

VO CAB-u-lous!

Build a Fabulous Vocab

Words That Begin With S

Name _____

Date _____

“The safest words are always those which bring us most directly to facts.”

—Charles H. Parkhurst, American clergyman and reformer, 1842–1933

Parkhurst had plenty of words in his arsenal when he denounced Tammany Hall, a powerful political machine in New York City. “They are a lying, perjured, rum-soaked, and libidinous lot,” he thundered from his pulpit one Sunday morning. Yikes! Use a word from the Word Bank to complete each sentence below. One word fits two sentences. Yes, you may use your dictionary.

Word Bank	sanguine	semiotics	serendipity	shirred	simpatico
	simulacrum	soliloquy	subjugate	supercilious	

1. Jesse was wary of the _____ eggs his aunt served for brunch, but he was pleasantly surprised when he tasted them under their blanket of hollandaise sauce.
2. “You’re not interested in dialogue,” Jeff complained to the class president, “you just want to deliver a _____ while the rest of us listen.”
3. When the principal censored an editorial in the school newspaper, the staff charged him with attempting to _____ them and vowed to fight back.
4. Miles was interested in all the ways people communicate -- words, sound, images, gestures -- so he decided he would study _____ in college.
5. “Your interests are not _____ with the goals of this team, and we’d all be better off if you quit,” said the coach after Sal missed his fourth practice.
6. “Wipe that _____ expression off your face, young lady,” Carla’s mother hissed when she saw Carla looking down her nose at her sister’s prom dress.
7. Moira thought a _____ skirt would look nice on the dressing table she planned to refinish for her bedroom.
8. Walter reckoned he’d gotten his _____ temperament from his father, who was always cheerful and upbeat and never had a bad thing to say.
9. Benjamin’s teacher thought he was a faint _____ of the student he had been before the car accident and shared her concerns with his parents.
10. “What a bit of _____!” Adrienne thought when she spotted her missing contact lens under the couch after she tripped over the cat.