English IV Vocabulary Lists

**List #1**

1. *abstinence* ­– the practice of abstaining; doing without
2. *ambulatory* ­- able to walk
3. *diatribe* ­- a bitter and abusive criticism
4. *didactic* ­- intended to instruct, guide, or teach
5. *diffident* –­ timid; shy; lacking in confidence
6. *garrulous* -­ very talkative
7. *mandatory* -­ required; obligatory
8. *morbid* ­- preoccupied with gruesome or gloomy matters
9. *munificent* -­ very generous
10. *scoff* -­ to show derision or mocking contempt

**List #2**

1. *acclaim* -­ to greet with loud approval or praise
2. *acquiesce* - to agree or consent quietly; without  protest
3. *assimilate -* ­to take in, or be taken in by a larger

group

1. *delirious* ­- to be in a temporary state of mental

confusion

1. *diffusion* ­- the process of widely scattering or

spreading

1. *diminution* -­ the act or process of diminishing or

decreasing

1. *disdain* ­- aloof contempt or scorn
2. *magnanimous* -­ noble in heart and mind
3. *malignant* ­- having evil influence or intention;  very harmful
4. *meander* ­- to wander aimlessly and idly; ramble

**List #3**

1. *alleviate* -­ to make more bearable; to ease the pain
2. *analogous* -­ similar or parallel in certain ways
3. *dismantle* ­- to take apart or disassemble
4. *distraught* ­- extremely troubled or agitated
5. *dormant* ­- a sleep-like condition during which life

processes slow down; to be inactive

1. *maim* ­- to disable or cripple
2. *meticulous* -­ extremely careful about details
3. *murky* ­- not clear; foggy; hazy
4. *narcissism* -­ excessive admiration of one's self; self-­love
5. *squabble* ­- to engage in a minor quarrel; to argue

**List #4**

1. *animosity* -­ hatred or hostility that is shown openly
2. *anonymity* -­ the condition of being anonymous or

unknown

1. *bibliophile* ­- one who loves books
2. *ebb* ­- to flow or fall back, as the tide does
3. *effervescent* -­ high spirited; lively
4. *elusive* ­- tending to avoid; hard to capture
5. *nemesis* -­ the cause of someone's downfall or defeat;

an enemy

1. *nepotism* - favoritism shown by people in high

places to  relatives  or close friends

1. *nonchalant* -­ carefree and casually unconcerned or

seeming  so

1. *solicitude* ­- the state of showing care or concern

**List #5**

1. *antagonism* -­ the state of being opposed to another
2. *ardent* ­- warm or intense feeling; passionate
3. *arid* ­- very dry; having little or no rainfall
4. *assuage* -­ to make less burdensome or painful
5. *embellish* -­ to decorate or improve by adding details
6. *engender* ­- to give rise to; to cause; to bring about
7. *enigma* ­- a mystery; someone/something hard to

figure out

1. *menagerie* -­ a collection of animals that people can

view

1. *nostalgia* ­- a bittersweet longing for things of the

past

1. *obliterate* ­- to do away with completely; to destroy

**List #6**

1. *atrophy* ­- the wasting away of the body, its organs or

tissue

1. *aversion* ­- a strong dislike or repugnance for
2. *equivocate* -­ to speak ambiguously
3. *esoteric* ­- intended for or understood by only a small

group of people

1. *eulogy* ­- a speech or written tribute praising a

person or thing, especially one who has died

1. *obtrusive* -­ intruding and offensive
2. *officious* ­- to be so excessively forward in offering

one's services that one becomes annoying

1. *onomatopoeia* -­ the use or sound of a word that

imitates or resembles what it stands for or  describes

1. *overt* -­ not hidden or concealed; open; obvious
2. *scrupulous* -­ conscientious; attention to details

**List #7**

1. *bedraggled* -­ wet, limp, messy
2. *behoove* ­- to be necessary, right, or proper for
3. *euphemism* -­ an inoffensive term substituted for one

that is offensive

1. *evanescent* -­ lasting only a short time; vanishing
2. *exacerbate* ­- to increase the severity of; to aggravate
3. *exemplary* ­- worthy of imitation; commendable
4. *opaque* ­- not letting light pass through; not

reflecting light

1. *opulent* ­- having or showing great wealth or riches
2. *ornate* ­- made with elaborate or lavish decorations
3. *sequester* -­ to set off or apart; segregate (as a jury);

to go off  by oneself

**List #8**

1. *bequeath* – to leave something in a will to another
2. *blasphemous* – disrespectful and impious of God or  other sacred things
3. *fervor* – intensity of emotion
4. *fledgling* – a young, inexperienced person; a young

bird just ready to fly

1. *forlorn* – miserable; deserted; forsaken abandoned
2. *occult* – of or dealing with magic or the supernatural
3. *parsimonious* – stingy; tight with money
4. *partisan* – a strong supporter of a cause
5. *serene* – peaceful and untroubled; calm
6. *solemn* – impressive; serious; or grave

**List #9**

1. *blatant* – obvious and overt; unpleasantly loud
2. *bludgeon* – to hit with a heavy club­–like object;  a heavy club
3. *bravado* – a show of courage; swagger
4. *buffoon* – a clown; someone who acts ridiculous
5. *ghastly* – terrifying; dreadful; horrible to look at
6. *gibe* – a derisive remark; a jeer
7. *glutton* – one who eats and drinks to excess
8. *paucity* – in short supply; scarcity of ideas or objects
9. *peerless* – without equal
10. *perceptive* – to be able to see or understand what is  not obvious
11. *sporadic* – having no pattern or order
12. *squalid* – sordid or miserable; very poor and run down
13. *stoic* – to be indifferent to pain, pleasure, or grief
14. *stupor* – in a daze; apathetic or mentally dull
15. *stymie* – to stop or block; to hinder

**List #10**

1. *cacophony* – a harsh jeering sound
2. *callous* – lacking feeling, mercy, etc.;

unfeeling

1. *carp* – to find fault with and complain constantly; to nag or fuss
2. *gruff* – stern; surly; hoarse; rough
3. *gullible* – easily fooled or tricked
4. *haphazard* – lacking any definite plan or order; occurring by chance
5. *heretic* – a person who holds opinions opposed to established beliefs
6. *perfidy* – treachery; a deliberate breach of faith
7. *peripheral* – of, or located on the edge
8. *philistine* – a person with views that are regarded as shallow or narrow-minded
9. *succinct* – clearly expressed in a few words
10. *sullen* – morose; sulky; somber or gloomy
11. *tacit* – implied but not spoken or written
12. *tactless* – inconsiderate or another's feelings
13. *unfathomable* – too difficult to understand; too deep to measure

**List #11**

1. *capitulate* – to surrender or give in
2. *catalyst* – a substance that alters the rate at which  a physical or chemical reaction takes place
3. ***caustic*** – able to burn by chemical reaction; harsh
4. *hierarchy* – a group of people arranged in order of rank
5. *homogeneous* – having or consisting of the same parts
6. *hypocritical* – insincere, false; pretense of being better than one really is
7. *iconoclast* – a person who attracts and seeks to overthrow popular ideas
8. *piety* – devotion to religious duty or practices
9. *placid* – clam; peaceful
10. *pompous* – acting with an air of great dignity; full of high sounding words or phrases; pretentious
11. *sumptuous* – of a size or splendor suggesting great expense
12. *surmise* – to reach a conclusion on slight evidence; to guess
13. *surreptitious* – acting in a secret way
14. *susceptible* – easily influenced or affected
15. *validate* – to confirm or support; to verify

**List #12**

1. *celestial* – of or related to the sky; heavenly
2. *chronic* – lasting for a long time or recurring often; continuing
3. *clairvoyance* – the alleged power to see things not present to the senses
4. *impartial* – not favoring one side more than another
5. *implausible* – not believable or acceptable
6. *inadvertent* – accidental; unintentional
7. *ponderous* – very heavy; massive; unwieldy because of weight
8. *pretentious* – making an exaggerated show of dignity or self-importance
9. *prodigious* – wonderful; amazing; of a great size, power or extent
10. *profusion* – great in quantity or amount
11. *sycophant* – someone who attempts to win favor through flattery of a superior; a "yes man"
12. *tawdry* – cheap and gaudy; sleazy
13. *vanguard* – the front or leading position in an army or movement
14. *vicarious* – shared in by imagined participation in another's experience
15. *vicissitude* – a sudden or unexpected change in one's life