

Nota Bene: O

O

obdurate: unwilling to change; stubborn, inflexible

obfuscate: to muddy or confuse an issue

objective: the quality of having a public nature, independent of our thoughts

obligatory: required as an obligation or duty

oblique: angled; indirect

oblivious: unaware, unconscious

obsequious: compliant and servile to superiors

obscurant: a person who tries to prevent the increase and spread of knowledge

obscure: little known; hard to understand

obsolete: no longer current; old-fashioned

obstinate: stubborn, unyielding

obtuse: dull-witted, insensitive; incomprehensible, unclear, or imprecise

obviate: preclude, make unnecessary

occlude: to obstruct

octogenarian: a person in his or her eighties

odium: intense feeling of hatred, abhorrence

odyssey: a long journey that entails danger or adventure

officious: prone to offering one's services and/or insight, even when they are not requested or appropriate

ominous: foreboding or menacing

omnia vincit amor: love conquers all

omnipotent: all powerful

omnipresent: everywhere present

omniscient: absolute knowledge of all things

omnivorous: eating everything; voracious; accustomed to eating both animal and vegetable food items

onerous: troublesome and burdensome

onomatopoeia: the development of a word whose pronunciation imitates its main reference (e.g., splat, buzz)

ontology: the study of existence or being

onus: the burden of performing a task or duty

opaque: impenetrable to light

opere citato: in the work cited (abbreviated op. cit.)

opine: to make one's opinion known

opprobrium: dishonor, disapproval

optimal: best, favored

opulent: rich

opus: a major work

oracle: a means by which prophetic wisdom is imparted; someone who is seen to offer dependable advice or counsel

ordinal: of or pertaining to order, a number that expresses position in a series

organon: instrument

ornate: overwrought or decorated elaborately

orthodox: straight talk or true glory; conforming to a certain standard or dogma

oscillate: to waver between two (or more) points

osmosis: the process of attaining something (e.g., knowledge) by gradual exposure to it; in chemistry, the process by which fluids are dispersed and equalized in concentration through membranes

Nota Bene: O

ossified: to turn into bone; to become rigidly conventional and opposed to change

ostensibly: seemingly; as represented

ostentatious: characterized by or given to pretentious or conspicuous show in an attempt to impress others

ostracize: to exclude from a group