

## E6 AP Vocabulary List #1

### 1A

1. "I was thirty. Before me stretched the **portentous**, menacing road of a new decade"
  - 1a. The shattering of the frame on their wedding picture seemed to be a **portentous** sign for their marriage.
2. "This quality was continually breaking through his **punctilious** manner in the shape of restlessness."
  - 2a. She's a **punctilious** house-keeper, not allowing a single dust bunny anywhere, even under the bed.
3. "But the problem here has much larger **ramifications**, ones we need to take pains to mitigate."
  - 3a. Many teens don't fully appreciate the lasting **ramifications** of dropping out of school.
4. I love my little cousins, but honestly, I couldn't stand their **inane** conversation one more minute.
  - 4a. The TV news was full of frivolous stories about celebrities and **inane** chatter among the talking heads.
5. "...but the people stared at me in an amazed way, and denied **vehemently** any knowledge of him..."
  - 5a. He gave an impassioned speech **vehemently** denying the charges against him.
6. Some who did not know him well saw him as a **fractious**, irritable person who hated the human race.
  - 6a. "I will not babysit for those **fractious** little monsters again!" she shrieked
7. "I am not even faintly like a rose. She was only **extemporizing**..."
  - 7a. I am amazed at how the actors in the improv. show can **extemporize** like that! I'm not that quick...
8. "No. You're wrong. We will do it my way." His **peremptory** tone of voice brooked no argument.
9. The mayor said he was **affronted** by the painting, which included a nude woman in the Last Supper."  
"["The sexual abuse of prisoners in U. S. prisons] is an **affront** to the basic American values we defend."
10. "Now he was a sturdy, straw haired man of thirty with a rather hard mouth and a **supercilious** manner."
  - 10a. She was intelligent and talented, but her **supercilious** attitude left her a lonely person in the end.

### 1B

1. Ads for weight loss products are notorious for their exaggerated promises and **spurious** claims.
  - a. "Data mining" is examining large amounts of data, hoping to find causal relationships between various effects. But, such searches often produce **spurious** correlations, because researchers are trying too hard to find what they expect to see.
2. "We talk **ad nauseam** of amending property rights...but I've yet to see marked progress."
  - 2a. Toddlers watch the same videos **ad nauseam**, to the dismay of their older siblings and parents.
3. It's the **poignant** tale of a young Australian boy who drowned trying to save his brother's life...
- 4./5. "...it was not until this **aberrant** behavior was examined in the 1960s that any male writer dared question the **pugnacity** in Hemingway's fiction."
  - 4a. "But this type of racist comment was, unfortunately, not an **aberration**. Too often these days..."
  - 5a. *Raging Bull* certainly captured the heart of this **pugnacious** young man...
6. Nick is **cognizant** that something is amiss, but can't discern what it is for sure.
  - 6a. "Many citizens of Israel are **cognizant** of the grave injustices faced by the Palestinians and are concerned about their government's policies and their country's future."

7. The **crux** of the issue is not what time I got home, but whether or not you trust me.  
 7a. "The **crux** of the debate, I gather, after penetrating the technical jargon... is whether a new role can be assigned to the state..."
8. Her **dearth** of compassion is particularly puzzling considering her profession as a nurse.  
 8a. Even though he seemed to be guilty, the **dearth** of hard, physical evidence lead to his acquittal.
9. "But the gossip was unrelenting, especially from a particular undergraduate given to violent **innuendo**."  
 9a. "With the street fighting [in Egypt] at a welcome lull, the battle is now for hearts and minds — and the weapons of choice are made of words: rumor, speculation, **innuendo** and lies."
10. "Today's **blasé** moviegoer sees only the same tiresome cavalry arriving reliably on time..." but back in the day it was an exciting cliff-hanger that kept us on the edge of our seats.  
 10a. She had a surprisingly and inexplicably **blasé** attitude toward her husband's womanizing.

## 1C

1. "Why can't a woman be more like a man?' asks the **exasperated** Henry Higgins in Shaw's *Pygmalion*..."  
 1a. She keeps making the same mistake over and over, but despite my **exasperation**, I am not going to give up on her. I know she can do this!
2. "I admit: I have a **proclivity** for hyperbole."  
 2a. Their partnership was a huge success, as her **proclivity** for reckless spontaneity was balanced by his more cautious, conservative tendencies and vice versa.
3. "Eliot goes on to discount the idea of **innate** limitation..."  
 3a. Jonathan Haidt developed "the hypothesis that a set of **innate** 'modules' of moral response were fixed in humans by natural selection."
4. "... by commentaries...more ferocious than the most misogynist **imprecations** of certain church fathers."  
 4a. In 1982 anti-government demonstrators converged on the capitol square shouting **imprecations** against the current officials and burning opposition flags.
5. "...where life was designed as a **microcosm** of my parents' casa on the island."  
 5a. "Final Iowa Debate a snapshot of Republican Race": It was "a **microcosm** of the current race..."
6. "Women were singularly **denigrated**, but they also stood as surrogates for other disenfranchised groups.."  
 6a. "The Indian president's son [and member of Parliament] landed himself in hot water for **denigrating** women who took part in mass protests of a gang-rape as being 'dented and painted'..."
7. "Perhaps the reign of women is approaching, when the **enigma** of her...superiority will be deciphered."  
 7a. "Actor Johnny Depp...will voice the audiobook reading of [Keith] Richards' memoir *Life*. Depp, the nonchalant **enigma** of cool, seems like natural fit..."
8. "Montessori and Morgan followed Broca's philosophy to reach a more **congenial** conclusion."  
 8a. "Taylor Swift Dethrones Lady Gaga as the Highest-Paid Celeb Under 30: America's most **congenial** country star has stolen the crown from Mother Monster."  
 8b. "He left the tropics and went north to a climate more **congenial** to his cold, stony soul."
9. "Why is something easy 'a piece of cake'? Why not 'a piece of candy'?" "I don't know. That's just the **idiom**, dude."  
 "In other words, it's **idiomatic**, right?"

10. "...nor is it true for the many Latin women working at **menial** jobs....domestics, waitressing, and factory jobs..."  
10a. "Most of our robots today perform **menial** tasks, like welding car parts or assembling microchips."

## 1D

1. Rumors tell of Jefferson Davis's supposedly **craven** escape, dressing like a woman to avoid detection.
  1. Even the bad guys are hackneyed: the **craven** businessman and the scarred ex-Marine.
2. The most **odious** qualities of that dream are evident in the craven behavior of some characters.
  - 2a. Who is more **odious**, Iago from *Othello* or Fagin from *David Copperfield*? Tough call.
3. "A **discerning** editor can cull the best poems from the hundreds of submissions they see each week."
  - 3a. "Geographers use maps to discern patterns and to understand why things are where they are."
4. "This was his day off and with **laudable** initiative he had hurried out 'to see.'"
  - 4a. The goal of zoos, to protect endangered animals and educate people about them, is **laudable**, but some people question whether that larger purpose is worth the price to the individual animals kept in captivity.
5. I thought he was an expert on art history till we went to the gallery together and his limited knowledge showed him to be just a **dilettante**.
  - 5a. The "real" artists thought of her as a dilettante, and didn't take her work seriously.
6. Seven years of **bellicose** rhetoric failed to reduce the threat from the other side.
  - 6a. She looks so traditionally feminine that her foul mouth and **bellicose** nature are amusing surprises.
7. It shows that she is aware of Gatsby's **ardent** love for her.
  - 7a. The collection Brazil Bassa Beat runs hot to cold, **ardent** red to lonesome blue.
8. "Does Gatsby affirm or resist **bourgeois** values in his acquisition of wealth?"
  - 8a. One of the first Chinese statesmen to adopt the **bourgeois** Western uniform of suit-and-tie was Hu Yaobang.
9. It seems to have initiated a national discussion about the ramifications of such **incendiary** rhetoric.
  - 9a. "Every person who possesses, manufactures, or disposes of an **incendiary** device knowing it to be such is guilty of a class B felony."
10. [The Parisian] cafés came to represent both the lively public intellectual debates...as well as the disillusionment and **ennui** of the so-called Lost Generation, Gertrude Stein's term for the young men and women traumatized by World War I.
  - 10a. The wine label is amusing not because it is cashing in on the "Eat, Pray, Love" phenomenon but because it delicately nods at our more conventional approach to marital misery and workaday **ennui**: i.e., eat, pray and drown your sorrows in a cheap pinot grigio because you can't afford to go on an international spiritual journey to discover the beautiful you that no one else sees except for the strapping Latin lover you pick up along the way.