

Vivid Word Choice Handout

Big		Small	
Ample	Oversized	Bite-sized	Stubby
Bulky	Spacious	Diminutive	Teeny
Colossal	Staggering	Meager	Tiny
Enormous	Substantial	Microscopic	Undersized
Gigantic	Titanic	Miniature	
Humongous	Towering	Petite	
Husky	Tremendous	Puny	
Immense	Vast	Scrubby	
Massive	Voluminous	Skimpy	
Oversized		Slight	

Good		Bad	
Amazing	Glorious	Atrocious	Obscene
Astonishing	Impressive	Despicable	Repellent
Awesome	Magnificent	Disgusting	Repulsive
Brilliant	Outstanding	Dreadful	Repugnant
Excellent	Phenomenal	Gruesome	Terrible
Extraordinary	Remarkable	Hideous	Terrifying
Fabulous	Sensational	Horrendous	Vile
Fantastic	Terrific	Nauseating	Wretched

Emotions/ Feeling

Afraid: alarmed, apprehensive, cowardly, fearful, frightened, intimidated, petrified, startled.

Angry: fiery, fuming, furious, irate, outraged, raging, riled.

Calm: mellow, peaceful, relaxed, restful, serene, tranquil, undisturbed.

Excited: delighted, eager, enthusiastic, hyper, passionate, thrilled.

Happy: cheerful, chipper, content, ecstatic, elated, joyful, jubilant, lighthearted, overjoyed, perky, thrilled.

Nervous: anxious, concerned, distress, jittery, tense, worried.

Sad: crushed, dejected, depressed, devastated, forlorn, gloomy, heartbroken, heavy-hearted, low-spirited, melancholy, miserable, somber, sorrowful, troubled.

Sensory Words

Sound

To hear: Catch, detect, eavesdrop, listed, overhear

A sound: din, note, resonance, tone.

Pleasant: harmonic, melodic, rhythmical.

Unpleasant: deafening, ear-piercing, ear-popping, grating, piercing, rowdy, shrill, whiny.

Loud: bang, blast, boom, burst, clang, clap, clash, crack, crash, pop, rattle, scream, stomp, thud.

Scared: cry, scream, screech, stutter, whimper, yelp.

Sight

A sight: appearance, display, exhibition, hallucination, illusion, image, impression, reflection, scene, view, vision.

Clear: apparent, cloudless, distinct, lucid, translucent, transparent, visible.

Light: fluorescent, golden, illuminated, lit, lucent, luminous, moonlit, starry, sunny, well-lit.

Dark: black, lightless, muddy, obscure, pitch-black.

Smell

To smell: inhale, scent, sniff, whiff.

A smell: aroma, fragrance, odor, perfume, scent.

Good smelling: appealing, delightful, divine, enticing, luscious, mouthwatering, rich, savory, tempting, zesty.

Bad smelling: disgusting, fishy, nasty, noxious, repellent, repugnant, repulsive, stinky, unappealing.

Touch

Hot: baking, blazing, blistering, boiling, burning, feverish, fiery, flaming, lukewarm, scalding, scorching, sizzling.

Cold: arctic, bitter, brisk, chilly, crisp, freezing, icy, frosty, numbing.

Smooth: creamy, glassy, glossy, polished, silky, sleek, waxy.

Rough: bumpy, chapped, grainy, gritty, rocky, sandy.

Action Verbs

Arrived

Appeared
Entered
Landed

Ate

Consumed
Devoured
Feasted
Gorged
Inhaled
Munched
Nibbled
Snacked

Began

Initiated
Instigated
Launched
Originated

Broke

Busted
Cracked
Crushed
Demolished
Smashed
Shattered

Changed

Adapted
Altered
Converted
Evolved
Mutated
Restyled
Transformed

Cut

Amputated
Carved
Chopped
Clipped
Diced
Slashed
Sliced
Snipped
Trimmed

Drank

Gargled
Gulped
Sipped
Slurped
Swallowed
Swigged
Toasted

Fell

Collapsed
Dropped
Stumbled
Tripped
Tumbled

Gave

Awarded
Contributed
Donated
Gifted
Granted
Provided
Relinquished
Supplied

Got

Acquired
Fetched
Gained
Grabbed
Inherited
Snatched

Held

Clasped
Clenched
Clung

Grasped
Gripped
Squeezed

Hit

Bashed
Knocked
Slapped
Smacked
Wacked

Laughed

Burst
Chuckled
Giggled
Shrieked
Snorted

Left

Abandoned
Departed
Deserted
Disappeared
Ditched
Escaped
Fled
Split
Vanished

Made

Assembled
Constructed
Created
Designed
Fashioned
Invented
Manufactured
Produced

Planned

Arranged
Brainstormed
Engineered
Formulated
Mapped
Organized
Outlined
Plotted
Sketched

Pulled

Dragged
Hauled
Heaved
Tagged
Towed
Yanked

Put

Arranged
Handed
Placed
Laid

Said

Admitted
Agreed
Answered
Apologized
Argued
Assured
Begged
Blubbered
Boasted
Cautioned
Complained
Groaned
Grumbled
Declared
Exclaimed
Explained
Exaggerated
Gasped
Hissed
Hollered
Imitated
Insisted
Instructed
Intimidated
Moaned
Murmured
Muttered
Ordered
Persuaded
Pleaded
Promised
Pronounced
Rambled
Reported
Retold
Revealed
Screamed
Shouted
Suggested
Teased
Warned
Whined
Whispered

Saved

Conserved
Preserved
Stored

Saw

Eyeballed
Gazed
Glanced
Glared
Glimpsed
Noticed
Observed
Peeked
Pictured
Scanned
Spied
Stared

Thought

Believed
Contemplated
Imagined
Pondered

Took

Abducted
Borrowed
Captured
Clutched
Confiscated
Grabbed
Obtained
Pocketed
Seized
Snagged
Snatched
Stole

Turned

Curved
Spun
Twirled
Twisted

Use

Operate
Utilize

Wanted

Craved
Desired
Preferred
Wished

Went (quickly)

Blasted
Bolted
Bounced
Chased
Darted
Dashed
Fled
Galloped
Hurried
Hustled
Jogged
Jolted
Leapt
Raced
Scampered
Skipped
Sped
Sprinted
Zapped
Zigzagged

Went (slowly)

Crawled
Crept
Dragged
Hobbled
Limped
Marched
Paced
Roamed
Shuffled
Slithered
Stepped
Strolled
Strutted
Tiptoeed
Trudged
Ventured
Wandered
Wobbled