidy, neat, orderly, well-groomed
- **Antonyms:** unkempt, messy, disheveled, untidy
- Example: Despite his long journey, he arrived looking surprisingly kempt and refreshed.

17. Kismet (noun)

- Definition: Destiny; fate.
- Synonyms: destiny, fate, predestination, fortune
- **Antonyms:** choice, freewill, accident, chance
- Example: Meeting her in that distant city felt like kismet, as if they were always meant to cross paths.

18. Karma (noun)

- Definition: (In Hinduism and Buddhism) the sum of a person's actions in this and previous states of existence, viewed as deciding their fate in future existences; destiny or fate.
- Synonyms: destiny, fate, consequence, retribution
- **Antonyms:** chance, randomness, luck, coincidence
- Example: Many believe that good deeds generate positive karma, which eventually brings good fortune.

19. Knavery (noun)

- Definition: The behavior of a knave; trickery or dishonesty.
- Synonyms: dishonesty, trickery, deceit, roguery
- **Antonyms:** honesty, integrity, sincerity, uprightness
- Example: The politician was accused of knavery and corruption, leading to a public outcry.



20. Knackered (adjective)

- Definition: (Informal) extremely tired; exhausted.
- Synonyms: exhausted, fatigued, drained, weary
- Antonyms: energetic, refreshed, invigorated, lively
- Example: After working a double shift, I was completely knackered and just wanted to sleep.

21. Kingly (adjective)

- Definition: Resembling or characteristic of a king; majestic or regal.
- Synonyms: regal, majestic, royal, noble
- Antonyms: humble, servile, common, peasantry
- Example: He had a kingly demeanor, commanding respect from everyone in the room.

22. Knickknack (noun)

- Definition: A small, inexpensive ornament or trinket.
- Synonyms: trinket, bauble, curio, ornament
- Antonyms: necessity, essential, utility, fixture
- Example: Her shelves were adorned with various knickknacks collected during her travels.

23. Knoll (noun)

- Definition: A small hill or mound.
- Synonyms: hillock, mound, rise, dune
- Antonyms: valley, depression, hollow, pit
- Example: From the top of the grassy knoll, they had a perfect view of the entire valley.

24. Knowledgeable (adjective)

- Definition: Possessing a wide range of knowledge or expertise in a particular field.
- Synonyms: informed, erudite, learned, well-read
- Antonyms: ignorant, uninformed, uneducated, naive
- Example: The professor was incredibly knowledgeable about ancient civilizations and their cultures.

25. Knuckle (verb)

- Definition: To yield or give in to pressure (often 'knuckle under'); to rap or press with the knuckles.
- Synonyms: yield, submit, concede, surrender
- Antonyms: resist, defy, oppose, stand firm
- Example: After a long debate, the opposing team had to knuckle under to the majority's decision.

26. Kangaroo court (noun)

- Definition: An unofficial court held by a group of people, typically to try someone who has broken a rule, without proper legal procedure; an unfair or biased judicial proceeding.
- Synonyms: mock trial, sham trial, inquisition, lynch mob



- **Antonyms:** fair trial, due process, just hearing, impartial tribunal
- Example: He claimed the disciplinary hearing was a kangaroo court, as he was not allowed to present his evidence properly.

27. Keen-witted (adjective)

- Definition: Having or showing a quick and incisive mind; intelligent.
- **Synonyms:** clever, shrewd, astute, perceptive
- **Antonyms:** dull-witted, slow, obtuse, foolish
- Example: Her keen-witted responses in the debate impressed the judges and the audience.

28. Kindred (adjective)

- Definition: Similar in character or nature; related by blood.
- **Synonyms:** related, similar, allied, congenial
- **Antonyms:** unrelated, dissimilar, different, alien
- Example: They discovered a kindred spirit in each other, sharing many similar artistic tastes.

29. Kryptonite (noun)

- Definition: (Figurative) a particular weakness or vulnerability that can undermine one's strength or effectiveness.
- **Synonyms:** weakness, vulnerability, achilles heel, downfall
- **Antonyms:** strength, asset, advantage, forte
- Example: Public speaking was his kryptonite; he felt completely powerless on stage despite his leadership skills.

30. Knapsack (noun)

- Definition: A bag with shoulder straps, carried on the back, typically made of canvas or other sturdy material.
- **Synonyms:** backpack, rucksack, pack, satchel
- **Antonyms:** suitcase, trunk, briefcase, handbag
- Example: He packed a light knapsack for his day hike, carrying only essentials like water and snacks.

31. Kraken (noun)

- Definition: (Mythology, figurative) a legendary sea monster; used metaphorically for something large, powerful, and difficult to control.
- **Synonyms:** monster, behemoth, leviathan, colossus
- **Antonyms:** dwarf, pipsqueak, insignificance, tiddler
- Example: The rising national debt became a financial kraken, threatening to engulf the economy.

32. Kickstart (verb)

- Definition: To start (a motorcycle engine) by pressing a pedal with the foot; to make something start or happen more quickly.
- **Synonyms:** initiate, catalyze, stimulate, boost



- **Antonyms:** hinder, impede, slow, deter
- **Example:** The government launched a new initiative to kickstart the struggling economy with investments in infrastructure.

33. Knuckle down (phrasal verb)

- **Defination:** To apply oneself seriously to a task; to work hard.
- **Synonyms:** concentrate, focus, endeavor, work diligently
- **Antonyms:** procrastinate, slack off, idle, dawdle
- **Example:** With exams approaching, she knew it was time to knuckle down and focus on her studies.

34. Kindly (adverb)

- **Defination:** In a kind manner; please (used as a polite request).
- **Synonyms:** graciously, benevolently, politely, courteously
- **Antonyms:** unkindly, harshly, rudely, disagreeably
- **Example:** Kindly close the door behind you as you leave the room.

35. Kettle (noun)

- **Defination:** A vessel, usually metal, with a lid, spout, and handle, used for boiling water.
- **Synonyms:** boiler, urn, tea kettle, pot
- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific object) pot, mug, cup
- **Example:** She put the kettle on to boil water for tea.

36. Kidnap (verb)

- **Defination:** To abduct (someone) and hold them captive, typically to obtain a ransom.
- **Synonyms:** abduct, seize, capture, snatch
- **Antonyms:** release, free, liberate, rescue
- **Example:** The criminals attempted to kidnap the wealthy businessman, but their plan was foiled by security.

37. Kineticism (noun)

- **Defination:** The quality or state of being kinetic; the theory of motion.
- **Synonyms:** dynamism, movement, mobility, activity
- **Antonyms:** stasis, stillness, immobility, inertia
- **Example:** The artist explored kineticism in her installations, using air currents to create movement.

38. Knave (noun)

- **Defination:** A dishonest or unscrupulous man.
- **Synonyms:** rogue, scoundrel, rascal, villain
- **Antonyms:** hero, gentleman, saint, paragon
- **Example:** The cunning knave tricked many unsuspecting villagers out of their money.



39. Kith and kin (idiom)

- Definition: One's friends, acquaintances, and relations collectively.
- Synonyms: relatives, family and friends, loved ones, associates
- Antonyms: strangers, outsiders, enemies, opponents
- Example: She invited all her kith and kin to the grand celebration.

40. Knitted (adjective)

- Definition: Made by knitting; closely joined or interwoven.
- Synonyms: woven, interlaced, interconnected, braided
- Antonyms: unraveled, separated, disconnected, loose
- Example: She wore a beautifully knitted scarf to protect herself from the cold winter wind.

41. Kibosh (noun)

- Definition: An act of squashing or stopping something; a forceful end.
- Synonyms: halt, stop, end, termination
- Antonyms: start, initiation, continuation, permission
- Example: The manager put the kibosh on the extravagant marketing plan due to budget constraints.

42. Keen-eyed (adjective)

- Definition: Having excellent eyesight or powers of observation.
- Synonyms: observant, sharp-sighted, perceptive, vigilant
- Antonyms: unobservant, myopic, blind, oblivious
- Example: The keen-eyed detective noticed a tiny detail that everyone else had missed.

43. Kick off (phrasal verb)

- Definition: To start or begin, especially an event or discussion.
- Synonyms: commence, initiate, launch, begin
- Antonyms: conclude, finish, end, wrap up
- Example: The conference will kick off with a keynote speech from the CEO.

44. Kibble (noun)

- Definition: Ground meal, especially of dry dog food.
- Synonyms: feed, pellets, chow, dry food
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific food type) wet food, fresh food, scraps
- Example: The dog eagerly ate its bowl of kibble for dinner.

45. Kiosk (noun)

- Definition: A small open-fronted hut or cubicle from which newspapers, refreshments, tickets, etc., are sold.
- Synonyms: stand, booth, stall, pavilion



- **Antonyms:** store, supermarket, mall, department store
- Example: He bought a newspaper from the kiosk on his way to work.

46. Kinsman (noun)

- Definition: A man who is one's blood relation.
- Synonyms: relative, kinsfolk, relation, blood relation
- **Antonyms:** stranger, outsider, unrelated person, non-relative
- Example: He traveled a long distance to attend the funeral of a distant kinsman.

47. Knuckle under (phrasal verb)

- Definition: To yield or give in to pressure or authority.
- Synonyms: submit, capitulate, surrender, give in
- **Antonyms:** resist, defy, stand firm, persevere
- Example: Despite initial resistance, the smaller company eventually had to knuckle under to the terms of the larger corporation.

48. Keenly (adverb)

- Definition: In an eager or enthusiastic manner; sharply or acutely.
- Synonyms: eagerly, intensely, acutely, sharply
- **Antonyms:** apathetically, dully, unenthusiastically, vaguely
- Example: She listened keenly to every word, trying not to miss any detail.

49. Kinetics (noun)

- Definition: The scientific study of motion and its causes.
- Synonyms: motion study, dynamics, movement science, mechanics
- **Antonyms:** statics, immobility, inertia, rest
- Example: The course covered various aspects of fluid kinetics, analyzing how liquids move under different forces.

50. Kindness (noun)

- Definition: The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate.
- Synonyms: benevolence, compassion, generosity, altruism
- **Antonyms:** cruelty, malice, unkindness, meanness
- Example: A simple act of kindness can make a significant difference in someone's day.

51. Kitty (noun)

- Definition: A fund of money for communal use; a pet cat.
- Synonyms: fund, pool, collection, reserve
- **Antonyms:** debt, individual funds, shortage, deficit
- Example: They all contributed to the office kitty to buy a gift for their retiring colleague.



52. Knead (verb)

- Definition: To work (dough or clay) with the hands, especially to mix in ingredients or make it uniform in consistency.
- Synonyms: **massage, work, manipulate, press**
- Antonyms: **unmix, separate, disperse, crumble**
- Example: The baker expertly kneaded the dough until it was smooth and elastic.

53. Knitting (noun)

- Definition: The action or process of knitting; material being knitted.
- Synonyms: **needlework, crochet, interlacing, weaving**
- Antonyms: **unraveling, disentangling, undoing, ripping**
- Example: She found knitting to be a relaxing hobby during her free time.

54. Knockout (noun)

- Definition: A blow that renders an opponent unconscious; a strikingly attractive person or thing.
- Synonyms: **stunner, triumph, masterpiece, sensation**
- Antonyms: **failure, disappointment, flop, mediocrity**
- Example: The boxer delivered a powerful knockout in the final round.

55. Know-it-all (noun)

- Definition: (Informal) a person who professes to know everything and is irritatingly conceited.
- Synonyms: **smart aleck, pedant, bluffer, braggart**
- Antonyms: **humble person, learner, inquirer, student**
- Example: Nobody liked working with the new colleague because he was such a know-it-all.

56. Ketch (noun)

- Definition: A two-masted sailboat, with the mizzenmast (rear mast) shorter than the mainmast.
- Synonyms: **sailboat, yacht, sailing vessel, cutter**
- Antonyms: **(N/A - specific type of boat) motorboat, rowboat, ship**
- Example: They sailed their ketch across the bay, enjoying the calm waters.

57. Kerfuffle (noun)

- Definition: A commotion or fuss, especially one caused by a dispute or conflict.
- Synonyms: **commotion, fuss, brouhaha, dispute**
- Antonyms: **calm, peace, tranquility, order**
- Example: There was a small kerfuffle outside the concert venue over ticket allocations.

58. Kiln (noun)

- Definition: A furnace or oven for burning, baking, or drying, especially one for firing pottery, bricks, or cement.
- Synonyms: **furnace, oven, hearth, forge**



- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific apparatus) cooler, refrigerator, freezer
- Example: The artist carefully placed the freshly molded pottery into the kiln for firing.

59. Keynote (noun)

- Definition: The main theme or idea; a speech or lecture that sets the theme for a conference or convention.
- Synonyms: theme, gist, focus, main point
- **Antonyms:** digression, aside, footnote, tangent
- Example: The keynote speaker delivered an inspiring address on the future of renewable energy.

60. Kinematics (noun)

- Definition: The branch of mechanics concerned with the motion of objects without reference to the forces that cause the motion.
- Synonyms: motion analysis, geometry of motion, dynamics, mechanics
- **Antonyms:** statics, forces, causation, aetiology
- Example: Students in the physics class learned about kinematics to understand projectile motion.

61. Kettle drum (noun)

- Definition: A large drum with a hemispherical copper body, across which a membrane is stretched, producing a definite musical note; a timpani.
- Synonyms: timpani, drum, percussion instrument, bass drum
- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific instrument) flute, violin, piano
- Example: The orchestra's percussion section featured several kettle drums, adding depth to the sound.

62. Kinsfolk (noun)

- Definition: One's relatives.
- Synonyms: relatives, family, kin, relations
- **Antonyms:** strangers, outsiders, non-relatives, acquaintances
- Example: She invited all her kinsfolk to the annual family reunion.

63. Knot (noun)

- Definition: A fastening made by tying a piece of string, rope, or something similar; a unit of speed, equal to one nautical mile per hour.
- Synonyms: tie, bond, loop, fastening
- **Antonyms:** untie, release, loosening, separation
- Example: The sailor tied a secure knot to fasten the boat to the dock. The ship traveled at a speed of 20 knots.

64. Kick back (phrasal verb)

- Definition: To relax; to illegally pay money to someone as a reward for a secret favour.
- Synonyms: relax, unwind, recline, bribe



- **Antonyms:** work, exert, toil, penalize

- **Example:** After a long week, all he wanted to do was kick back and watch a movie. The company was accused of giving kickbacks to officials.

65. Knotting (noun)

- **Defination:** The action or process of tying knots; a substance used to seal knots in wood.

- **Synonyms:** tying, binding, lashing, fastening

- **Antonyms:** untying, loosening, unraveling, detaching

- **Example:** Macrame involves intricate knotting techniques to create decorative patterns.

66. Knuckle bone (noun)

- **Defination:** Any of the bones forming a knuckle.

- **Synonyms:** phalange, joint bone, finger bone, hand bone

- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific anatomical part) skull, rib, femur

- **Example:** He cracked his knuckle bones, a habit that annoyed his colleagues.

67. Karmic (adjective)

- **Defination:** Relating to karma; influenced by the sum of one's actions in this and previous states of existence.

- **Synonyms:** fateful, destined, consequential, predetermined

- **Antonyms:** random, accidental, unfated, fortuitous

- **Example:** He believed his good fortune was a result of positive karmic actions from his past.

68. Kerchief (noun)

- **Defination:** A piece of cloth used to cover the head or neck, or for decoration.

- **Synonyms:** headscarf, bandanna, neckerchief, handkerchief

- **Antonyms:** hat, shawl, cloak, coat

- **Example:** She tied a colorful kerchief around her neck to complete her outfit.

69. Kink (noun)

- **Defination:** A sharp twist or curl in something otherwise straight; a flaw or peculiarity.

- **Synonyms:** twist, curl, bend, flaw

- **Antonyms:** straightness, smoothness, perfection, regularity

- **Example:** There was a kink in the hose, preventing water from flowing freely. The project hit a minor kink, but they quickly resolved it.

70. Keen-sighted (adjective)

- **Defination:** Having sharp eyesight; quick to discern or understand.

- **Synonyms:** observant, sharp-eyed, perceptive, astute

- **Antonyms:** nearsighted, myopic, unobservant, obtuse

- **Example:** The keen-sighted hunter spotted the deer hidden in the dense foliage.



71. Knock-on effect (noun)

- Definition: An indirect, secondary, or cumulative effect produced by a primary action or event.
- Synonyms: chain reaction, ripple effect, consequence, ramification
- Antonyms: cause, origin, source, genesis
- Example: The factory closure had a knock-on effect on local businesses, leading to further job losses.

72. Knockabout (adjective)

- Definition: Involving slapstick or boisterous humor; rough and ready.
- Synonyms: boisterous, slapstick, rough-and-tumble, lively
- Antonyms: refined, sedate, gentle, sophisticated
- Example: The play was a knockabout comedy, full of physical gags and exaggerated characters.

73. Kitsch-y (adjective)

- Definition: Resembling or characteristic of kitsch; garish and sentimental.
- Synonyms: tacky, gaudy, cheesy, sentimental
- Antonyms: elegant, tasteful, chic, minimalist
- Example: Her apartment was decorated with kitsch-y souvenirs from various tourist traps.

74. Keyframe (noun)

- Definition: A drawing in an animated sequence that defines the starting and ending points of any smooth transition; a frame that defines a significant change in an animation or video.
- Synonyms: milestone frame, anchor point, reference frame, transition point
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific technical term) intermediate frame, in-between, fill frame
- Example: Animators use keyframes to establish the critical poses in a character's movement.

75. Kindling (noun)

- Definition: Easily combustible small sticks or twigs used for starting a fire.
- Synonyms: tinder, firewood, fuel, faggots
- Antonyms: fire retardant, extinguisher, wet wood, damp material
- Example: They gathered dry kindling from the forest floor to start their campfire.

76. Knightly (adjective)

- Definition: Of or befitting a knight; chivalrous and honorable.
- Synonyms: chivalrous, heroic, valiant, gallant
- Antonyms: cowardly, dishonorable, ignoble, unheroic
- Example: He demonstrated knightly courage by defending the defenseless villagers.

77. Keying (noun)

- Definition: The act of entering data using a keyboard; the process of adjusting colors in film or video to combine images.
- Synonyms: typing, data entry, compositing, chroma keying



- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific action) **reading, scanning, printing**
- **Example:** Data entry involved extensive keying of numerical information into the system.

78. Kerb (noun)

- **Defination:** (British English) A stone or concrete edging to a pavement or raised path.
- **Synonyms:** **curb, edge, border, verge**
- **Antonyms:** **center, middle, roadway, street**
- **Example:** She waited at the kerb for the traffic to clear before crossing the street.

79. Keyed-up (adjective)

- **Defination:** In a state of nervous excitement or anticipation.
- **Synonyms:** **anxious, nervous, excited, tense**
- **Antonyms:** **calm, relaxed, composed, unconcerned**
- **Example:** Before the performance, the musicians were all very keyed-up, eagerly awaiting their turn.

80. Kinesiology (noun)

- **Defination:** The study of the mechanics of body movement.
- **Synonyms:** **biomechanics, ergonomics, physiotherapy, movement science**
- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific field of study) **anatomy, biology, geology**
- **Example:** A degree in kinesiology can lead to careers in physical therapy or sports science.

81. Kite (verb)

- **Defination:** To use (a check or other order) fraudulently; to soar or glide like a kite.
- **Synonyms:** **defraud, cheat, glide, soar**
- **Antonyms:** **pay honestly, descend, fall, plummet**
- **Example:** The criminal attempted to kite checks, but was caught by bank security. The bird continued to kite effortlessly on the air currents.

82. Kingpin (noun)

- **Defination:** The most important person in a venture or organization; a bowling pin.
- **Synonyms:** **leader, mastermind, chief, boss**
- **Antonyms:** **subordinate, minion, follower, underling**
- **Example:** He was considered the kingpin of the organized crime syndicate.

83. Kleptomania (noun)

- **Defination:** A recurrent urge to steal, typically without regard for need or profit.
- **Synonyms:** **theft compulsion, stealing habit, pathological stealing, impulse theft**
- **Antonyms:** **generosity, giving, self-control, honesty**
- **Example:** She was diagnosed with kleptomania, explaining her compulsive stealing of trivial items.



84. Knocker (noun)

- Definition: A device for striking a door, used to attract attention; a person who criticizes.
- Synonyms: critic, detractor, cynic, door knocker
- Antonyms: supporter, admirer, advocate, enthusiast
- Example: He heard a loud knock on the door and saw an old-fashioned knocker. Don't be such a knocker; try to find solutions instead of just complaining.

85. Kilobyte (noun)

- Definition: A unit of information equal to one thousand (10^3) bytes or, often, 1024 (2^{10}) bytes.
- Synonyms: KB, data unit, storage unit, memory unit
- Antonyms: megabyte, gigabyte, terabyte
- Example: The small text file was only a few kilobytes in size, so it downloaded quickly.

86. Kaiser (noun)

- Definition: The German or Austrian emperor.
- Synonyms: emperor, monarch, ruler, sovereign
- Antonyms: subject, peasant, commoner, citizen
- Example: During World War I, Kaiser Wilhelm II was the emperor of Germany.

87. Kaput (adjective)

- Definition: (Informal) broken and useless; no longer working or effective.
- Synonyms: broken, finished, ruined, defunct
- Antonyms: working, functional, repaired, operational
- Example: My old washing machine is completely kaput; I need to buy a new one.

88. Kickshaw (noun)

- Definition: A fancy dish; a useless showy trifle.
- Synonyms: trifle, delicacy, bauble, gewgaw
- Antonyms: necessity, staple, substance, essential
- Example: The chef prepared a variety of elaborate kickshaws for the royal banquet. She dismissed his promises as mere kickshaws, lacking substance.

89. Knurled (adjective)

- Definition: Having a series of small ridges or grooves, typically on a metal surface, to provide a firm grip.
- Synonyms: ridged, grooved, serrated, textured
- Antonyms: smooth, flat, polished, even
- Example: The flashlight had a knurled grip, preventing it from slipping even when wet.

90. Khaki (noun)

- Definition: A yellowish-brown cloth, typically made of cotton or wool, used for uniforms and casual



wear; a pair of trousers made of this material.

- Synonyms: tan, beige, earth-tone, drill
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific color/fabric) bright colors, dark shades, silk
- Example: He preferred to wear comfortable khaki trousers for his outdoor adventures.

91. Klaxon (noun)

- Definition: A loud electric horn or hooter.
- Synonyms: horn, hooter, siren, alarm
- Antonyms: whisper, silence, muffle, mute
- Example: The truck driver sounded his klaxon loudly to warn pedestrians of his approach.

92. Kleptomaniac (noun)

- Definition: A person suffering from kleptomania.
- Synonyms: thief, shoplifter, pilferer, compulsive thief
- Antonyms: donor, giver, philanthropist, honest person
- Example: The department store security recognized her as a known kleptomaniac after several incidents.

93. Knurling (noun)

- Definition: The process of making small ridges or grooves on a surface, typically metal, for a better grip.
- Synonyms: texturing, grooving, ridging, serration
- Antonyms: smoothing, polishing, flattening, finishing
- Example: The knurling on the knob allowed for easy rotation even with wet hands.

94. Kinescope (noun)

- Definition: A film recording of a television broadcast; a machine used to make such a recording.
- Synonyms: telefilm, videotape, recording, film
- Antonyms: live broadcast, unrecorded show, real-time stream, live performance
- Example: Early television shows were often preserved on kinescope recordings before videotape was common.

95. Knavish (adjective)

- Definition: Dishonest or unscrupulous.
- Synonyms: deceitful, roguish, dishonest, unprincipled
- Antonyms: honest, honorable, upright, virtuous
- Example: His knavish tricks eventually led to his downfall and loss of reputation.

96. Keep (noun)

- Definition: The strongest or central tower of a castle, acting as a final refuge.
- Synonyms: citadel, fortress, stronghold, donjon



- **Antonyms:** outbuilding, annex, shed, cabin

- **Example:** The invaders breached the outer walls but struggled to capture the castle's fortified keep.

97. Knock (noun)

- **Definition:** A sudden short blow or impact; a criticism.

- **Synonyms:** rap, tap, blow, criticism

- **Antonyms:** praise, compliment, pat, approval

- **Example:** He heard a knock at the door. Despite its success, the new policy still received a few knocks from critics.

98. Knuckle-duster (noun)

- **Definition:** A metal weapon worn on the knuckles to increase the impact of a punch.

- **Synonyms:** brass knuckles, fist weapon, hand guard, punch enhancer

- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific weapon) shield, armor, defense

- **Example:** The police confiscated a knuckle-duster from the suspect during the arrest.

99. Kinetic art (noun)

- **Definition:** Art from any medium that contains movement perceptible by the viewer or depends on motion for its effect.

- **Synonyms:** dynamic art, mobile art, movement art, motion sculpture

- **Antonyms:** static art, still art, immobile art, traditional sculpture

- **Example:** The museum featured a collection of kinetic art, with sculptures that rotated and swayed.

100. Kale (noun)

- **Definition:** A cabbage of a variety that produces edible coarse leaves that do not form a compact head.

- **Synonyms:** leaf cabbage, borecole, collards, greens

- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific vegetable) lettuce, spinach, broccoli

- **Example:** She added fresh kale to her smoothie for extra vitamins.

101. Kaplan (noun)

- **Definition:** A common surname; also often associated with test preparation services (e.g., Kaplan Test Prep).

- **Synonyms:** (N/A - specific name/brand) surname, test prep provider, educational company

- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific name/brand) individual tutor, competitor brand, self-study

- **Example:** Many students use Kaplan resources to prepare for their standardized exams.

102. Keratin (noun)

- **Definition:** A fibrous protein forming the main structural constituent of hair, feathers, hoofs, claws, horns, etc.

- **Synonyms:** protein, biomolecule, fibrous protein, structural protein

- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific biological substance) fat, carbohydrate, water



- Example: Hair treatments often contain keratin to strengthen and smooth the strands.

103. Kickball (noun)

- Definition: A game similar to baseball, played with a large inflated ball which is kicked instead of being hit with a bat.
- Synonyms: soccer baseball, foot baseball, playground game, team game
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific game) baseball, basketball, tennis
- Example: The children enjoyed playing kickball in the park during their summer vacation.

104. Kindred spirit (noun phrase)

- Definition: A person whose attitudes, interests, or thoughts are similar to one's own.
- Synonyms: soulmate, compatriot, fellow traveler, like-minded person
- Antonyms: antagonist, opponent, nemesis, polar opposite
- Example: She found a kindred spirit in her new colleague, with whom she shared many common ideas.

105. Knuckle sandwich (noun phrase)

- Definition: (Informal) a punch in the face.
- Synonyms: punch, blow, hit, fist to face
- Antonyms: caress, kiss, pat, hug
- Example: He threatened to give the bully a knuckle sandwich if he didn't stop bothering his younger brother.

106. Kohl (noun)

- Definition: An ancient eye cosmetic, traditionally made from antimony or lead sulfide, used especially in the Middle East and India.
- Synonyms: eyeliner, mascara, eye cosmetic, antimony powder
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific cosmetic) blush, lipstick, foundation
- Example: Ancient Egyptian pharaohs used kohl to line their eyes, for both cosmetic and protective purposes.

107. Kolinsky (noun)

- Definition: An Asian mink, or its fur, valued for making artists' brushes.
- Synonyms: mink, sable, weasel fur, brush material
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific animal/material) synthetic bristles, squirrel hair, badger fur
- Example: Professional artists often prefer kolinsky sable brushes for their fine points and durability.

108. Kukri (noun)

- Definition: A Nepalese knife with a long, inward-curving blade, used as a weapon and tool.
- Synonyms: knife, machete, blade, dagger
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific weapon) sword, pistol, rifle
- Example: The Gurkha soldiers are renowned for their skill with the kukri knife.



109. Kumquat (noun)

- Definition: A small, oval, orange-like fruit with a sweet rind and sour pulp.
- Synonyms: citrus fruit, mini orange, oval orange, small fruit
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific fruit) apple, grape, banana
- Example: She enjoyed the unique sweet and tart flavor of the kumquat.

110. Kurtosis (noun)

- Definition: (Statistics) a measure of the 'tailedness' of the probability distribution of a real-valued random variable.
- Synonyms: (N/A - specific statistical term) peakedness, distribution measure, tail heaviness, leptokurtic
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific statistical term) skewness, mean, variance
- Example: The statistician calculated the kurtosis to understand the shape of the data distribution.

111. Kvetsh (verb)

- Definition: (Informal) to complain persistently and querulously.
- Synonyms: complain, whine, grumble, moan
- Antonyms: praise, applaud, rejoice, celebrate
- Example: He spent the entire evening kvetshing about his difficult day at work.

112. Knave of hearts (noun phrase)

- Definition: (Figurative, informal) a dishonest person, especially in matters of love; a playing card.
- Synonyms: cad, deceiver, philanderer, cheat
- Antonyms: gentleman, faithful lover, loyal person, honest man
- Example: She realized he was a true knave of hearts, breaking promises and manipulating emotions.

113. Kick-off (noun)

- Definition: The start of a football match, or of a meeting or event.
- Synonyms: beginning, commencement, launch, opening
- Antonyms: conclusion, end, finale, wrap-up
- Example: The project kick-off meeting will be held next Monday.

114. Kryptic (adjective)

- Definition: Secret, mysterious, or having a hidden meaning.
- Synonyms: enigmatic, mysterious, puzzling, obscure
- Antonyms: clear, obvious, plain, understandable
- Example: The old manuscript contained cryptic symbols that baffled the historians.

115. Kettlebell (noun)

- Definition: A large cast-iron ball with a handle, used for strength training.
- Synonyms: weight, dumbbell, exercise equipment, training tool



- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific equipment) treadmill, yoga mat, resistance band
- **Example:** She incorporated kettlebell swings into her workout routine for a full-body exercise.

116. Keck (verb)

- **Defination:** (Archaic/dialectal) to retch or gag.
- **Synonyms:** retch, gag, heave, nauseate
- **Antonyms:** swallow, digest, ingest, savor
- **Example:** The foul smell made him keck and turn away.

117. Kibitzer (noun)

- **Defination:** A person who offers unwanted advice or comments, especially in a game.
- **Synonyms:** meddler, interferer, nosy parker, busybody
- **Antonyms:** helper, supporter, silent observer, non-participant
- **Example:** The poker game was constantly interrupted by a kibitzer giving unsolicited tips.

118. Kinesthesia (noun)

- **Defination:** The sensory perception of bodily movement.
- **Synonyms:** proprioception, muscle sense, body awareness, movement perception
- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific sense) sight, hearing, smell
- **Example:** Dancers rely heavily on their kinesthesia to execute complex routines accurately.

119. Kirk (noun)

- **Defination:** (Scottish) a church.
- **Synonyms:** church, chapel, tabernacle, cathedral
- **Antonyms:** mosque, temple, synagogue, pagoda
- **Example:** They attended Sunday service at the old stone kirk in the village.

120. Knickerbocker (noun)

- **Defination:** Loose-fitting trousers gathered at the knee; a descendant of the original Dutch settlers of New York.
- **Synonyms:** breeches, plus fours, trousers, descendant
- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific clothing/person) shorts, skirt, immigrant, newcomer
- **Example:** He wore knickerbockers for his cycling trip through the countryside. The author described the city's old families as proud Knickerbockers.

121. Knurl (noun)

- **Defination:** A small ridge or knob, especially on a metal surface, to provide a firm grip.
- **Synonyms:** ridge, groove, serration, embossment
- **Antonyms:** smoothness, flatness, plane, recess
- **Example:** The screwdriver handle had a knurl for improved traction.



122. Kopeck (noun)

- Definition: A Russian unit of money, equal to one hundredth of a ruble.
- Synonyms: coin, currency unit, small change, fractional currency
- Antonyms: ruble, dollar, euro, major currency
- Example: He found a few kopecks jingling in his pocket.

123. Kosher (adjective)

- Definition: (Of food, or the preparation of food) satisfying the requirements of Jewish law; legitimate or acceptable.
- Synonyms: acceptable, permissible, legitimate, proper
- Antonyms: non-kosher, forbidden, unacceptable, improper
- Example: The restaurant clearly labeled its kosher dishes for customers. Is it really kosher to accept gifts from clients?

124. Kudo (noun)

- Definition: Praise or honor for an achievement (singular form of 'kudos', less common).
- Synonyms: praise, accolade, tribute, recognition
- Antonyms: criticism, blame, reprimand, condemnation
- Example: A special kudo goes to the volunteer who organized the entire event.

125. Kulturkampf (noun)

- Definition: (History) an intense struggle for cultural dominance between two opposing groups; a conflict between civil government and religious authorities.
- Synonyms: culture war, ideological conflict, religious struggle, clash of values
- Antonyms: cultural harmony, religious peace, cooperation, synthesis
- Example: The Kulturkampf in the late 19th century Germany represented a clash between state and church.

126. Kvell (verb)

- Definition: (Yiddish, informal) to be extremely pleased and proud.
- Synonyms: gloating, rejoice, boast, exult
- Antonyms: lament, mourn, grieve, despair
- Example: His parents would kvell over every achievement, no matter how small.

127. Kyack (noun)

- Definition: A small, light boat, typically made of animal skin stretched over a wooden frame, similar to a kayak.
- Synonyms: kayak, canoe, boat, skin-boat
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific boat) ship, ferry, liner
- Example: The indigenous people used kyacks for hunting and fishing in the Arctic waters.



128. Kilo (prefix)

- Definition: A prefix meaning one thousand (10^3).
- Synonyms: thousand, 1000, metric prefix, magnification
- Antonyms: milli, micro, nano, deci
- Example: A kilogram is one thousand grams, and a kilometer is one thousand meters.

129. Kinswoman (noun)

- Definition: A woman who is one's blood relation.
- Synonyms: relative, kinsfolk, relation, blood relation
- Antonyms: stranger, outsider, non-relative, unrelated person
- Example: She greeted her kinswoman warmly at the family gathering.

130. Knackwurst (noun)

- Definition: A short, thick, highly seasoned sausage.
- Synonyms: sausage, frankfurter, bratwurst, wurst
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific food) steak, chicken, salad
- Example: He enjoyed a knackwurst with sauerkraut for lunch at the German festival.

131. Keyhole (noun)

- Definition: The opening in a lock into which a key is inserted; a small, narrow opening.
- Synonyms: aperture, slit, gap, opening
- Antonyms: closure, barrier, wall, obstruction
- Example: She peered through the keyhole to see if anyone was in the room.

132. Kickstand (noun)

- Definition: A prop or support for a bicycle or motorcycle that folds out from the frame to hold the vehicle upright.
- Synonyms: support, prop, stand, rest
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific object) wheel, pedal, seat
- Example: He parked his bicycle and put down the kickstand.

133. Kinesic (adjective)

- Definition: Relating to kinesics, the study of body movements as a form of nonverbal communication.
- Synonyms: gestural, nonverbal, bodily, communicative
- Antonyms: verbal, spoken, linguistic, auditory
- Example: The researcher analyzed the speaker's kinesic cues to understand their true emotions.

134. Kleptomaniacal (adjective)

- Definition: Relating to or suffering from kleptomania.
- Synonyms: compulsive thief, thievish, stealing-prone, pathologically thieving



- **Antonyms:** honest, non-thieving, generous, giving
- Example: His kleptomaniacal tendencies led him to seek professional help.

135. Knick (verb)

- Definition: (British informal) to steal; to snatch.
- Synonyms: steal, pilfer, snatch, swipe
- **Antonyms:** return, give, purchase, donate
- Example: He was caught trying to knick a chocolate bar from the shop.

136. Knarled (adjective)

- Definition: Gnarly; full of knots; twisted and rugged.
- Synonyms: gnarled, twisted, rugged, knotty
- **Antonyms:** smooth, straight, even, unblemished
- Example: The old oak tree had a knarled trunk and branches, showing its age.

137. Kowtower (noun)

- Definition: A person who kowtows; one who acts in an excessively subservient manner.
- Synonyms: sycophant, toady, flatterer, minion
- **Antonyms:** rebel, defier, individualist, leader
- Example: He despised being a kowtower, but his job demanded constant deference to the CEO.

138. Katydid (noun)

- Definition: A large, typically green, long-horned grasshopper, the male of which produces a characteristic chirping sound.
- Synonyms: grasshopper, insect, cricket-like insect, orthopteran
- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific insect) bee, butterfly, ant
- Example: The chirping of the katydids filled the warm summer night air.

139. Karmaic (adjective)

- Definition: Variant of karmic; relating to karma.
- Synonyms: fateful, destined, consequential, predetermined
- **Antonyms:** random, accidental, unfated, fortuitous
- Example: She felt a strong karmaic connection to her past life.

140. Kinesthesiaic (adjective)

- Definition: Relating to kinesthesia; concerning the sense of bodily movement.
- Synonyms: proprioceptive, movement-sensing, body-aware, motor-sensory
- **Antonyms:** (N/A - specific sense) visual, auditory, tactile
- Example: The therapist designed exercises to improve the patient's kinesthesiaic awareness.

141. Klieg light (noun)



- Definition: A powerful carbon-arc lamp used in film studios and for outdoor displays.
- Synonyms: floodlight, spotlight, searchlight, arc light
- Antonyms: dim light, shadow, darkness, gloom
- Example: The movie premiere was illuminated by numerous klieg lights sweeping across the night sky.

142. Knothole (noun)

- Definition: A hole in a piece of wood where a knot has come out.
- Synonyms: aperture, opening, crevice, gap
- Antonyms: solid wood, closed gap, filled hole, panel
- Example: The child peered through a knothole in the fence to see the horses in the field.

143. Kooky (adjective)

- Definition: (Informal) strange or eccentric.
- Synonyms: quirky, eccentric, odd, peculiar
- Antonyms: normal, conventional, ordinary, sensible
- Example: Her kooky sense of humor always made her friends laugh.

144. Kraal (noun)

- Definition: (In South Africa) a traditional African village of huts, typically enclosed by a fence; an enclosure for cattle or other livestock.
- Synonyms: village, hamlet, enclosure, corral
- Antonyms: city, town, wilderness, open field
- Example: The family gathered in the kraal for their evening meal and storytelling.

145. Krimmer (noun)

- Definition: A type of fur, typically from young Karakul lambs, known for its curly texture.
- Synonyms: karakul fur, lambskin, curly fur, pelt
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific fur) smooth fur, wool, silk
- Example: She wore a stylish coat trimmed with krimmer fur.

146. Krill (noun)

- Definition: Small, shrimplike crustaceans found in vast swarms, especially in the Antarctic Ocean, forming a vital part of the diet of whales and other marine animals.
- Synonyms: crustaceans, zooplankton, marine life, shrimp-like organisms
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific animal) fish, whale, mammal
- Example: Whales consume enormous amounts of krill, filtering them from the ocean water.

147. Kuchen (noun)

- Definition: A type of German cake, often made with fruit or cheese.
- Synonyms: cake, tart, pastry, dessert
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific food) bread, pie, cookie



- Example: She baked a delicious apple kuchen for the family dessert.

148. Kyphosis (noun)

- Definition: Excessive outward curvature of the spine, causing a hunchback.
- Synonyms: hunchback, round back, spinal curvature, postural deformity
- Antonyms: lordosis, scoliosis, straight spine, good posture
- Example: Poor posture can sometimes lead to developing kyphosis over time.

149. Kilovolt (noun)

- Definition: A unit of electromotive force, equal to one thousand volts.
- Synonyms: kV, voltage unit, electrical potential, high voltage
- Antonyms: millivolt, microvolt, low voltage, ampere
- Example: High-tension power lines carry electricity measured in kilovolts.

150. Kit (noun)

- Definition: A set of articles or equipment needed for a specific purpose.
- Synonyms: set, outfit, equipment, assembly
- Antonyms: individual item, single piece, component, disassembly
- Example: The first aid kit contained bandages, antiseptic wipes, and pain relievers.

151. Knob (noun)

- Definition: A rounded lump or protuberance, especially on a surface; a round handle.
- Synonyms: handle, dial, lump, protuberance
- Antonyms: indentation, recess, flat surface, hollow
- Example: He turned the knob to open the door. The control panel had several knobs for adjusting settings.

152. Kudos-worthy (adjective)

- Definition: Deserving of praise or acclaim.
- Synonyms: praiseworthy, commendable, laudable, meritorious
- Antonyms: blameworthy, reprehensible, disgraceful, criticizable
- Example: Her selfless efforts to help the community were truly kudos-worthy.

153. Kaki (noun)

- Definition: Another name for the persimmon fruit.
- Synonyms: persimmon, fruit, date-plum, oriental persimmon
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific fruit) apple, orange, grape
- Example: The sweet kaki fruit is a popular autumn delicacy in some regions.

154. Keratinocyte (noun)

- Definition: An epidermal cell which produces keratin.



- Synonyms: epidermal cell, skin cell, epithelial cell, keratin-producing cell
- Antonyms: (N/A - specific cell type) melanocyte, fibroblast, neuron
- Example: Keratinocytes are the most abundant cell type in the epidermis, forming a protective barrier.

155. Kinetics of reactions (noun phrase)

- Definition: The study of the rates of chemical reactions and the factors that influence them.
- Synonyms: reaction rates, chemical dynamics, rate processes, reaction mechanisms
- Antonyms: thermodynamics, equilibrium, stoichiometry, static chemistry
- Example: Understanding the kinetics of reactions is crucial in optimizing industrial chemical processes.

156. Kinetic energy (noun phrase)

- Definition: Energy that a body possesses by virtue of being in motion.
- Synonyms: motion energy, dynamic energy, movement energy, energy of motion
- Antonyms: potential energy, static energy, stored energy, latent energy
- Example: The car's kinetic energy increased significantly as it accelerated down the highway.