100 11+ words to start with

A starter sample from MineWords with plain meanings. Print it, tick words off together, then practise them free for 7 days at 11pluswords.com.

Level 0 · everyday words (10 words)

abstract Dealing with general ideas and qualities rather than particular things
audience The people who watch or listen to a performance or talk.
comparison The act of examining things to see how they are similar or different.
desperate Feeling that a situation is so bad that you will try almost anything.
faint So little that it can hardly be noticed, especially a sound or a smell
identity Who someone is, or what makes them recognisable.
literal Using the ordinary, exact meaning of words.
poetry Literary writing using rhythm, imagery, and expressive language
rhyme A match between the end sounds of words, such as 'cat' and 'hat'.
summarise To give the main points in a shorter form.

Level 1 · common words (18 words)

abandon To leave someone or something behind completely.
anxious Worried and nervous about something that may happen
bland Lacking strong flavour or interest
companion A person or animal that spends its time with someone
crucial So important that it affects the whole result
desire A strong wish to have or achieve something
dumb Unable to speak or having nothing to say
evolve To develop gradually and naturally over a long period of time
foil To prevent a plan from succeeding
heroic Extremely brave and noble, especially in the face of great danger or serious difficulty
intense Extreme in strength, degree or feeling, much stronger than usual
lieu Standing in the place or stead of another thing, or given in exchange for it
naive Inexperienced and too willing to believe people
potent Powerful or having a strong effect
relevant Closely connected with or appropriate to the matter being considered.
sane Having a calm, sensible mind, able to think clearly and behave reasonably
stability The quality of remaining firm and unchanging, with no risk of collapse
thorough Careful, detailed, and complete

Level 2 · less common (18 words)

abode A place where someone lives; a home.
architecture The art and science of designing buildings and other structures
canopy A covering like a roof that shelters a space below it
concur To agree
deceive To make someone believe something that is not true.

disguise To change appearance to hide identity
exhausted Extremely tired
folly Foolish behaviour or a foolish action
hamper To obstruct or make progress difficult
incentive Something that encourages a person to make an effort or keep trying
investigate To look into a matter carefully in order to find out what really happened
mogul A powerful and wealthy person who has built a huge empire in one industry, such as the media
overt Open and clearly visible
porous Full of tiny holes that let water, air or gases pass through.
proximity How near one thing is to another, either in space or in time
responsibility Being the one who must deal with something carefully and make sure that a job is finished properly
solace Comfort during sadness or distress
tenet A rule or principle that a person or group of people firmly believes in

Level 3 · uncommon (18 words)

abate To become less intense or widespread
antidote A substance that cancels out the harmful effects of a poison
barbarian A person who is cruel and uncivilised, with no regard for other people's feelings
complement Something that completes or improves something else.
curate To select and arrange items for a display or a collection
deranged Wildly out of one's mind, behaving crazily in an unreasonable way
divulge To reveal secret information
errand A short journey made to deliver, collect, or do something.
fragrant Having a pleasant, sweet smell
hubris Pride so overconfident that it oversteps, and often brings disaster on the person who feels it.
intentional Done deliberately
mediate To help two people who disagree reach agreement by talking between them
outrageous Extremely wrong or shocking, and likely to make people very angry
portrayal The way a person or character is represented or played in a play, film or book
ratify To give official agreement to a plan, treaty or promise, so that it becomes binding
retort A quick, sharp reply that answers a remark with something equally cutting
sophisticated Highly developed and advanced, showing great skill or refinement
tepid Slightly warm

Level 4 · literary (18 words)

aberrant Departing noticeably from what is normal or expected
animosity Strong hostility or dislike
bewildered Very confused and unable to understand what is happening.
commemorate To remember an important person or event with respect
convoluted So involved and difficult to follow that even an expert struggles to explain the process clearly
deride To mock someone publicly by laughing at them and treating them with contempt
emanate To flow or spread outwards from a particular source or place, like light or smell
facile Appearing easy or requiring little effort; sometimes overly simple

godsend Something unexpectedly helpful
impediment Something that obstructs or slows progress
innocuous Harmless and unlikely to cause offence or injury.
lethargy The condition of having almost no energy, so that you cannot rouse yourself
murine Relating to mice and rats
peruse To read a document or list carefully, taking in every word before deciding
quagmire An area of very soft wet ground that is hard to walk across, or a problem that is just as hard to get out of
rhapsody A long piece of music with no fixed shape that expresses strong feelings or tells a story
snicker To laugh quietly in a disrespectful way
tactful Careful not to upset or offend others

Level 5 · rare (18 words)

ablest The most able of a group, meaning better at something than anyone else.
antipathy A strong feeling of dislike towards a particular person or thing
brusque Abrupt and rather rude in manner or speech.
confiscate To take away somebody's property because a rule has been broken
derisive Showing mockery and contempt, as though laughing at someone
disparage To speak critically of something, saying it is not good enough
erasable Able to be wiped away or rubbed out, so that no lasting mark is left behind
flippant Treating a serious subject carelessly, as though it were a good joke
homograph A word that is spelled exactly like another word but has a completely different meaning from it
inattentive Not paying close attention; too easily distracted from what is going on
insinuate To suggest something unpleasant indirectly, in a way that is not said openly
leonine Relating to or resembling lions
nonentity A person or thing so unimportant that nobody notices it or takes it seriously
pessimist A person who expects the worst to happen and doubts that things will turn out well
pulverise To break something down into extremely tiny particles, or to smash it to bits
repercussions The bad effects that an action or event has on other people later on
stolid Feeling very little and showing no reaction, in a slow and unchanging way
tempestuous Full of strong emotions, conflict, or violent storms.