

**AP Language & Comp
2017 – 2nd Semester**

Vocab FINAL LIST – FINAL EXAM

(7th — Monday 6/19; 2nd, 4th – Tuesday 6/20 – 3rd & 7th; Wednesday 6/15 — 5th & 6th)

MOST COMMONLY MISSPELLED/MISUSED WORDS:

affect (v) - to move emotionally; to bring about change

campaign

chose (v) - simple past tense of choose; synonymous to 'selected, picked, elected, named,' and 'preferred.'

choose (v) - to select from a number of possibilities; pick by preference;

to prefer or decide (to do something)

conceivable

conscientious

controversy

effect (n) - something produced by a cause

judgment - (US, and now more common in the UK); **judgement** (UK, but no longer as common)

lose (v) - no longer have; be deprived of by accident or misfortune

loose (adj) - not fastened or pre-packed; not tied up or confined; able to move freely; not tight, not firmly fixed

occurrence

perceive

rendezvous (n/v) - a prearranged meeting time between two people/entities

NOUNS:

aphorism - a brief, witty saying

aptitude - capacity for learning; natural ability

cadence - the rise and fall of sound

camaraderie - the quality of affording easy familiarity and sociability

chameleon - a lizard the changes color; a highly changeable person

demise - death; the end

dexterity - mental skill; the ease in the use of the body

dossier - a file of documents or records; a detailed report

effigy - an object that represents someone who is not liked, usually created in order to express hatred of the person

ethics - values pertaining to human conduct; moral philosophy

euphemism - a pleasant expression used in the place of an unpleasant one

farce - a false imitation; a mockery

foray - a quick raid or sudden advance; a new venture

harbinger - one who or that which foreruns and announces the coming of any person or thing

ideology - a system of ideas

jubilation - a feeling of extreme joy

malapropism — the wrong use of one word instead of another because they sound similar to each other, and which is amusing as a result; a humorous or ridiculous misuse of a word

memento - a remembrance; souvenir; a keepsake

nuance — subtle change, variation, finesse

phenomenon - extremely unusual or extraordinary occurrence

sangfroid — composure or coolness, sometimes excessive, as shown in danger or under trying

circumstances

status quo - the existing state or condition

subterfuge — an action taken to hide something from someone; a trick; a ruse

sycophant — one who flatters another excessively; fawner

synopsis - outline; summary; brief

tyranny - absolute power; especially exercised unjustly and cruelly

viscosity — thickness; stickiness

wanderlust - a strong innate desire to roam

zest - hearty; enjoyment; gusto

VERBS:

abate - becoming fewer or less intense

assuage - to soothe; to make less severe; to satisfy, ease, lessen

beget - to give birth to; to create

defile - to make dirty or filthy; to pollute; to corrupt

digress - to stray from the topic

divert - to change the direction of; to alter the course of

emulate - strive to equal or match, especially to imitate

foster - providing or receiving nurture or parental care though not related by blood or legal ties

induce - to persuade to do something; to cause to happen; to stimulate; to influence

inundate - to overwhelm with abundance or excess; flood

nonplus — to baffle; to confuse; to bewilder

peruse - review, read carefully; scrutinize

reform - to restore; to change for the better; to improve

stagnate - to be or become motionless; to fail to grow or develop

ADJECTIVES:

aesthetic - having to do with artistic beauty

amicable - possessing or showing friendliness or good will; peaceable

auspicious - favorable; promising for the future

benevolent - kind; generous

bourgeois - conventional; boringly middle class

commensurate - proportionate; equal

facetious - not serious; humorous

fatuous — silly; foolish

hapless - unlucky

incontrovertible —not able to be “turned against” or disputed; certain; indisputable

indolent - lazy

laudable - praiseworthy

literal - true to fact, not exaggerated; actual or factual

minuscule - tiny; extremely small

obsequious - ingratiating; fawning, subservient

ostentatious - intended to attract notice and impress others

pedantic — overly concerned with minute details or formalisms, especially in teaching; a negative term that

implies someone is showing off book learning or trivia, especially in a tiresome way

perfunctory – indifferent; apathetic; unenthusiastic; careless

pernicious — extremely destructive or harmful, deadly; fatal

ruthless – without mercy or compassion; pitiless or cruel

quasi – to a degree but not completely; resembling, but not being

salubrious — favorable to promoting or contributing to good health

squalid – dirty and wretched, as from poverty or lack of care

vacuous – not showing purpose, meaning or intelligence; empty; devoid of feeling or emotion

valiant – bold; courageous; heroic

voracious – having an insatiable appetite; ravenous

uncanny – difficult to explain; weird; seemingly beyond the ordinary

uncouth – awkward socially

vacuous – not showing purpose, meaning or intelligence; empty; devoid of feeling or emotion; clumsy; unmannerly; lacking refinement

IDIOMS:

cat bird seat —A highly advantaged position, to have it all

Dutch uncle - someone who gives you advice like a parent or relative would

fair-weathered friend – a person who is a faithful friend only when everything is going well but who deserts

you in time of difficulty

necessity is the mother of invention – inventiveness or creativity is stimulated by a need or difficulty

on tenterhooks – uncertain, anxious, very tense; in painful suspense about how something will turn out

sacred cow - something that is regarded by some people with such respect and veneration that they do not like

it being criticized by anyone in any way; a person or thing immune to criticism or questioning

spin a yarn – to tell a tale

take it with a grain of salt – to not believe completely; to be doubtful

the whole nine yards – everything; all of it; the whole lot;