

Carmilla — Key Vocabulary

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48 key English words, graded A2–C2 — each with a simple definition and an example. Learn them before you read, or review them after.

A2 words (10)

absence /'æbsəns/

A2

the state of being absent

“he was surprised by the absence of any explanation”

absolutely /,æbsə'lutli/

A2

completely and without qualification

“an absolutely magnificent painting”

accident /'æksədənt/

A2

an unfortunate mishap

“winning the lottery was a happy accident”

accompany /ə'kəmpəni/

A2

be present or associated with an event or entity

“French fries come with the hamburger”

acknowledge /æk'nɒlɪdʒ/

A2

declare to be true or admit the existence or reality or truth of

“He admitted his errors”

admit /əd'mɪt/

A2

declare to be true or admit the existence or reality or truth of

“He admitted his errors”

adopt /ə'dɒpt/

A2

choose and follow

“She followed the feminist movement”

affair /ə'feɪ/

A2

a vaguely specified concern

“several matters to attend to”

afford /ə'fɔːd/

A2

be able to spare or give up

"I can't afford to spend two hours with this person"

afraid /ə'freɪd/

A2

filled with fear or apprehension

"afraid even to turn his head"

B1 words (10)

absolute /'æbsə,lʊt/

B1

something that is conceived or that exists independently and not in relation to other things

"no mortal being can influence the absolute"

accidentally /,æksə'denəli/

B1

without advance planning

"they met accidentally"

accomplish /ə'kʌmplɪʃ/

B1

put in effect

"carry out a task"

accordance /ə'kɔːdəns/

B1

concurrence of opinion

"we are in accord with your proposal"

accordingly /ə'kɔːdɪŋli/

B1

(sentence connectors) because of the reason given

"consequently, he didn't do it"

adventure /əd'ventʃər/

B1

a wild and exciting undertaking (not necessarily lawful)

"When you buy these stocks you are gambling"

alarm /ə'lɑːm/

B1

fear resulting from the awareness of danger

"I was horrified at the thought of being late for my interview"

anger /'æŋgər/

B1

a strong emotion

"The news angered him"

animation /ˌænəˈmeɪʃən/

B1

the condition of living or the state of being alive

“while there's life there's hope”

anticipate /ænˈtɪsəˌpeɪt/

B1

regard something as probable or likely

“The meteorologists are expecting rain for tomorrow”

B2 words (10)

abode /əˈboʊd/

B2

any address at which you dwell more than temporarily

“a person can have several residences”

abrupt /əˈbrʌpt/

B2

marked by sudden changes in subject and sharp transitions

“abrupt prose”

absent /ˈæbsənt/

B2

go away or leave

“He absented himself”

absorb /əbˈzɔːrb/

B2

become imbued

“The liquids, light, and gases absorb”

abstain /əbˈsteɪn/

B2

refrain from voting

“I abstain from alcohol”

abstraction /æbˈstrækʃən/

B2

a concept or idea not associated with any specific instance

“he loved her only in the abstract--not in person”

absurd /əbˈsɜːd/

B2

a situation in which life seems irrational and meaningless

“The absurd is the essential concept and the first truth”

abundant /əˈbʌndənt/

B2

present in great quantity

“an abundant supply of water”

accidental /,æksə'dɛnəl/

B2

a musical notation that makes a note sharp or flat or natural although that is not part of the key signature

"with an inadvertent gesture she swept the vase off the table"

accurately /'ækjərətli/

B2

with few mistakes

"he works very accurately"

C1 words (9)

accustom /ə'kəstəm/

C1

make psychologically or physically used (to something)

"She became habituated to the background music"

acquiesce /,ækwi'ɛs/

C1

to agree or express agreement

"The Maestro assented to the request for an encore"

adroitly /ə'drɔɪtli/

C1

with adroitness

"he handled the situation adroitly"

afflict /ə'flɪkt/

C1

cause great unhappiness for

"she was afflicted by the death of her parents"

agitate /'ædʒə'teɪt/

C1

try to stir up public opinion

"The speaker charged up the crowd with his inflammatory remarks"

allude /ə'lud/

C1

make a more or less disguised reference to

"He alluded to the problem but did not mention it"

alternation /'ɔltər,neɪʃən/

C1

successive change from one thing or state to another and back again

"a trill is a rapid alternation between the two notes"

ambiguously

C1

in an ambiguous manner

"this letter is worded ambiguously"

antipathy /æn'tɪpəθi/

C1

a feeling of intense dislike

"cats were his greatest antipathy"

C2 words (9)

adjoin /ə'dʒɔɪn/

C2

lie adjacent to another or share a boundary

"Canada adjoins the U.S."

appal

C2

strike with disgust or revulsion

"The scandalous behavior of this married woman shocked her friends"

baptise

C2

administer baptism to

"The parents had the child baptized"

bashfully

C2

in a shy or timid or bashful manner

"he smiled shyly"

benignant

C2

pleasant and beneficial in nature or influence

"a benign smile"

benumb

C2

make numb or insensitive

"The shock numbed her senses"

besought

C2

ask for or request earnestly

"The prophet bid all people to become good persons"

bewilder /bi'wɪldər/

C2

be a mystery or bewildering to

"This beats me!"

brusquely /'bræskli/

C2

in a blunt direct manner

"he spoke bluntly"

Read it along with audio — tap any word to hear it and see it highlighted in the sentence:

<https://readingcorner.uk/books/carmilla/vocabulary>