

## Vocabulary List #8

Cryptic- Having hidden meaning; mystifying.  
clear, obvious, open, plain, straightforward

Cupidity- Excessive desire, especially for wealth; covetousness or avarice.  
benevolence, charity, generosity, philanthropy

Curtail- To cut short or reduce.  
expand, extend, increase, lengthen, prolong

Cynical- Believing or showing the belief that people are motivated chiefly by base or selfish concerns; skeptical of the motives of others:  
believing, hopeful, optimistic, positive, trusting

Dank- Disagreeably damp or humid.  
arid, dry, parched

Dastard- A sneaking, malicious coward.  
daredevil, hero

Dauntless- Incapable of being intimidated or discouraged; fearless.  
afraid, daunted, fearful, frightened, irresolute, poltroon, scared, terrified, timid

Debilitate- To sap the strength or energy of; enervate.  
aid, cure, energize, help, invigorate, mend, strengthen

Debonair- Suave; urbane, sophisticated  
awkward, coarse, crude, inelegant, rude, unfriendly, unrefined

Declivity- A downward slope, as of a hill.  
upswing, uptrend, upturn

Decrepit- Weakened, worn out, impaired, or broken down by old age, illness, or hard use.  
fit, healthy, powerful, robust, sound, strong

Defalcate- To misuse funds; embezzle.  
compensate, reimburse, return

Defection- withdrawing support or help despite allegiance or responsibility; abandonment.  
dependability, faithfulness, loyalty, staunchness, steadfastness

Defile- To make filthy or dirty; pollute: defile a river with sewage.  
clean, cleanse, honor, purify, sanctify

Deleterious- Having a harmful effect; injurious: the deleterious effects of smoking.  
advantageous, aiding, assisting, beneficial, helpful

Depravity- Moral corruption or degradation extreme wickedness.  
clean-living, holiness, honor, justice, morality, nobility, purity, uprightness, virtue

Deranged- To disturb the order or arrangement of.  
balanced, calm, lucid, rational, sane, stable

Derogatory- Expressing a low opinion, belittling  
appreciative, approving, complimentary, flattering, praising

Desecrate- To violate the sacredness of; profane.  
consecrate, honor, praise, sanctify, worship

Despicable- Deserving of contempt or scorn; vile.  
honorable, laudable, likable, loveable, praiseworthy, worthy