## Vocab 7: The End is in Sight

WORD	DEFINITION	IN A SENTENCE	SYNONYM	ANTONYM	REMINDS ME
Ardent (adj)	Having or showing very strong feelings; zealous	The ardent Tolkien fan has read <i>The Lord of the Rings</i> and <i>The Hobbit</i> five times each.			
Askance (adv)	Done with suspicion, disapproval or distrust; scornfully	We looked askance at the dealer's assertion that the car had never been in an accident.			
Astute (adj)	Mentally sharp or clever. Shrewdness	He is an astute observer of the current political scene.			
Capitulate (v)	To stop fighting an enemy/opponent. To surrender after negotiations	The country still refuses to capitulate despite a weakened army.			
Clemency (n)	Kind or merciful treatment who could be given harsh punishment.	The President granted clemency to several people at the end of his term.			
Debacle (n)	Great disaster or complete failure.	After the debacle of his first novel, he had trouble getting a publisher for his next book			
Deign (v)	To do something that is "beneath" you. To condescend reluctantly.	She wouldn't even deign to respond to the absurd accusation.			
Elucidate (v)	To make something difficult to understand clear or easy to understand.	When asked for details he declined to elucidate further, claiming that he was confused.			
Idiosyncrasy (n)	An unusual way in which someone thinks/behaves.	Her habit of pausing in the middle of sentences was one of her more normal idiosyncrasies.			
Incongruous (adj)	Inconsistent with itself; lacking congruity or compatibility.	His outburst seemed incongruous to those who know him well.			
Ineffable (adj)	Incapable of being expressed in words; to great/powerful/ beautiful to be described	An ineffable beauty descended upon the canyon as the sun began to set.			

Megalomania (n)	Delusional belief that	The CEO had an arrogance		
	one has unlimited	that bordered on		
	power or importance; mania for	megalomania.		
	great/grandiose			
	performance.			
Nascent (adj)	Coming/having recently	The actress is now focusing		
	come into existence.	on her nascent singing		
		career.		
Pallid (adj)	Very pale in a way that	The pallid man looked as		
	suggest poor health.	though he'd never seen the		
	Dull or uninteresting	sun.		
Pedantic (adj)	Having a very narrow	It may seem pedantic to		
	focused knowledge on	harp on what seems like		
	a subject and tending	mere procedure, but we		
	to show it off by	are wasting a lot of money		
	pointing out small	here.		
	details/mistakes on the			
	subject.			
Perfunctory (adj)	Done without energy	The violinist delivered a		
	or enthusiasm because	perfunctory performance		
	it is expected or	that displayed none of the		
	routine; lacking interest	passion he once played		
		with.		
Platitude (n)	a trite/stale remark; an	His speech was filled with		
	overused saying or	familiar platitudes about		
	cliché	the value of hard work.		
Quixotic (adj)	Foolishly impractical,	They had quixotic dreams about the future.		
	especially in pursuit of ideals; romantic.	about the future.		
Seminal	Having a strong	He was awarded the Nobel		
	influence on ideas,	Prize for his seminal work		
	work, events to come;	in chemistry.		
	influential, important	in chemistry.		
Supplant (v)	To take the place of	Old traditions often fade		
	someone/thing that is	and are supplanted by		
	old, unused.	modern ways and methods.		
	Supersede, substitute			
Surmise (v)	Thought or idea based	I surmise by the crease		
	on scanty evidence.	across your face, that		
		you've been sleeping.		
Uncouth (adj)	Behaving in a socially	We will not tolerate any		
	unacceptable or	uncouth behavior, such as		
	impolite manner	eating with one's mouth		
		open.		
Verdant (adj)	Green with growing	Verdant forests stretched		
	plants.	to the coast and seemed to		
		plummet into the cool,		
		mountain lake.		
Visage (n)	The face, countenance	An old man with a		
	or appearance of a	noticeably happy visage		
	person	opened the door for me.		
Winsome (adj)	Cheerful, pleasant,	She was a bright, winsome		
	appealing often	child who could draw a		
	because of a childlike	smile out of anyone.		
	charm/ innocence			

All definitions come from the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, online, dictionary.com, and possibly yourdictionary.com