

# FRONT DESK VOCABULARY

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Ch1-Ch 7	Student-friendly definition
Devour (p.1)	to eat something quickly because you are very hungry
astronaut (p.2)	someone who travels and works in a spacecraft
wail (p.3)	to say something in a loud, sad, and complaining way
course (p.10)	To rush or flow through something, especially with great speed or force
inform (p.11)	to officially tell someone about something or give them information
contract (p. 12)	an official agreement between two or more people, stating what each will do
immigrant (p. 27)	someone who enters another country to live there permanently
investigate (p.29)	to try to find out the truth about something such as a crime, accident, or scientific problem
sensible (p.32)	reasonable, practical, and showing good judgment
Ch 8-12	Student-friendly definition
agonize (p.39)	to think about a difficult decision very carefully and with a lot of effort
shriek (p. 45)	to make a very high loud sound, especially because you are afraid, angry, excited, or in pain
reminisce (p.50)	to talk or think about pleasant events in your past
desperate (p.51)	needing or wanting something very much
squeal (p.51)	to make a long loud high sound or cry
deliberation (p.54)	careful consideration or discussion of something

Ch 8-12	Student-friendly definition
mechanic (p. 54)	someone who is skilled at repairing motor vehicles and machinery
frustration (p.54)	the feeling of being annoyed, upset, or impatient, because you cannot control or change a situation, or achieve something
stethoscope (p. 56)	an instrument that a doctor uses to listen to your heart or breathing
establishment (p.57)	an organization or institution, especially a business, shop etc
rancid (p.58)	oily or fatty food that is rancid smells or tastes unpleasant because it is no longer fresh
collapse (p.59)	to suddenly fall down or become unconscious because you are ill or weak

Chapters 13-18	Student-friendly definition
humongous (p.63)	very big
embroider (p.64)	to decorate cloth by sewing a pattern, picture, or words on it with coloured threads
marvel (p.71)	to feel or express great surprise or admiration at something, especially someone's behaviour
insanity (p.73)	very stupid actions that may cause you serious harm
riveting (p.73)	something that is riveting is so interesting or exciting that you cannot stop watching it or listening to it
animated (p.74)	showing a lot of interest and energy
automatic (p.76)	done without thinking, especially because you have done the same thing many times before
enormous (p.81)	very big in size or in amount SYN
depressing (p.82)	making you feel very sad

Chapters 19-24	Student-friendly definition
meticulous (p. 85)	very careful about small details, and always making sure that everything is done correctly
boggle (p. 85)	to start with fright or amazement : be overwhelmed
operate (p.85)	to use and control a machine or equipment
reprimand (p. 88)	to tell someone officially that something they have done is very wrong
nostalgic (p.89)	if you feel nostalgic about a time in the past, you feel happy when you remember it, and in some ways you wish that things had not changed
preposterous (p.89)	completely unreasonable or silly
interject (p.97)	to interrupt what someone else is saying with a sudden remark
interrogate (p. 97)	to ask someone a lot of questions for a long time in order to get information, sometimes using threats
escort (p.99.)	to take someone somewhere, especially when you are protecting or guarding them
prejudice (p.108)	an unreasonable dislike and distrust of people who are different from you in some way, especially because of their race, sex, religion etc – used to show disapproval

Chapters 25-31	Student-friendly definition
bashful (p.114)	easily embarrassed in social situations
grimace (p.115)	to twist your face in an ugly way because you do not like something, because you are feeling pain, or because you are trying to be funny
vertical (p.118)	pointing up in a line that forms an angle of 90° with a flat surface
irritation (p.119)	something that makes you annoyed
skulk (p.122)	to hide or move about secretly, trying not to be noticed, especially when you are intending to do something bad
occur (p. 123)	to happen

Chapters 25-31	Student-friendly definition
prosperity (p. 126)	when people have money and everything that is needed for a good life
vigorously (p.129)	in a way that uses a lot of energy and strength or determination
squeal (p.130)	to make a long loud high sound or cry
concoction (139)	something, especially a drink or food, made by mixing different things, especially things that are not usually combined

Chapters 32-38	Student-friendly definition
eternity (p.148)	the whole of time without any end
pamphlet (p.151)	a very thin book with paper covers, that gives information about something
cemetery (p.154)	a piece of land, usually not belonging to a church, in which dead people are buried
maquiladora (p.161)	in Mexico where parts are imported without having to pay tax, put together to make products, and then exported, usually to the US
civil (p. 164)	polite in a formal but not very friendly way

Ch 39-44	Student-friendly definition
infuriate (p.170)	to make someone extremely angry
exasperate (p.177)	to make someone very annoyed by continuing to do something that upsets them
supervisor (p.)	someone who supervises a person or activity
circumstance (p.)	the conditions that affect a situation, action, event etc
sheepish (p.179)	slightly uncomfortable or embarrassed because you know that you have done something silly or wrong
fester (p.182)	if an unpleasant feeling or problem festers, it gets worse because it has not been dealt with
adamant (p.185)	determined not to change your opinion or a decision that you have made

Ch 39-44	Student-friendly definition
conviction (p.186)	a very strong belief or opinion
verdict (p.186)	an official decision made in a court of law, especially about whether someone is guilty of a crime or how a death happened
testify (p.186)	to make a formal statement of what is true, especially in a court of law

Ch 45-50	Student-friendly definition
possession (p.197)	if something is in your possession, you own it, or you have obtained it from somewhere
excruciating (p.200)	extremely painful
confiscate (p.204)	to officially take private property away from someone, usually as a punishment
illegal (p. 204)	not allowed by the law
consequence (p.204)	something that happens as a result of a particular action or set of conditions
smother (p.208)	to completely cover the whole surface of something with something else, often in a way that seems unnecessary or unpleasant
insurance (p. 209)	an arrangement with a company in which you pay them money, especially regularly, and they pay the costs if something bad happens, for example if you become ill or your car is damaged
revolution (p.211)	a complete change in ways of thinking, methods of working etc
innocent (p.211)	not guilty of a crime
discriminatory (p.213)	treating a person or a group of people differently from other people, in an unfair way
harrumph (p.216)	to make noises or say things that show you disapprove of something

Chapters 51-58	Student-friendly definition
ecstatic (p. 219)	feeling extremely happy and excited
chorus (p.219)	if people chorus something, they say it at the same time
drench (p.220)	to make something or someone extremely wet
preoccupied (p.222)	thinking about something a lot, with the result that you do not pay attention to other things
disintegrate (p.226)	to become weaker or less united and be gradually destroyed
inventory (p.237)	a list of the goods and property owned by a particular person, organization, or country
inspection (p.237)	a careful examination of something to find out more about it or to check for anything wrong
incompetent (p.243)	not having the ability or skill to do a job properly
porcelain (p.245)	a hard shiny white substance that is used for making expensive plates, cups etc
morsel (p.253)	a very small amount of something, especially a small piece of food

Chapters 59-67	Student-friendly definition
inconsolable (p.266)	so sad that it is impossible for anyone to comfort you
destinate (p.266)	to predetermine as an act of fate or by divine decree
capitalist (p. 269)	someone who owns or controls a lot of money and lends it to businesses, banks etc to produce more wealth
investment (p.274)	the use of money to get a profit or to make a business activity successful, or the money that is used
donation (p.274)	something, especially money, that you give to a person or an organization in order to help them

Chapters 59-67	Student-friendly definition
venture (p.274)	to say or do something in an uncertain way because you are afraid it is wrong or will seem stupid
contribute (p.278)	to give money, help, ideas etc to something that a lot of other people are also involved in
determination (p. 279)	the quality of trying to do something even when it is difficult