

Advanced Composition Word List  
Week 13 (Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2005)

1. **Derogatory** – *Adj.* Disparaging; belittling
2. **Descant** – *N.* A decorative musical accompaniment
3. **Descry** – *V.* Catch sight of
4. **Desecrate** – *V.* Remove the consecration from a person or an object
5. **Desiccate** – *V.* Remove water from  
*Adj.* Lacking vitality or spirit
6. **Despicable** – *Adj.* Deserving of contempt or scorn; vile
7. **Despondent** – *Adj.* Without or almost without hope
8. **Desultory** – *Adj.* Marked by lack of definite plan or regularity or purpose
9. **Detraction** – *N.* The act of detracting or taking away
10. **Devoid** – *Adj.* Completely lacking
11. **Dexterous** – *Adj.* Skillful in physical movements
12. **Diadem** – *N.* A crown worn as a sign of royalty
13. **Dialectic** – *N.* A contradiction of ideas
14. **Diaphanous** – *Adj.* So thin as to transmit light
15. **Dichotomy** – *N.* Division into two usually contradictory parts or opinions
16. **Didactic** – *Adj.* Intended to instruct
17. **Diffidence** – *N.* Lack of self-confidence
18. **Dilapidated** – *Adj.* Having fallen into a state of disrepair or deterioration
19. **Dilatory** – *Adj.* Intended to delay
20. **Diminution** – *N.* Change toward something smaller or lower
21. **Dint** – *N.* Force or effort; power
22. **Dirge** – *N.* A song or hymn of mourning
23. **Disapprobation** – *N.* Moral disapproval; condemnation
24. **Disband** – *V.* cause to break up or function
25. **Discomfit** – *V.* To make uneasy or perplexed; disconcert
26. **Discrepancy** – *N.* Divergence or disagreement, as between facts or claims
27. **Discursive** – *Adj.* Covering a wide field of subjects; rambling
28. **Disdain** – *N.* Lack of respect accompanied by a feeling of intense dislike
29. **Disgruntle** – *V.* To put into a bad mood