

The marvellous land of Snergs — 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”

active /'æktiv/

A2

chemical agent capable of activity

“‘The boy threw the ball’ uses the active voice”

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”

advise /əd'vaɪz/

A2

give advice to

“The teacher counsels troubled students”

affair /ə'feɪ/

A2

a vaguely specified concern

“several matters to attend to”

afraid /ə'freɪd/

A2

filled with fear or apprehension

"afraid even to turn his head"

aid /eɪd/

A2

a resource

"visual aids in teaching"

amazed /ə'meɪzd/

A2

affect with wonder

"Your ability to speak six languages amazes me!"

B1 words (10)

adventure /əd'ventʃər/

B1

a wild and exciting undertaking (not necessarily lawful)

"When you buy these stocks you are gambling"

advocate /'ædvə,keɪt/

B1

a person who pleads for a cause or propounds an idea

"The travel agent recommended strongly that we not travel on Thanksgiving Day"

allege /ə'leɪdʒ/

B1

report or maintain

"He alleged that he was the victim of a crime"

altogether /,ɔltə'geðər/

B1

informal terms for nakedness

"in the raw"

anchor /'æŋkər/

B1

a mechanical device that prevents a vessel from moving

"faith is his anchor"

anger /'æŋgər/

B1

a strong emotion

"The news angered him"

angle /'æŋgəl/

B1

the space between two lines or planes that intersect

"he angled his way into the room"

anxious /'æŋʃəs/

B1

eagerly desirous

"anxious to see the new show at the museum"

apologize /ə'pɒlə,dʒaɪz/

B1

acknowledge faults or shortcomings or failing

"I apologized for being late"

apology /ə'pɒlə,dʒi/

B1

an expression of regret at having caused trouble for someone

"he wrote a letter of apology to the hostess"

B2 words (10)

absent /'æbsənt/

B2

go away or leave

"He absented himself"

absorb /əb'zɔrb/

B2

become imbued

"The liquids, light, and gases absorb"

absurd /əb'sɜrd/

B2

a situation in which life seems irrational and meaningless

"The absurd is the essential concept and the first truth"

ache /eɪk/

B2

a dull persistent (usually moderately intense) pain

"Were you hurting after the accident?"

admiration /,ædmə'reɪʃən/

B2

a feeling of delighted approval and liking

"a small token in admiration of your works"

adorn /ə'dɔrn/

B2

make more attractive by adding ornament, colour, etc.

"Decorate the room for the party"

advancement /əd'vænsmənt/

B2

encouragement of the progress or growth or acceptance of something

"advancement of knowledge"

adventurous /æd'ventʃərəs/

B2

willing to undertake or seeking out new and daring enterprises

“adventurous pioneers”

advisable /əd'vaɪzəbəl/

B2

worthy of being recommended or suggested

“such action is neither necessary nor advisable”

afar /ə'far/

B2

(old-fashioned) at or from or to a great distance

“we traveled afar”

C1 words (9)

acquiesce /,ækwi'ɛs/

C1

to agree or express agreement

“The Maestro assented to the request for an encore”

afresh /ə'frɛʃ/

C1

again but in a new or different way

“start afresh”

amiable /'eɪmiəbəl/

C1

disposed to please

“an amiable villain with a cocky sidelong grin”

amiss /ə'mɪs/

C1

not functioning properly

“something is amiss”

antic /'æntɪk/

C1

a ludicrous or grotesque act done for fun and amusement

“Hamlet's assumed antic disposition”

approvingly /ə'pruːvɪŋli/

C1

in an approving manner

“she nodded approvingly”

ardour

C1

a feeling of strong eagerness (usually in favor of a person or cause)

“they were imbued with a revolutionary ardor”

arouse /əraʊz/

C1

call forth (emotions, feelings, and responses)

“arouse pity”

astonishment /ə'stɒnɪʃmənt/

C1

the feeling that accompanies something extremely surprising

“he looked at me in astonishment”

C2 words (9)

advisability /,ædˌvaɪzə'bɪlɪti/

C2

the quality of being advisable

“they questioned the advisability of our policy”

agone

C2

gone by

“two years ago”

athirst

C2

(usually followed by `for') extremely desirous

“athirst for knowledge”

befool

C2

make a fool or dupe of

“The immigrant was duped because he trusted everyone”

belike

C2

with considerable certainty

“He is probably out of the country”

bewilder /bɪ'wɪldər/

C2

be a mystery or bewildering to

“This beats me!”

boastfully

C2

in a boastful manner

“he talked big all evening”

boisterously

C2

in a carefree manner

“she was rollickingly happy”

brisken

C2

become brisk

“business brisked up”

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

<https://readingcorner.uk/books/the-marvellous-land-of-snergs/vocabulary>