

## reticent |\_ret\_s\_ntl

adjective

not revealing one's thoughts or feelings readily : *she was extremely reticent about her personal affairs.*

DERIVATIVES

**reticence** noun

**reticently** adverb

ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: from Latin **reticent-** 'remaining silent,' from the verb **reticere**, from **re-** (expressing intensive force) + **tacere** 'be silent.'

## reverence |\_rev(\_)\_r\_nsl

noun

deep respect for someone or something : *rituals showed honor and reverence for the dead.* See note at **honor** .

• archaic a gesture indicative of such respect; a bow or curtsy : *the messenger made his reverence.*

• (**His/Your Reverence**) a title given to a member of the clergy, or used in addressing them.

verb [ trans. ]

regard or treat with deep respect : *the many divine beings revered by Hindu tradition.*

ORIGIN Middle English : from Old French, from Latin **reverentia**, from **revereri** 'stand in awe of' (see **revere** ).

## rigorous |\_rig\_r\_sl

adjective

extremely thorough, exhaustive, or accurate : *the rigorous testing of consumer products.*

• (of a rule, system, etc.) strictly applied or adhered to : *rigorous controls on mergers.*

• (of a person) adhering strictly or inflexibly to a belief, opinion, or

way of doing something : *a rigorous teetotaler.*

• (of an activity) physically demanding : *my exercise regime is a little more rigorous than most.*

• (of the weather or climate) harsh : *the rigorous climate in the regions of perpetual snow high in the Himalayas.*

DERIVATIVES

**rigorously** adverb

**rigorousness** noun

ORIGIN late Middle English : from Old French **rigorous** or late Latin **rigorosus**, from **rigor** 'stiffness' (see **rigor** ).

rudimentary |\_ro\_d\_\_ment(\_)|r\_|

adjective

involving or limited to basic principles : *he received a rudimentary education.*

• of or relating to an immature, undeveloped, or basic form : *a rudimentary stage of evolution.*

DERIVATIVES

**rudimentarily** |\_men\_te(\_)|r\_|; -\_ment(\_)|r\_|\_l| adverb

**rudimentariness** noun

sanguine |\_sa ng gwini|

adjective

**1** cheerfully optimistic : *they are not sanguine about the prospect.*

• (in medieval science and medicine) of or having the constitution associated with the predominance of blood among the bodily humors, supposedly marked by a ruddy complexion and an optimistic disposition.

• archaic (of the complexion) florid; ruddy.

• archaic bloody or bloodthirsty.

**2** poetic/literary & Heraldry blood-red.

noun

a blood-red color.

- a deep red-brown crayon or pencil containing iron oxide.
- Heraldry a blood-red stain used in blazoning.

DERIVATIVES

**sanguinely** adverb

**sanguineness** noun

ORIGIN Middle English : from Old French *sanguin(e)* ‘*blood-red,*’ from Latin *sanguineus* ‘*of blood,*’ from *sanguis*, *sanguin-* ‘*blood.*’