

Week Six Words

diligent

Pronunciation: _di-l_j_nt\

Function: *adjective*

Etymology: Middle English, from Anglo-French, from Latin *diligent-*, *diligens*, from present participle of *diligere* to esteem, love, from *di-* (from *dis-* apart) + *legere* to select

- 1** : characterized by steady, earnest, and energetic effort : PAINSTAKING: a *diligent* worker
synonyms see BUSY

discern

Pronunciation: \di-_s_rn, -_z_rn\

Function: *verb*

Etymology:

Middle English, from Middle French *discerner*, from Latin *discernere* to separate, distinguish between, from *dis-* apart + *cernere* to sift — more at DIS-, CERTAIN

- 1. a:** to detect with the eyes: *discerned* a figure approaching through the fog
b: to detect with senses other than vision: *discerned* a strange odor
- 2:** to recognize or identify as separate and distinct : DISCRIMINATE: *discern* right from wrong
- 3:** to come to know or recognize mentally: unable to *discern* his motives

disdain

Pronunciation: dis-_d_n\

Function: *noun*

Etymology:

Middle English *desdeyne*, from Anglo-French *desdaign*, from *desdeigner*

- 1.** feeling of contempt for someone or something regarded as unworthy or inferior
SCORN

disparage

Pronunciation: \di-sper-ij, -spa-rij\

Function: *transitive verb*

Etymology:

Middle English, to degrade by marriage below one's class, disparage, from Anglo-French *desparager* to marry below one's class, from *des-* dis- + *parage* equality, lineage, from *per* peer

1 : to lower in rank or reputation [DEGRADE](#)

2 : to depreciate by indirect means (as invidious comparison) : speak slightly about

synonyms see [DECRY](#)

disseminate

Pronunciation: \di-se-m-n-t\

Function: *transitive verb*

Etymology:

Latin *disseminatus*, past participle of *disseminare*, from *dis-* + *seminare* to sow, from *semin-*, *semen* seed — more at [SEMEN](#)

1 : to spread abroad as though sowing seed: *disseminate* ideas

2 : to disperse throughout