

**epidemic**  
ep ə dem' ik

*n.* The rapid spreading of a disease to many people at one time.  
The flu **epidemic** of 1918 killed over twenty million people in the Northern Hemisphere.  
*adj.* Spreading rapidly as a disease over a wide area.  
AIDS became **epidemic** in central Africa in the 1980s.

**estimate**  
es' tə mət

*n.* A number that is not exact; a careful guess.  
The mechanic's **estimate** for repairing the car is \$1000.  
*v.* (es' tə mət) To figure out roughly; to make an approximate calculation.  
We **estimate** that it will take us an hour to drive to the airport.

**evict**  
ē vikt'

*v.* To force out of property by taking legal action.  
The landlord threatened to **evict** the tenants for not paying the rent.

**impartial**  
im pār' shəl

*adj.* Not favoring one side more than another; fair.  
A judge should be **impartial** in the courtroom.

**industrious**  
in dus' trē əs

*adj.* Hardworking; not lazy.  
The more **industrious** workers in the clothing factory were rewarded with pay raises at the end of the year.

**infuriate**  
in fyoor' ē āt

*v.* To make very angry.  
Cruelty to animals **infuriates** me.

**irrelevant**  
ir rel' ə vənt

*adj.* Having nothing to do with the subject.  
The candidate's personal wealth is **irrelevant** to our discussion about his qualifications for the job.

**precise**  
pri sīs'

*adj.* Exact; accurate.  
Do you know the **precise** time that your plane arrives?  
**precision** *n.* (pri sizh' ən) Exactness.  
An eye surgeon's work requires great **precision**.

**sham**  
sham

*n.* Something fake or false.  
Their offer to make us rich turned out to be a **sham**.  
*adj.* Not genuine; fake.  
Although he tried to appear sorry, his **sham** apology fooled no one.  
*v.* To pretend.  
We **shammed** illness so we could stay home.

**trek**  
trek

*n.* A long, slow, and difficult journey.  
The hikers were exhausted after their **trek** over the mountain.  
*v.* To travel slowly and with difficulty.  
Sam **trekked** ten miles into town after his car broke down.