

Words and Explanations

condescending (KON dih SEHND ihng) When you are condescending to others, you talk down to them, making them feel unimportant or stupid.

contrite (kuhn TRYT) If you are contrite, you are very sorry or ashamed.

infuriate (ihn FYUR ee ayt) When someone or something infuriates you, it makes you extremely angry, even furious.

lilting (lih l tihng) If a sound is lilting, it is pleasantly light and musical.

maniacal (muh NY uh kuhl) When you act maniacal, you act wild and crazy, like a maniac.

painstakingly (PAYNZ TAY kihng lee) When you do something painstakingly, you do it very slowly and carefully.

pedestrian (puh DEHS tree uhn) Something that is pedestrian is so common or ordinary that it is not interesting.

refinement (rih FYN muhnt) If you show refinement, you act politely and show good taste.

repress (rih PREHS) If you repress a feeling, you hold it back or keep it inside.

stoic (STOH ihk) A stoic person doesn't show any emotion, even when bad things happen.

“A word is dead when it is said, some say. I say it just begins to live that day.”

—Emily Dickinson