

affluence

Pronunciation: 'a-(")flü-&n(t)s *also* a-'flü- or &-

Function: *noun*

Etymology: Middle English, from Latin *affluent-*, *affluens*, present participle of *affluere* to flow to, flow abundantly, from *ad-* + *fluere* to flow -- more at

1 an abundant flow or supply : [PROFUSION](#) **b** : abundance of property: [WEALTH](#)

2 a flowing to or toward a point : [INFLUX](#)

alacrity

Pronunciation: &-'la-kr&-tE

Function: *noun*

Etymology: Latin *alacritas*, from *alacr-*, *alacer* lively, eager

1 promptness in response : cheerful readiness: accepted the invitation with *alacrity*.

- **alac·ri·tous** -*adjective*

analogous

Pronunciation: &-'na-l&-g&s

Function: *adjective*

Etymology: Latin *analogus*, from Greek *analogos*, literally, proportionate, from *ana-* + *logos* reason, ratio, from *legein* to gather, speak -- more at [LEGEND](#)

1 : showing a likeness that permits one to draw an [analogy](#)

2 : being or related to as an [analogue](#)

synonym see [SIMILAR](#)

- **anal·o·gous·ly** *adverb*

- **anal·o·gous·ness** *noun*

apathy

Pronunciation: 'a-p&-thE

Function: *noun*

Etymology: Greek *apatheia*, from *apathEs* without feeling, from *a-* + *pathos* emotion - more at [PATHOS](#)

1 : lack of feeling or emotion : [IMPASSIVENESS](#)

2 : lack of interest or concern : [INDIFFERENCE](#)

arbitrary

Pronunciation: 'är-b&-"trEr-E, -"trE-rE

Function: *adjective*

1 : depending on individual discretion (as of a judge) and not fixed by law: The manner of punishment is *arbitrary*.

2 a : not restrained or limited in the exercise of power : ruling by absolute authority: an *arbitrary* government

b : marked by or resulting from the unrestrained and often tyrannical exercise of power: protection from *arbitrary* arrest and detention

3 a : based on or determined by individual preference or convenience rather than by necessity or the intrinsic nature of something: an *arbitrary* standard; take any *arbitrary* positive number; *arbitrary* division of historical studies into watertight compartments -- A. J. Toynbee

b : existing or coming about seemingly at random or by chance or as a capricious and unreasonable act of will : when a task is not seen in a meaningful context it is experienced as being *arbitrary* -- Nehemiah Jordan

- **ar·bi·trari·ly** *adverb*

- **ar·bi·trar·i·ness** *noun*